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Beech, Joseph 1925-1926 May

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TRANSFER



First Month  
8th 1925

Dr. Joseph Beech,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtu, China.

Dear Dr. Beech:

I was glad to receive your letter of November 14th and to hear what progress you are making. The enrollment of the University is certainly encouraging and I have no doubt with the firm foundation which you have established that the University will continue with a healthy, normal growth.

I note what you say about the payment of the salaries of Mr. Brown and Mr. Albertson and see no reason why the methods that you suggest should not be carried out. I was much pleased with Mr. Albertson's ideas and personality when I saw him before he went to China and I have no doubt he will prove to be a very valuable addition to your staff. Will you please ask him to send the Treasurer notification of every draft he draws so we may know what to expect? I have no doubt that his efforts on the books will prove most satisfactory although I of course understand that necessarily there must be the lapse of some time before he will be able to send over any results.

I am enclosing brief statements showing the amounts that we paid to T.P. Chang, Architects' fee, hardware, et cetera, and of the Lamont Library building fund.

As I understand, my instructions from the Board are to the effect that the medical building is to be gone on with and I am transmitting to the Associated Missions' Treasurer at Shanghai \$5,000., being the amount heretofore advanced by the Board on this account. You will, of course, know how to get the transfer to your proper credit.

Some months since I had a letter from you which I do not think I properly acknowledged respecting scientific explorations in China and the adjacent parts. Personally I am very much interested in this work and wish I were in a position where I could help to finance something of the sort. At the present time, however, this is not possible but I shall keep the matter in mind and if I can see any light in connection with it shall hope to communicate with you

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First Month  
8th 1925

#2- Dr. Beech

further.

You must feel very far away from Margaret and Raymond. We know how this is as our own boy, George, is at Boarding School, although only fifteen miles from Bryn Mawr so that we are able to see him with frequency including a long Christmas vacation which we all enjoyed very much as the whole family were together.

Thank you for your inquiry as to how we all are getting along. A year ago Mrs. Vaux was very ill resulting in a serious abdominal operation, which she stood very well indeed, and is now I think in better health than she has been for many years past. In the meantime, however, I find myself in a condition which has caused us great concern and which has impelled the physicians to instruct me that I must materially curtail my responsibilities unless I am prepared to look forward to dropping out entirely within perhaps a few months, or one or two years at the most. It has been with sincere regret that I have sent my resignation as Treasurer to the Board of Governors and I expect it to be acted upon by the executive meeting to be held in New York next month. It is very difficult for me to have to give up the association with so many men that I have come to revere as real friends for when one comes to my time of life he does not usually add to the circle that can be included in that category. However, my interest in the cause still persists and I hope I may not be cut off entirely from further happy relations with it.

With high regard and trusting that the new year may have many blessings for both you and yours, I am

Faithfully yours,

GVJr-B

Treasurer.

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

March 4, 1925.

Rev. Frank Anderson,  
314 Grosvenor St.,  
London, Ontario.

My dear Dr. Anderson:

I am confident that the minutes that you have not received went forward from this office as usual, but I am not averse to having the Post Office fail in their duty occasionally, especially when it brings a letter from a member of the Board of Governors whom I have not had the pleasure of seeing for several years. We are sending to you another copy of these minutes.

I am also sending to you a copy of the report which I sent to the Board of Governors in England. That was such a bulky report that I feel certain complete copies were not given to all the members of the Board of Governors. I have had extra copies made here, one of which I am sending you.

I am just in receipt of a letter from Mr. George Vaux in which he states that owing to ill-health and the advice of his physician to curtail his interests which make a drain upon his health, he is tendering his resignation as Treasurer of the Board of Governors. I regret this very much as the friendship and help of Mr. Vaux have been very valuable both personally and to the institution. I hope a way may be found to keep him in association with the Board.

We are very glad that the C.M.S. have promised to appoint Dr. Anderson, a namesake of yours, here at the University to fill the place made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Elliott.

I am looking forward to the meeting of the Board of Governors here at the University in 1926. I wish very much that I was at home this coming year as I would like to induce a good many people to make the journey along with the members of the Board. That ought to be one of the objectives of the meeting -- to bring to China a number of persons who are patrons and friends of this institution. We need nothing

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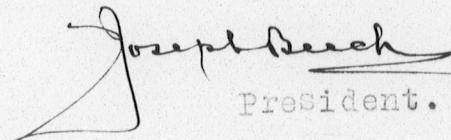
Rev. Frank Anderson

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Mar. 4, 1925

more at this time than to raise up a clientele of interested friends who will, by their prayers and their efforts, help us to meet the opportunity that we have here in this day and age. Our work goes along nicely despite all the anti-foreign and anti-Christian propaganda. The *raison d'être* for most of this propaganda is not opposition against Christian missions and against Christian educational work, but against so-called capitalistic nations, the representatives of which are so much in evidence in the mission work in China at this time. Our friends far out-number our enemies, and, given due guidance and that spirit which God has promised unto us, I believe we can weather the trying times through which we are moving and continually record progress while doing it. I am sure the University is worthy of every effort that you and other members of the Board of Governors make for it.

Respectfully yours,

  
President.

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Extract from letter to the Chairman, from the President of the

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

April 28th, 1925.

Chengtou, West China.

" In the minutes of April 2 there is only one Minute which calls for special comment, and that is Minute No. 1816, referring to Chinese counselors.

Sometime ago we sent forward from the Senate a resolution dealing with the organization of a University Court, the term "court" being borrowed from British usage. The function of the court in British universities doubtless led the Board of Governors to interpret our proposal in terms of usage in Great Britain. What we were really attempting was to discover a term which the Chinese would not object to and which would give sufficient latitude for the organization to develop in the most helpful manner both for the University and for the people of Szechuen. Resolution 1816 approaches this question in very much the same spirit, but in language which we believe may find favour with the Board of Governors.

It is practically impossible for us to formulate rules of modes of procedure, powers and their limitations for such a body as we propose. To secure such a membership as we desire we must approach the men in the most friendly and open manner. If we begin by raising certain barriers this would be equivalent to nullification. Therefore we propose to invite a body of men in sympathy with our purpose to counsel with us upon the matters which affect the University in its relation with the Government or people. If rules are necessary we shall hope to adopt such rules as occasion may require. If it is discovered that such a body is inclined to usurp, in any sense whatever, the authority of the Senate or Board of Governors, we will, of course, be compelled to call attention to that fact and let it be known that in that particular respect we are faced with limitations.

As you will see, the question was referred to the Cabinet and the Chinese members of the Senate. We have talked upon this matter upon several occasions and little can be added to that which I have already outlined in this statement to you. If the interest of such a group of men can be secured, I believe that an interchange of opinion between the Board of Governors and such a body of Chinese would prove very valuable in certain contingencies.

There is at the present time a determined and wide-spread anti-Christian organization. It is perhaps more anti-foreign than anti-Christian. It seems to have persuaded itself that Christian education is a form of penetration by imperialistic countries, especially Great Britain and America, and consequently education

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comes in for criticism and opposition wherever possible, and in some cases even where the "possible" does not seem to exist. As a result of the fish controversy in Foochow the students of that city surrounded the fish dealers and American foreign companies and prevented them doing business. They likewise surrounded the Foochow Anglo-Chinese College, an American institution conducted by American missionary boards, and demanded that all the students of the institution leave and join them, otherwise they would beat up their parents. This effort was successful in most instances, the students not daring to remain in the institution lest their families suffer persecution.

In times of danger such as these, and in times when special projects are being considered that may affect the Chinese people in a manner different than we Westerners would be led to suppose, a group of influential men related to the university as patrons and friends could render very valuable service. Given due care in the selection of such representatives, I am unable to discover what harm could result or any conflict in administration that might arise. At the next meeting of the senate, we may consider this subject again, but before we do so, I have written thus fully in regard to it both to Dr. Endicott and you, that there may be understanding by the Board of Governors even before you are called to act upon the suggestions.

We were greatly enheartened yesterday by the arrival of a cablegram from Dr. Endicott saying that we were authorized to receive women in the University here next September. We may be too optimistic, but we are interpreting this to mean that some arrangement has been arrived at between the Board of Governors and the Women's Boards whereby they will participate in the work here. This advance word was most desirable because the women desire to take in a new class next autumn and must erect the necessary buildings for their accommodation. Temporary buildings erected last year provided for only one class. This telegram will enable them to have the building ready for the new class next autumn. Failing a working agreement between the Board of Governors and the Women's Boards, we would have lost two women workers already appointed and one more that had been designated who will begin work next autumn. Owing to the depletion of our staff because such men as Brecken, Neumann, Wilkinson, have not returned to the field, we should have been compelled to close some of our departments had this happened. Our year's experiment in co-education has been most satisfactory, and I believe will continue to be so, and, if the Women's Boards have agreed to join with the Board of Governors, I am also quite optimistic that an added source of revenue of considerable extent will have been provided.

I am very sorry to report that war has broken out on an enlarged scale in Szechuen and there are reported to be about

200,000 troops in Szechuen, of which number Governor General Yang Sen here in Chengtu has 80,000. The other generals of the province recently held a council at Chungking and decided to attack General Yang because he controlled the arsenal, and would not divide its output with them. Having ascertained that an attack upon his forces had been agreed upon, he started several armies from the city of Chengtu south and west, and before the other side had opportunity to mobilize had captured about ten cities. The censorship is such that we find it difficult to get correct information. There are reports on the street that he has had reverses and it is distinctly disappointing to discover how few friends he has in the city and how many critics there are abroad. He is clearly the most constructive man that we have had in Chengtu for years. That may be the grounds for criticism! He has revolutionized this city. Should he succeed in overcoming his enemies and thus have larger latitude, I am confident that Szechuen would progress at a tremendous pace. He is greatly interested in extending highways, railroad, industries and education and he is cognizant of the fact that there must be a moral reform also if there is to be permanent progress. We are supposed to be neutral, but our sympathies are entirely on one side. I have just learned that he has appointed one of our graduates to an official position in one of the cities recently captured. "

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West China



Union University

TRANSFER

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

May 18, 1925



Mr. George Vaux, Jr.,  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mr. Vaux:

I am enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by the Senate at its last meeting, May 7, which I am both glad and sorry to send to you -- sorry that the occasion has arisen in your own ill health which makes such a resolution possible, but glad indeed that your service has been such for the University that it is universally appreciated and that there is a certain compulsion to pass such a resolution as we send on to you. It is indeed our chief hope that your illness may be temporary and that you will keep on with the Board of Governors and that perhaps some day you will be able to take up again the Treasurership of the university, or at least be Honorary Treasurer.

We are having war in this province. Fortunately for us at this end of the line most of the fighting has been four or five days distant. We hope that it may come to an end soon, but as the forces are about equal there is no telling what the outcome will be. There is a famine in certain parts of the province owing to the drouth, the war and the excessively high price of rice.

We have had a visitation from what I presume in early apostolic times would have been called the "Evil One" in the form of anti-Christian propaganda. The movement certainly had legs. It traveled all over China with great rapidity and I think I will have to add also it had a certain amount of brains. It has, however, been somewhat void of balance, saying many things that were intended to injure but which in the end may prove to be somewhat of a boomerang. It is aligned with the patriotic movement in China and has as sympathizers many of those who feel that they suffer from unequal treaties with foreign powers, Christianity being associated with those powers as a sort of cat's paw for their nefarious schemes for gobbling up the world.

There have been some strikes here in Chengtu

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Mr. George Vaux, Jr.

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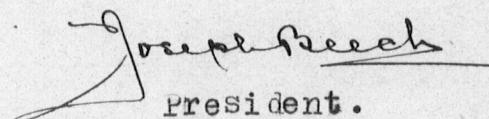


in the hospitals, chiefly affecting nurses or student nurses, and a good deal of bad literature spread about through the town. There has been a certain amount of unrest in the University body but nothing untoward has happened here and unless there is a violent outbreak of some kind, which may occur at any time when there is so much inflammable material about, I believe we may weather the storm and be better fitted for good sailing after it is over.

If the Board of Governors comes to Chengtu I certainly hope that Mr. and Mrs. Vaux may be members of the party.

With very kindest remembrance to you all, I am,

Respectfully yours,

  
President.

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West China Union University

Senate Minutes May 7, 1925



1826 Mr. George Vaux, Jr.

Resolved that this Senate has heard with regret that Mr. George Vaux, Jr., has been compelled to resign the Treasurership of the University on account of ill-health, and that we express our hope that Mr. Vaux may speedily recover, and be able to resume the very valuable service he has rendered the University as a member of its Board of Governors and University Treasurer.

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This is a sample of many such circulars - Gen'l.  
Yang's strict orders exclude suggestions of violence.

Translation of circular issued by the Chengtu Branch of the society organized to uphold the government in securing China's rights in relation to other governments.

The imperialism of England and Japan has invaded our country imbuing our people with their culture and religion to our deep and far-reaching injury. Our fellow citizens do not investigate, and whether intentionally or unintentionally enter their prison cage and are deceived. Nevertheless in the past two years there has been much discussion against the Christian religion and in regard to withdrawing the right to manage schools in China. And in some church schools entire classes have left, showing that our people's hearts are not dead. Those whose conduct has been affected by English and Japanese imperialism are hated and cast out with pain by their fellow country-men.

Since that event of violence (in Shanghai) on the 30th of May, we are moved to rise and strike English and Japanese imperialism. We better understand that we must eradicate it. This society is putting out a plan for getting rid of the evil and it is hoped that not only will the plan be earnestly enforced in Chengtu but that all over the country where this circular is being sent, people will rise and take notice.

There are three divisions as follows:-

First All who have attended schools managed by foreigners, shall retire and enter our government schools where they will be received with advantage. Other students are forbidden ever to enter such schools as the foreigners manage.

Second All schools established and conducted by foreigners in the interior shall be taken over entire by the government and foreigners shall be forbidden hereafter to manage schools. The present methods must be strictly given up - there shall be no chapel in the school; students shall not be forced to pray; there shall be no courses in religious education; in no way or manner shall religion be promoted.

Third None of the government schools shall appoint as teacher any one who has worked for the church or who believes in the religion. If there are any teachers who are using opportunities to promulgate religion or to urge the culture and education of certain countries they shall immediately resign, and be strongly warned of the punishment of such actions.

This is a very important matter and unless the government unite earnestly in making a fundamental settlement there will be difficulty in reaching a result. We truly hope that all teachers and students who have been entangled in these meshes may quickly awake to their condition and escape from their serious plight. A military invasion, though violent, is easy to oppose, but a cultural invasion, though mild in appearance, is most difficult to overcome. Invasion of territory is no more than the removal of material wealth which can be recovered in a day, but this educational invasion benumbs our spirits so that there is never a time of awakening.

If our fellow country-men are pleased to be the slaves of imperial countries we have nothing to say. If not, rise with haste and plan for release.

Signed by the Chengtu "Outside Church Uphold from rear Society"

(Chengtu Wai Jow Hoe Yuen Hwei)

Office of the President

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Chengtú, West China,  
July 20th, 1925.

My dear Sir Joseph:

.....  
I have today sent a letter to Dr. Endicott, regarding the local situation, and I expect if mails travel as usual, to have a personal letter for the Board of Governors meeting at New York; but it may not be amiss to mention some items here also that you may the better understand the situation.

You will have received a copy of the University Report to the Board - the introductory statement of which gives the background for events that have since happened. In view of the propaganda and the state of mind, due to a consciousness of loss of "national face", violence in some form was to be expected. Here I might add that the "Labour" questions in the British Parliament are quite beside the mark, so far as the present outbreak is concerned. There was, of course, unsatisfactory labour conditions, but so far as I can ascertain, conditions in the settlement are better than elsewhere, and in foreign mills better than in most of the Chinese concerns. Whenever large numbers of employees were congregated together, they were preyed upon, as students generally were, to strike or make demands, looking to the rule of the employees, more wages and better conditions. Any defects in the system, any injustice, seeming or actual, were seized upon as the occasion for trouble, and when such were not evident they were manufactured. This was the condition in both the hospital strikes in Chengtu - the strikes, and effects growing out of them in Chungting, and unless reports are misleading, the same was true in Shanghai and also Hankow. Back of all the trouble is the loss of national face, emphasized by Sun Yat Sen and blazoned forth as the result of his death, and also a determined attempt by propaganda and instigation to create conditions that give occasion for attack upon the so-called imperialistic-capitalistic nations - Britain, Japan and America, and sometimes France. The Shanghai affair gave opportunity for singling out Britain and Japan, and policy has now eliminated Japan in order that there may be less likelihood of failure. I think the Shanghai affair blazed prematurely, but it furnished such an occasion as many wanted and it will not be allowed to die down unless official force kills it. If I am correct in these statements - ideal mill conditions in foreign concerns or 100% increase in wages will not affect the situation - the elimination of the foreign mills and settlements and other privileges enjoyed by foreign nations through treaties forced on China, is the objective, and not the perfection of conditions in connection with these activities.

I have dealt at length on this phase of the troubles, not to refute the "Opposition at Westminster", but because it comes very near to us and the entire Christina movement in China.

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Our preferred position is related to these obnoxious treaties, and we are looked upon by many as part and parcel of the evil to be rooted out. The fact that our work is beneficent is given little consideration - in fact, the better it is the worse they like it, as occasion for attack upon it is reduced or eliminated. They are attacking the entire body of foreign relations no matter what the individual occasion may be that calls it forth.

That a state of mind like this offers fine soil for Bolshevik activity is evident, and indications are not lacking that there is such, but this again is secondary and would accomplish little if the other factors were not present. But, with these motives operating, supplemented by Communistic forces, and, if Japan can be eliminated, racial animosity as well - which unfortunately we of the West have emphasized - it is not difficult to discern in our horoscope times and conditions that will try the souls of men and women engaged in missionary work, and perhaps discourage many who have supported their cause.

Governments will probably use the accustomed methods in replying to this attack upon their vested interests, and no doubt they will save them, but if they save us by like methods, we will have saved our house only to find it empty. We cannot disassociate ourselves from foreign Governments, nor detach ourselves from some of the treaties so much objected to, and will continue to be regarded as the advance guard of the cultural, economic and political imperialistic movement.

Christianity will save itself at this juncture and perhaps save the situation generally if the Christian forces in China and abroad can look below the present tragic events to the underlying causes and take the lead in advocating their removal, and especially so if they operate to our profit and to the injustice of the Chinese.

The situation calls for statesmanship superior to that generally exhibited by our diplomats, and it calls for a degree of self-denial and disinterestedness on the part of the missionary forces which they have not hitherto been called upon to exhibit.

I feel certain that no lasting settlement is possible and that no marked advance can be made by Christian forces representative of foreign nations, until the following matters - which China now regards as injustices forced upon her and maintained by force, destructive alike of her sovereignty and national dignity - are reviewed and either removed or remedied to meet present demands.

1. The abrogation of extritoriality.
2. The nationalization of Customs, in fact as well as name.
3. The nationalization of communications, especially River and Railway traffic - including withdrawal of foreign steamers and gunboats on inland waters, which operate under the fiction that a "port" is on the sea though 1500 miles inland, like Chungking.

4. Recession of foreign settlements - under some form of guarantee against military encroachments and protection of property rights.
5. The cancellation of the so-called "unequal treaties" which humiliate China and profit foreign nations at the expense of China. Missionary rights to exclusive inland residence and other treaty privileges included.
6. Withdrawal of Foreign Military Establishments.

It is of course too much to expect that any or all of these things will be granted to China at once and entire, but if some sincere effort is not made looking to their removal, foreign interests of all kinds stand to lose. All these conditions exist because they are profitable or to the advantage of foreign interests - if they should prove "unprofitable", a way will be found to remove them. The New China is demanding their removal, and I believe will make them "unprofitable" to us of the West if other methods fail.

This new day and new conditions attending it impose obligations on the Christian forces that must be met if they are to make Christianity dominant here.

1. The Christian forces must speak for the nation, unrestrained by foreign dependence or foreign sentiment, especially in such crises as are now upon us; and, in particular, voice the national aspiration for sovereignty and dignity among the nations in times such as these when so many of the thinking classes are aroused to a super-consciousness of their loss of "national face". For the first time in its very long history, China has developed a "national face" and may be expected to sacrifice life itself to save it.
2. Christian Missions cannot long rely on their political rights - if indeed the day has not already passed when to appeal to Caesar is to lose the case. Christianity must speedily orient itself as of and for the Chinese people and nation, or be effectually discredited.
3. A supreme effort must be made to remove the distinctive foreign aspect which attaches to Christianity, and native uncontrolled leadership must be realized, and this too, without diminution of our interest or our help. This applies to distinctive institutions such as ours as well as to the whole movement. The supreme aim should be the advance of Christianity, though Foreign Missions, as such, cease to exist, and the realization of native leadership though it limits our trusteeship and relegates the foreign missionary to the place of saint and servant instead of masters who control the purse and initiate the policies.

Here again progress will not come by cataclysm, but the nation must know our program and each year must register progress to its consumation. Applied to our University it means a

greater effort to make it characteristically Chinese in its administrative and scholastic personnel. This we must seek to do but not curtail its power for international goodwill and the conversion of the people to Christ. I believe it can be done!!

I have written far more than was anticipated when this letter was begun, so I will be brief in reference to local matters which bear upon our work.

1. General Yang to whom we owe so much for the preservation of order, is winning in his campaign against the Chungking combine - there is ground for expecting his forces to take that city soon. This will greatly unify authority in this province - an authority we have found most friendly.

2. No strikes or walk-outs have occurred in this part of the province as an aftermath to the Shanghai tragedy. Attempts to get the cooks to leave here have so far failed. (The Hospital troubles took place before the Shanghai affair).

3. The Summer Schools at the University are going on as usual - with somewhat reduced attendance, and workmen on the buildings are giving no trouble whatever.

4. Gen'l. Yang gives assurance that order will be kept. His arrest of troublemakers attests his sincerity and his increase in prestige implies ability.

Over against these hopeful conditions we must put:

1. The advice of the Minister at Peking that all British (especially women and children) leave the Chengtu area for the Coast. Judging from local conditions, this seems a great mistake. So far none of the missionaries have acted on this advice.

2. The trouble at Chungking and the evacuation of most of the missionaries - on consular order - Chungchow also evacuated.

3. A very wide-spread feeling, engendered by students traveling throughout Szechuan magnifying the tragedies and calling upon the people to rise and demand justice, all of which will make Christian work difficult and the missionary's work and life harder than heretofore.

I am sure you will draw the inference that there is no cause for discouragement but that there is a call for greater devotion and wisdom here and I trust there will be no weakening in your efforts, no diminution of your confidence, but on the contrary, increased faith in the ultimate victory of Christ, and a more vig-

Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.

Page Five.

orous determination that our University shall do its share toward it.

I have sent copies of the report to all members of the Board, thus relieving Dr. Endicott of a slight share of the work he has so willingly and well done for the University.

With every respect,

Cordially yours,

Joseph Beech.

P.S. Mails are uncertain these days. Should my letter to the Board not arrive, and you feel any part of this letter would profit the members of the Board, I hope you will take any liberties you may desire with it.

J.B.

Copy of letter from Dr. Beech to Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart.  
July 20th, 1925.

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Eighth Month  
5th 1925

WEEK  
TRANSFER

WEST  
CHINA

Dr. James Beech,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtu, West China.

Dear Dr. Beech:

I duly received your letter of May 18th along with a copy of the gracious minute adopted by the Senate of the University. Will you please convey to them my sincere appreciation of their kind expression?

I want also to thank you very much for your personal message. I am very sorry to give up the trusteeship of the University, a step which I have contemplated for some months past. In January last I had a pretty complete nervous break-down aggravated by a renewal of some of my old time heart difficulties and under the advice of my physicians went to bed for a month and then spent two months in California. Since I have been back I have been unable to do much of any work and do not expect I shall be able to be at my office with any degree of regularity before October. The doctors were very insistent that I must reduce my responsibilities and unfortunately the West China University was one of the enterprises which it seemed as though I could with propriety drop. The executive Committee appointed Mr. Gantz as my successor if he would accept; up to this time I do not know whether he has or not. He is, I understand from his office, away from home and not likely to be back before September. In the meantime the finances are drifting along although they are not receiving as definite information as they should. I presume from what Dr. Endicott writes me Mr. Gantz has accepted but I have never had any definite word to that effect.

I was interested to hear of the vicissitudes through which you have been passing. It seems as though China was in a very unsettled condition. Our telegraphic news I presume is more or less garbled as to the real situation but just now would not seem to me to be the best time for the Board of Governors to meet at Chengtu. I hope, however, that you will be preserved during the time of unsettlement and that all may turn out in the end for the best.

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Eighth Month  
5th 1925

2-Dr. James Beech

Just about the time I received your letter I also received one from Mrs. Carscallen, who wrote on behalf of the library respecting the scientific journals which I had sent to the West China University. She stated that the five publications from the Wistar Institute had not come since 1923. May I ask you to give her this explanation? During the period prior to 1923 the Wistar Institute sent a great many free copies of its journals into the orient. At the end of 1923 these complimentary copies were discontinued and through an oversight the University was included in that list. Dr. Greenman, the director of the Wistar Institute, informs me that they are very glad indeed to rectify the mistake and will send the copies to complete the files of the University, continuing the journals as before. He seemed very much pleased to know that they were of service. Should they not come regularly in a reasonable length of time, will you please call my attention to the matter?

Are you likely to come back to this country for a visit any time soon? If you do, Mrs. Vaux and I will be very glad to welcome you without regard to whether I am still on the Board of the University at that time or not.

With high regard and with remembrances to the members of the University staff with whom I may be acquainted as though they were especially named, I am as ever,

f Faithfully yours,

GVJr-B

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West China



Union University

WEST  
CHINA

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

TRANSFER  
Oct. 14, 1925.

Dr. Eric M. North,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, U. S. A.

My dear Dr. North:

Allow me to acknowledge with thanks yours of June 12th, stating progress made toward co-ordinating Christian Colleges and Universities. I notice that the West China Union University is not among the list of approving institutions.

I desire to be kept informed of all that you may do as I hope that we may be able to join with you before long.

I am glad that you got together so many of the China Colleges and I hope that the organization will mean an advance for Christian education here.

Respectfully yours,

*Joseph Beuch*  
President.

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East China

Union University



CENTRAL WEST CHINA  
Oct. 14, 1925

Dr. H. H. Wood,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, U. S. A.

My dear Dr. Wood:

Allow me to acknowledge with thanks your letter of June 15, 1925, regarding the proposed co-ordinating Christian colleges and universities. I notice that the list of Christian universities

is not among the list of approved institutions. I desire to be kept informed of all that you may do as I hope that we may be able to join with you before long. I am glad that you got together to work for the thing and I hope that the organization will mean an advance for Christian education here.

Respectfully yours,

*James H. Wood*  
President

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Office of the President

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Chengtu, West China

Oct. 21st, 1925.

Sir Joseph Flavelle,  
Toronto, Canada.

My dear Sir Joseph:

I am enclosing, herewith, copy of Senate Minutes on which I have commented in a letter to Dr. Endicott. In my letter to him I have said very little regarding the general or political situation here, but I have written at length regarding the larger participation of Chinese in the affairs of the University. Since you will, no doubt, have access to that letter, I will not repeat what I said upon that subject or comment upon the Minutes of Sept. 5th and Oct. 1st.

I cabled the Board of Governors as follows:

"YEKODSEVAC UFPOBOFEHZ ISEWHYMTEY VOYFJWIVUB YCJYPVAUGW JESMRBEECH."

"University opened. Attendance two hundred. Governor-General forced to withdraw; officials and people friendly. Students organization may cause some trouble. Send all workers."

I sent the message early enough to reach New York before the meeting of the Board of Governors and I trust you had it at that time. I am not overly sanguine that you did, as I have since learned that messages were received at that time, which were not transmitted. The staff at the telegraph office seem to be dependent upon local receipts for their salaries and it is always, "business as usual." There is no satisfaction when discovery has been made that telegrams and cables have been sent by post or freight. This is just one more indication of the disorganized conditions existing here.

The forces of General Yang Sen had almost reached Chungking, their final objective, when they unexpectedly suffered a serious reverse in the centre. General Wang, who was in charge of the left line, notified Governor-General Yang Sen that he was going to stop fighting and suggested that General Yang Sen begin negotiations for peace with the enemy. General Yang Sen interpreted this move on the part of General Wang as an indication that he had joined the opponents and that Chengtu was subject to attack by way of Suining. Not having adequate forces to defend here, since he had sent most of his troops to reenforce the right wing, he very suddenly left the city to take command of the defeated centre. Upon arrival at the front, he ordered a retreat of all his forces toward the right wing at Kiating. He admits he made a serious mistake. The situation was not so bad as the defeat and message from General Wang indicated. His order to retreat lost him the province. Many of his divisions have gone over to the other side and it is reported that Yang Sen, himself, has gone to Hankow. It is also reported that he

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is in alliance with the chief of the other side and that he will return. Such is the muddle of politics.

The defeat and departure of Yang Sen, was, however, a tragedy. He was so friendly to us; was so thoroughly in sympathy with all our aims and projects; and was so active in bringing about the reforms that we desired to see instituted that we, naturally, pinned great faith in him as our ground of hope for something better in this war-stricken, robber-stricken, and I think I may now add, poverty-stricken province.

Subordinates of three of the leading generals reached Chengtu shortly after Yang Sen's departure. It was at once a scramble for the offices, especially the offices that promised revenue. There were very few troops in this vicinity and robberies became the order of the day. It was at this time that Bishop Mowll and party were attacked in their summer resort and carried captive into the mountains for a month.

Fortunately, Yang Sen had taken active measures against the students and others who were planning against the foreigners and foreign institutions. This movement was slow in being revived after his departure. Some of our expelled students, others who expected to be expelled because of their activities, and still others who failed in their examinations organized themselves into the "School Changing Society". This organization was reenforced by the malcontents, of which there are plenty in these days, in government schools. Through articles in the newspapers, posters on the streets, threatening letters to our leaders, and intimidation of the students who were expecting to come here, they endeavoured to prevent students enrolling. They tried to increase the number of their own company. The movement is still in operation but its results, thus far, are almost negligible.

We had about two hundred and fifty last year in the University. This year we have two hundred and twenty. There have, however, been several causes - war among them - that would naturally have operated to reduce our enrolment. The Middle School has about two hundred and twenty, also, as against three hundred last year at this time.

We are not sure that the storm is over, but, thus far, we have weathered the storm and are the better for the gales through which we have passed. Many of our Christian leaders have withstood a great deal of opposition with the result that they stand more securely and independently than heretofore. The preaching that I have heard lately has had a ring of defiance, assurance, and independence that it did not formerly possess. I feel certain that one result of the opposition against Christianity, for that has been part of the movement, will be to create some real defenders of the faith rather than employees of missions, which has been an aspect too common among Chinese Christian workers. I also believe there is a greater degree of loyalty among the student body. Last Friday evening, the Faculty gave a reception to the students of the Univer-

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sity. We had a luncheon and a social evening together, and I have never experienced any gathering in which there was better fellowship between foreigners and Chinese than there was on this occasion. The manner in which each Faculty group endeavoured to excel all others in yelling for their Faculty manifested something of the 'esprit de corps' that we are accustomed to associate with our Western colleges, but which has been slow in taking form here in the Orient.

We are delighted that your parties of missionaries are to leave Canada during this month. If I have stated the situation correctly you will see there is no adequate reason for their being detained. There is still considerable opposition to British business firms, especially in the vicinity of Chungking, and it has seriously affected some schools. Two of the Middle Schools of the province under British control were not able to open because of lack of students. The business of some of the firms is at a standstill because the strike among their employees still continues. There has, however, been no manifestation here in Chengtu and the opposition in other parts of the province is of a peaceful character.

I, also, find no reason in the political or general situation which would prevent the Board of Governors from holding their next meeting in Chengtu. I hope you have decided to do so, and that you will bring a number of friends of the University with you.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph Beech  
President.

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA  
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

See Senate Minute 1872.

TRANSFER

Dec 7-1925

My dear Mr. Vaux:

WEST  
CHINA

The Senate noted your  
absence at the meeting of the  
Board of Governors. We knew  
that illness alone kept you  
from being present and adding  
your sympathy & counsel in  
the problems of such import,  
and of which we are a part,  
to the peace of China and the  
world as the Board dealt with it.

I can only state without attempting  
to express the sense of gratitude  
we feel for your labors with  
and for us and our sincere  
regret that you are not  
well enough to continue them.

Not only do we feel grateful  
to you we have a deep

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affection for you - shared by none  
more fully than myself - and  
we are anxious that you  
be restored to health for  
your own & your family's sake  
and we shall not forget  
to pray the Heavenly Father  
for you.

I can appreciate what it  
must be to be limited & denied  
doing the things you would other-  
wise do - and I hope that  
while you rest in hope of  
complete recovery - there may  
be blessings of mind & heart to  
compensate.

While I am writing for the Sanata  
I am giving expression to my own thought &  
trust to include tenderest wish  
to Mrs Vaux & remembrance to your  
son Greg - who if he grows has the  
1 best species - has added considerably  
to his stature. Wishing you all Christmas joy  
Respectfully, Joseph Bevel

2834452

West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

Dec. 22, 1925.

Mr. James Yard,  
Board of Foreign Missions,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York.

My dear Jim:

I heard by rumour that you had been in Toronto, and that you had seen, or were going to see, Sir Joseph Flavelle in company with Jim Stewart. If you have another opportunity of seeing Sir Joseph, the desideratum just now is to enable Sir Joseph to see that it is not an appropriate time for him to relinquish his position as Chairman of the Board. He has done us mighty good service in keeping the Boards from cutting their appropriations, and I think he has also helped to mollify a few of the 'die-hards' on questions that have come before the Board. I should get home not later than the summer of 1927. Kindly persuade the gentleman in question not to give up that job until after I arrive. Then I presume there would be a certain amount of responsibility on me; not that I can keep him from resigning, but I want his help as a member of the Board of Governors on questions of policy and procedure, etc. He can do this a lot better as chairman of the Board than he can as a partially absent member.

Of course I was disappointed because the Board did not see fit to book you up on the University job. I can also see why the Board needs every man like yourself on the job at home just now. It is especially patent to me since we have received the appropriations for our mission work. After receiving a cut of 40% last year, we have to face another cut of 40% this year; at least that is what it looks like now. For all the mission work we will have a total of a little over \$ 4,000 from the Board of Foreign Missions. The unfortunate part of it is that, in view of the system of benevolences, it looks as though there is no chance to increase it much by special gifts. However, perhaps by the time I get home things may be a little better with the Board, and it may be possible to get you linked up with the University then. In preparation therefore suppose you keep the grass off the road, and the sign-posts at the corners pointing in that direction.

I mentioned in this letter that I might be going home in 1927. I may be starting from here any time from the autumn of 1926 to the spring of 1927, circumstances, mostly on behalf of the University, determining. If it does not cost too much more, we are going via Europe unless we have to go in a hurry which I do not expect. If via Europe then I shall spend just as much time as can be profitably spent on behalf of the University in England. In that case, I may desire to repeat your experiment at Poissy. If it impresses you as a good thing, will you or Maybelle write us all the particulars, advantages and disadvantages? Will you also write the person in charge asking

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Mr. James Yard.

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Dec. 22, 1925.

them to communicate with us so that we would know what to look forward to as regards expenses, and living conditions. That being a girls' school, the question would arise, What about the boys? Perhaps you can add a little light on that subject. Don't limit your advice and experiences to Poissy. Put us wise to the things that are really worth while; that you would like to repeat or want another fellow to see.

By way of recompense and reward that is due Margaret and Raymond for having being separated from the family for so long, I have suggested to them the possibility of their meeting us at some point in Europe, and spending a short time there. In this connection I suggested that they write you regarding that student-tourist plan on the Atlantic steamers. It has occurred to me that it would be a very fine thing if we could connect with them at some place like Genoa and repeat the Braces' auto ~~tour~~ through Italy, Switzerland, and France. Our family would just about fill up the buggy. In all this, of course, I have had in mind that ominous-looking word that the British government long since introduced to conceal their imminent danger of bankruptcy namely, exchequer. Whether the British government used it for that reason or not, you may be quite sure it applies in my case. Whatever happens I shall be like the dog that had his tail cut off -- having a devil of a time to make both ends meet. I shall write no more on this subject, leaving you to write the rest.

We are entertaining to-day, at dinner, the eight Generals who are holding conference in Chengtu. Rumour, of course, has it that they will have a hard time to keep from fighting before they get through, or right after. We are beginning right at the University by filling them up at least once before they have to pass in their checks. This fact implies that we are on friendly terms; that the town is quiet. I hear nothing of the proposed anti-Christian activities at Christmas. It looks as though they began the agitation too early -- like the fellow who got up at four o'clock in the morning in order to be awake at 10:30 P.M. and found himself sleeping before the hour arrived.

The war at the Coast is not affecting us here in any visible way. We have had two fine social student gatherings this year, and we had a track meet last Saturday. One of the dormitory groups got their backs up because they were last on the list all the time and went home to weep in the attic. This is symptomatic, not of colds but of brain fever that is epidemic in China. They promised to apologize to the athletic director. That is a good sign and an indication that there is a good feeling among us. I have already written you regarding the enrollment.

We have a new building ready - the Friends' College Building. It is a fine structure; information about it later. Arnold Silcock has gone home, and Dr. Stubbs will follow in a few weeks, on furlough.

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Mr. James Yard.

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Dec. 22, 1925.

A letter from R. J. Davidson, dated Kansas indicates that he is pretty well discouraged about China, and fears serious results from the anti-British propaganda. I think I shall have to write and cheer him up. I won't do that to you; I don't think you need it.

I know you saw Margaret and Raymond when you got to Ohio Wesleyan in November. We are waiting letters from them every day now.

Dr. Kilborn recovered from his relapse and is out among us again.

Miss Andrews, who you will remember was with Mains, will arrive to-morrow in company with Bishop Grose and Marion Manly. I am indebted to Bishop Birney for getting Miss Andrews to come to West China. Very fortunately for me, and unfortunately for the lady who has had to do the drudgery, -Miss Beaton agreed to help me out this fall. If it were not for her help, you would not have gotten this letter.

All of the Beech family want to be remembered to all of the Yards so do not be derelict in passing on the information.

As ever yours,

Joe Beech

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West China



Union University

WEST  
CHINATRANSFER  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Dec. 23, 1925.

Dr. Eric M. North,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York,  
U. S. A.

My dear Dr. North:

Allow me to thank you for yours of Oct. 29th enclosing the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Supervisory Committee of the Central Office of the China Union Universities.

In looking over the Minutes, I see that considerable business has centred in your office, and I am glad to know that the West China Union University has gotten in to the extent of utilizing your accounting department.

We are having a very good year here. People and officials are very friendly. I entertained at dinner last night the officials who are meeting here in conference to determine the future of Szechwan. I endeavoured to stress the importance of peace to them. There is no prospect of immediate trouble in Szechwan. Neither is there any guarantee of permanent peace, but in this I think we share alike with all China.

Bishop Grose arrived yesterday, feeling rather tired as a result of his trip; otherwise I think he is in good condition. Our conference will begin in a week. The financial situation which faces the Mission cannot be described in any other word than tragic. We had something like a 40% cut last year. It looks as though we will have another cut of like proportion this year. Someone remarked to me this morning that between the anti-Christian movement and the appropriation of foreign missions what will be left of the M. E. Church is difficult to prognosticate. It certainly is a sad situation that faces us. Meantime, I suppose there was never so much money wasted, nor has living been geared to such an expensive level as it is in America to-day. This is the time when we really need the Centenary because of the *oppositions* that we have to overcome in these days and our resources should be multiplied to meet them.

With very best respects, I am,

Yours truly,

*Joseph Beech*  
President.

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West China



Union University

WEST  
CHINATRANSFER  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Dec. 23, 1925.

Dr. Eric M. North,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York,  
U. S. A.

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With very best respects, I am,

Yours truly,

*Joseph Beech*  
President.

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Division of Chemistry



Chicago, Illinois

CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

January 14th, 1926  
Chengtu, West China.

Sir Joseph Flavells,  
176 Yonge Street,  
Toronto, Canada.

My dear Sir Joseph:

More time has passed by than should have done since I last wrote you. I am glad that you found in the letters and reports which I sent forward for the Board of Governors meeting items of sufficient interest to send on to the various members of the Board in England, the United States and Canada.

These are stirring times in China, and one wishes that they might have the insight of the prophets to discern the course of events. I think, perhaps a brief statement on the general situation as I see it may not be amiss in this letter.

Before the Washington Conference it was evident to some of our statesmen that events in China, and the interest of foreign powers in this part of the world were such as to threaten the peace of the world in the not distant future. I was at a dinner with some of the officials here last night, and this is the sort of news that I received from some of the best informed persons present. Chang Tso-lin had defeated General Kuo, who formerly was one of Chang Tso-lin's subordinates, but who had turned against him, and after a series of brilliant victories was nearing Mukden. My informants were of the opinion that nothing could have saved Chang Tso-lin except the Japanese army, probably not under Japanese colors, nevertheless operating with Chang Tso-lin's troops, and probably directing the battle.

It was also reported today that word had been received here by wire that Feng Yu Hsiang had gone toward Urga, and the supposition was that he had gone after Russian help. That is just the situation that some students of Eastern affairs had seen on the horizon; that the affairs of China would get into such a bad state that they would invite help from Japan and Russia, and international complications would result. By the time this letter reaches you telegraphic information to the press may have cleared up this immediate question, but the unpleasant prospect will remain. Nevertheless if it is true that Feng Yu Hsiang has been compelled to withdraw, I doubt if there is another rallying point in the east about which the constructive forces can gather in sufficient numbers to give promise of better things in the immediate future.

Bolshevik influences have been influencing the situation in southeastern China, and affairs have been about as bad in that part of the country as it is possible for them to become.

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The hope of not a few, and some of the best students of China has been that some strong man would arise. I fear that the problem is too great for any strong man to handle, and the interests of the foreign powers are so opposite, and the counsels so diverse that there does not seem to be much help promised from this source. I should not be surprised to find China breaking up into sections, either on provincial lines, or a group of provinces in some form of alliance. This is practically what we have now, but the powers have continued in their delusion that the government of China is centered in Peking, and they have been looking for some strong man to negotiate it. I do not mean to imply that such a division will be at all permanent, but judging from the present number of leaders, and of their capacities, and of the immensity of the problems with which they must deal, and of the jealousies that prevail between them causing them to unite to oppose any one who has the prospect of gaining large control, I doubt very much if we can look for anything better than a division in the administration of Chinese affairs for some time to come. That is practically what we have now, although the delusion persists that it is not so.

For example take the Province of Szechwan. Peking appoints the representatives of the Salt Gabelle. They receive about \$13,000,000. annually, which is ear-marked for the government in Peking. The general in Szechwan presents a mandate to the salt commissioner for the money. He files a protest, and then pays the money. This sort of affairs has existed for five years. They listen to Peking when it is profitable for them to do so, and ignore Peking whenever gain dictates that that is to be done. In the Province of Szechwan there is a duplication of the national situation, and in part the same statement applies to some other provinces.

All of the leaders who combined against Yang Sen, and drove him from the Province, after preliminary agreements at the close of the campaign assembled in Chengtu for conference. They have been here for about a month, and the problem of their conference seemed to be how not to carry out and comply with the preliminary agreements entered into when the campaign started, and when the campaign ended. The strife has led to division. There are two parties, with a third party on the proverbial fence. One of the generals left about two weeks ago. Another silently folded his tents and stole away last Sunday.

Last night I attended a dinner given by three of the generals at the Foreign Office. It was given in honor of the officials of the Salt Gabelle who were in Chengtu. One of the hosts was not present. He had departed during the day. With the conference ending in disagreement, and some of the parties to it withdrawing in the fashion mentioned, there is a general expectation that there will be a resumption of hostilities, shortly after Chinese New Year which will be due in about a month, if not immediately. So much for the political background which I think I ought to give you in order that you may appreciate the conditions under which we are doing our work here.

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1926

In addition to this political situation there is to be added the fact that the so called anti-imperialistic, anti-capitalistic and anti-Christian movements have continued their diversions that called for a nation wide demonstration again at Christianity, as a most subtle form of imperialistic penetration, during the Christmas week celebration. I remarked to someone else that this movement, though it made a start in Chengtu evidently fell into a well, and we have heard nothing of it except an occasional gurgle that indicated that there was breath still in it.

At Luchow, one of your stations, there was an outbreak of violence. The Asiatic Petroleum godown, or warehouse, was burned, and at the close of the Christmas service a crowd gathered at the church and, after some demonstration broke the glass and the lamps, and, in other ways, made themselves obnoxious. So far as I know that is the only instance of the kind in the Province of Szechwan.

With this brief outline I think I have enabled you to visualize the atmosphere, and the events that have been taking place about us, and I would like you to see a different picture by reviewing briefly things in the University.

First, our relations with the officials have been very friendly. When the conference gathered here in Chengtu, I invited them all out to my home for dinner. I have known a number of them personally for some years. The University has continued to be in their good graces so that we do not anticipate any trouble here even if trouble occurs among them.

Our enrollment is slightly less than last year, owing to war, and increased tuition as mentioned in my last letter. We have now about come to the end of the first term, and I think I am not over emphasizing conditions when I state that it is my belief that the present half year has been the most profitable half year we have spent, and there has never prevailed a finer spirit among our student body in the relations between teachers and students than now.

Added to this there is the fact, if one may judge by interest manifest both in sermons by our Chinese leaders, and attention on the part of the students, that there has never been anything approximating the interest that now prevails toward Christianity, not only within the institution, but on the outside. The anti-Christian movement has compelled people to examine and to study, and as a result of the examination and the study, to find approval for Christianity and its progress here.

The Methodist Episcopal Mission has just closed their conference, and because of their conference we had the privilege of having Bishop Grose here for about two weeks. He gave a series of very helpful addresses among which four nights were devoted to the subject of Personal Religion. I let it be known that

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the attendance at these meetings was entirely optional, and that we wanted those to attend who were specifically interested, and who would agree to attend all of the meetings if they attended any. In our student body here on the campus are about two hundred students. There were almost eighty who sent word to the office that they would attend. The attendance was actually about one hundred every evening. I have never attended a group of meetings where the speaker had such marked attention and respect for the things said. At the close of this series of meetings I asked those present who desired to put themselves on record before their fellow students as whole hearted followers of Jesus Christ to rise, one at a time during the singing of the closing hymn. At the conclusion of the hymn I looked up and then found that all in the room as far as I could see were on their feet. I was told that there were a few, scattered here and there, mostly in the rear of the room that did not rise.

If over against the other picture of strife, and envy and selfish counsels we could put such a picture as I have just described with numbers even approximating those grouped in the other picture, I am confident that we would need have no fear for the future of China, or for China's ill effects upon the rest of the world. There never was a time when we needed the complete strength of the Christian Church applied to one of the great world problems as we now find here in China. When I lift my eyes and look abroad and see the tremendous wealth in money, in men and in ability of the Christian Church, and then think how weak is its impress upon this surging mass of humanity that holds so much of good or ill for the world, and for Christianity itself, I certainly am pained to find instead of an increase of interest, a weakening of effort. In the Methodist Episcopal Conference which has just closed we were compelled to leave one of the workers at home, and our resources and funds were less instead of more than last year.

This brings me to the Board of Governors meeting, and the Minutes upon which I have not commented in this letter because I have already consumed so much of your time in the general situation. I will not attempt to comment in detail upon the actions that you have taken. First, let me say that even though it was not possible to increase the appropriation to the University I am profoundly grateful that there was not a reduction, and, if you will allow me to say so, I believe that your general attitude toward the financial needs of the University, and the manner in which you have continued to hold up before the members of the Boards these needs, was undoubtedly responsible for the vote to continue their appropriation for this year as heretofore, notwithstanding, at least two of the Boards were facing very heavy deficits in their current budgets. We will get on as, of course, we have to, and by added consecration I hope that we may keep the cause for which we are here moving forward.

Again I was cheered by your action in making the Womens Boards constituent members of the Board of Governors, notwithstanding the fact that the manner of their representation still

requires to be determined. Before the end of the present year, I think we will have three women workers here at the University as a result of this action, and, of course, you are aware of the fact that it was the contribution from the womens boards which prevented a marked reduction in our working budget here on the field.

Although it was not possible for the Board to engage Mr. Yard, as I hoped they might do, for general publicity and financial work, nevertheless I am encouraged with the action that you did take, and with the marked sympathy revealed in the minutes passed, and I think I should make this comment in regard to all the minutes of the Executives and the Board's meetings. An earnest sympathetic desire to enter into the problems facing the University, and to help solve them is manifest throughout the entire report which I have before me, and I would appreciate it if you would convey to the members of the Board this meagre but just statement of appreciation.

.....

I have sent forward to you the Minutes of the December meeting of the Senate since last writing you. I believe there is nothing in the Minutes that calls for special comment, except Minute 1876 and Minute 1878, and upon these I have written quite in detail to Dr. Endicott, and, no doubt, you are already familiar with the reasons that lie back of these minutes.

Because of my long and intimate acquaintance with Dr. Coles I am not without hope that he will respond to the request which has been sent to him for additional funds to complete the Clock Tower. I think I ought to state here that we were in no sense responsible for the estimate for the Clock Tower. When the estimate was made we had in mind a less imposing tower, and one of more simple construction. The Tower was approved without any estimate being made as to the cost of its erection. It was not until we came to the problem of erecting it that we found that the sum given would all be required for the building of the tower itself, whereas approximately half of the gift had already been spent for the clock and bell, and their transportation to the field. It was necessary for us to ask an additional gift of approximately \$3,500.

This statement as to costs, in part, applies also to the Medical-Dental Building. We reported under the thought that there would be \$100,000 Mexican for the building, and when the plans were approved in Chengtu the cost of building was very materially less than it is today when we are ready to proceed with construction work. Consequently the most constructive proposals that we can make are those recorded in Minute 1876 that we build the two wings,omitting the central section unless the gift can be increased to permit of the building of the central section, less the assembly hall and museum.

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As ever,

Very respectfully yours,  
JOSEPH BEECH, President.

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February 15, 1926.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Beech  
Chengtou  
West China

Dear Joe:

This is my first official letter and I presume that it is the beginning of a long list on various subjects.

Knowing your keen interest in the matter, I have today cabled you to the effect that I have accepted the position as American representative of the University. I am now consulting with the Committee as to the exact title to be used on our letterheads.

I asked in the cable that you send as many as possible catalogs, statistics, maps, etc. One thing that we need to know is the value of the land and of each individual building. Perhaps you might lump the value of the residences under one item. They do not seem to have, either here in the Board rooms or in the China Universities office, very full or reliable statistics as to the exact number of students, teachers, etc. etc. Just send me a file of everything you've got. Of course, I have the Senate Minutes which have been coming regularly.

I am pretty well tied up for the present with appointments which I have made under the Board, but they will all help me to make contacts in the future. I take up my official duties with the University on March 1st. I shall get up to Toronto to see Sir Joseph and Dr. Endicott early in March, I hope. I have already rented desk space on the fifth floor here at 150.

If you have any suggestions as to my method of procedure please send them along. If there are any people with whom you wish me especially to get into contact let me know, and, if you think wise, send along letters of introduction.

I guess this is all for today.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

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West China



Union University

CHENGTU, WEST CHINA

February 15, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
 Board of Foreign Missions  
 150 Fifth Avenue  
 New York City

My dear Jim:

I do not know when I will get to answer your fine long letters. At least I will have to defer the answer to those letters until I receive them. I think I will have to tell you a story about a stenographer. The stenographer used to bring letters to the person who had dictated them, and sometimes a letter would be gone out of a word, sometimes a word out of a sentence, sometimes a whole sentence out of a letter, and on some occasions the whole letter was missing. When the boss complained the stenographer said, "That old Blick of yours has got letteritis." "And", said the boss, "what is letteritis?" "Oh", said the stenographer "it drops a letter now and then", and he said "please let it drop one in occasionally instead of dropping them all out." Do you see the suggestion contained in this story? It is not more than three feet away from you anyway.

I know you did not get my letter regarding a visit with Dr. Coles in time to see him before his death. I understand that he authorized the formation of a commission to handle his estate. I asked him for three thousand dollars to complete the Clock Tower, and I asked him for twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars for the Woman's College in memory of his sister. Dr. Coles home address was Scotch Plains, New Jersey. I wish you would make inquiry regarding this commission, and if it is functioning try to get in connection with them. I should not be surprised if Dr. Coles had left a suggestion regarding the Woman's College. He could hardly have mentioned the Clock Tower as he doubtless thought his gift adequate whereas it is proving to be three thousand dollars short. The tower is up about twenty-five feet.

When you hear folks talking about the end of missions

*Handwritten note:* J. M. Yard Feb 15, 1926

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in China just tell them that if the university ends in the near future we hope it will go off in a blaze. In addition to the Coles tower we have begun the foundations of the Cadbury Education Building. We have got Liu Dsi Ru's Middle School Chapel up about twelve feet. We hope to start on the Medical Building wings very soon, money inadequate to start on the entire building. We are also going to erect a brick building for post office just adjacent to the Administration building. I am still tinkering away on the Library. I use the word "tinkering" advisedly. I am trying to go on faster than the dollars come. If you would like to see me move just interest some good man, or woman, to make a contribution of about five thousand dollars to finish the building, and furnish it for use. I have written on this subject before, and I will probably write on it again.

Chengtu has about thirty miles of macadamized roads, and Ford buses chu-chu up and down the streets. Rickshas are as common as Fords at a country fair.

We have finished the first half year, and finished it well. A fine spirit prevailed throughout.

We are just on the eve of the old Chinese year. The military are straining every effort to get money to pay the troops so they will not loot, and I presume to have money in hand so that after the Chinese New Year they may shoot.

Everybody well at the Beech house, and, I hope, the same is true at the Yards' estate. Wish you were here to drink to the health of Wesleyan on Washington's birthday. It looks as though I would have to toast Larkin, and Larkin would have to toast me. It looks as though Larkin and I would both be home at the same time, and there will be no one here to toast Wesleyan. I expect to leave in the early part of 1927.

I have had letters from Professor Rice and President McConaughy. They are planning to do greater things for West China. Take every opportunity to go up that way, and endeavor to enlarge the movement so as to include gifts from alumni. The president and committee are favorable to this extension. While you are there boost loyally for the Joe Beech Fund at First Church also.

Now this is the second ending to this letter. I ended it at least two paragraphs above.

yours respectfully

JB:A

*J. Beech*  
Beech

West China



Union University

February 23, 1926

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

I am taking the first day after Washington's Birthday Banquet to let you know that we had you in mind last night. We sang Here's to Jim Yard, Here's to his wife, and Here's to the wavers. We, of course, sang many other things. I am sending you a bit of the feast by way of menu. By this you will see what you missed. No, you won't. It was a lot better than it looks. I presume that you will not be here for the next Washington Birthday banquet, and if I happen to find you in the U. S. A. when I get there in the summer of 1927 I do not imagine you will be here for the 1928 Washington Birthday affair either. It looks as though we might have that affair together with Larkin and George included somewhere in New York, or possibly Middletown.

I am not writing this letter, however, to tell you about the affair last night, although I ought to say just a little more about it before I leave it. We had thought of inviting representatives from the New England colleges, but we did not do it. We had eight people; six Beeches, two Larkins. The coming generation can probably tell you who Doc Raymond was. We had a fine long letter, nine full sized typewritten pages, from Billy Rice. You would say "some letter", and it was. Everybody had a chance to read at least one page. We did not forget to sing up and down the various members of the faculty, not forgetting Winch. We had a brief, but appreciative letter from Prexy McConaughy. We sang the old favorite Wesleyan songs, and then we moved into  $\Psi - \Upsilon$ , and among other things sang The Old Shrine. And if you will not report it too far abroad will tell you that we passed the grip around among we two, and our wives. We broke up at 11.20 o'clock. The children did not go to bed until after 10.30. Elizabeth, very fortunately, played the old favorites in her usual manner. We very much wished that you and Mabelle, and the girls might have been present, but we shall have to take it on wishing.

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February 23, 1926

Now I come to the object of this letter, which is to keep your mind green, and well planted with a certain important piece of business that I conceive it is your duty to undertake at no distant future date. I have not the slightest doubt but that you will keep busy with speaking appointments, and other work, at the order of 150 Fifth Ave., and for the time being perhaps that is the most needy thing to be done, and strategic too. Now, if you can go on at that sort of thing and not get weary in well doing, and hoping, I believe that you will be able to get to that university program in due time. Let me here outline very briefly something that I have in mind in this connection.

First, to get a group of Methodist colleges to supply the entire Methodist force needed for the university. We have two, and Wesleyan ought to be worked for another man. The job depends somewhat on the other man. Be on the lookout for the type of a fellow that will carry the imagination of the boys, and the support of the Alumni. Get alumni back of it if you can. We also have Dickenson, as you know. I think that one man is all that can be counted on. Syracuse is, of course, taken up with Chungking, but if that group could supply a man for the medical faculty as a part of their Syracuse unit I believe that would be a good thing to bring about. There are two colleges in Ohio, and another one in Pennsylvania that ought to be in line. There are, of course, many others. You may have a chance to make inquiry as to the most hopeful places to begin. McMasters at Mount Union knows Joe Beech very well. Also the Wesley Foundation group, University of Illinois, used to be back of Williams, and have long been interested in West China. Baker also knows Joe Beech; but others know Jim Yard. I throw out these lines that you may do something. If this can be done it will take some load off the regular appropriation of the Board of Foreign Missions. We should aim to get about \$500 annual subscription along with each man to help meet the expense connected with the work. It would take ten men to cover the present \$6,000 of the Board. That we cannot expect from this source, but we ought to expect something toward student support, or to supplement the Board's contribution. I wish it might be supplement.

Second, I did a little cultivating when at home with the idea of getting a group of men together in strategic cities as a kind of auxiliary to the Board of Governors, the idea being to find a group of men who would be willing to give a certain sum of money annually, and to take at least one evening for a dinner together when they might attempt to enlarge the circle. One of

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Mr. James M. Yard

February 23, 1926

the things that I have in mind in the organization of this group is to relieve the Board of Foreign Missions of all, or part, of its annual contribution of the current expense of the university in one of two ways; either by building up an endowment from gifts that are secured through these centers, and in other ways, or substitution of these gifts for the Board's annual contribution, or at least part of it. I am not out to relieve the Board entirely of financial responsibility, but I am out to make us a little less dependent upon their annual appropriation, and to help them so that their annual appropriation will be more secure, and of better dimensions. I mention this to you with the expectation that you will keep it on the Q. T., and with the hope that as you visit certain cities where there is a group of Methodist Churches, or the right sort of Methodist Church members that can be interested in the idea that you will do a little bit of advance friendship work. I will not say more on this general theme now.

Let me state that I am not too sanguine that I can pry you loose from the Board of Foreign Missions, and get you on to the university work at home at this year's annual meeting of the Board. I am trying to prevent Flavelle from resigning as Chairman of the Board. Will you see Flavelle and back up this request. I am going to write Flavelle good and hard on the subject of the Board taking you on next September. until we ~~win~~ there, I certainly want your help and cooperation because you are "Jimmy on the spot," and I am miles away. If we do not succeed this year then I will have something to accomplish when I get home in the summer of 1927. I am planning, as I wrote you, to do some work in England. The date of my arrival in England will be determined by how much I can do there, and as to whether we wait for the children in Europe, or go on to the U. S. A.

Now, I write this letter that you may see a star ahead, and that you may not be side-tracked by some alluring, but less brilliant light along your path. Remember that lights that are near seem to shine brightest simply because they are near. You are physicist enough to know that a distant star that appears small, may be far brighter than a Broadway headlight that makes a tremendous glare. I know you have the same sort of a problem that I have with the members of your family to educate, but the time is not so very far distant when most of them will be in college, and there can be no good reason why you and Mabel could not spend, at least part of your time on the campus here at the

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February 23, 1926

University.

I am past due to go into the city and see one of the officials. I have already run over his time about a quarter of an hour, so you see that I do not put you at the end of the list. I hope you will go me one better, and keep Joe Beech and the university on top.

With affection from the Beech crowd to all of you, I am

As ever yours

JB:A

*Joe* Beech

later.

P.S. Bee North writes that students  
 in Chungking have smashed up the  
 7 Day Adventists Church & other  
 property adjacent. That they are  
 parading with the body of a  
 Pekingian student, Ho, killed May  
 30<sup>th</sup> Shanghai - Yuan Dan Min  
 in charge there not friendly to foreigners  
 fighting between the Sze Troops &  
 Yuan Dan Min's Kweichow troops expected  
 anytime - *Joe*  
 Elizabeth got a photo and very in-  
 teresting letter Priscilla  
 recently. just about to  
 see England. j.

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February 25, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech,  
West China Union University,  
Chengt'u, West China.

Dear Joe,

I went up to Wesleyan for the Washington's Birthday Celebration which has been revived after having lapsed for several years. I went particularly to make some fresh contacts in behalf of the University. I got in touch with Harold Wilson who is pastor of a little church in Connecticut where several very rich men happen to reside. I think he can help us to make some very worth while contacts. I also had a little talk with Bodine, Class of '06, and McCormick, Class of '07, who know some folks in Philadelphia.

Yesterday noon I had lunch with Jason Joy who is Will Hays' first assistant, and I am already working with him on some publicity material. I am going to try to persuade their corporation to send a first-class movie man to make a picture of West China. Perhaps they can get a scenario out of Jim Stewart's book. If such a thing as that can be done, within the next two years, it will give West China all the publicity we need. Joy also suggests that we send along with the movie man somebody like Stanley High who could write stories back to "The Saturday Evening Post" and such publications and so get the name of West China very much in the public eye.

I am to meet our West China Committee at noon today, Sir Joseph Flavelle and Dr. Endicott are down here on some business connected with the Federal Council of the Churches, and we are all to have lunch together this noon, that is, Franklin, Edwards, the Canadians and myself.

You can do all this on the quiet that you think advisable, but let me say that somebody better call off Joe Taylor and Randle from writing such letters as they have recently published in "The Christian Century". They are stewing up a nice mess among the Chinese students in this country, and you will discover that West China will have a bad name amongst Chinese students generally. I think you will admit that that is the wrong kind of publicity. A word to the wise.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

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March 2, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech  
West China Union University  
Chengtou, West China

Dear Joe:

I want you to do two or three things for me right off. First, write me a brief statement for use in publicity about the friendly relationship of the University to the city and provincial educational authorities. Just a short statement.

Another thing, what about the University Hospital? Are you still planning on that? Where is it to be located and how much do you expect to need for it? Give me all the data possible on that, the need for it, etc. I have two men in mind, either of whom might be interested in erecting that plant.

Will you also get from the Press or somewhere the history of Chengtu which Tom Torrence recently compiled? If any other interesting documents, pamphlets or articles have been published there containing interesting information, please send them along.

If you make any interesting discoveries in medicine or if anything interesting results from any of the trips of the West China Board of Research Society be sure to shoot the news into me as rapidly as possible. I shall try to get as much publicity in the newspapers and church papers as possible. You know the kind of stuff that will be interesting.

One of the best things that could happen would be for you to get kidnapped by some bandits, for your own sake and for the sake of the University. You ought to be able to manage that during the next year. The other day I was trying to get a job with the Pond Lecture Bureau and Mr. Pond said that I could easily manage it if I had been kidnapped or shot or something so that I'd have some good publicity material. As it is, I might have plenty of ability but I am not famous. Now it is up to you to get famous, and that is no joke. We can send you out several times a week as soon as you get here if you can only work some good stunt like that, and you could get \$50 to \$100 a lecture easily. Now, of course, don't overdo it. You musn't get killed in this process because then you wouldn't be worth a darn cent.

I guess that's all for this time. Please remember me to Miss Andrews and give my love to the family.

JMY:BP

Yours as ever, James M. Yard

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

March 3, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

I do not know when you sent your telegram. I received it three days ago, and naturally elated. I have just written you giving some suggestions regarding lines of work for the advancement of the University interests. I do not wish to add anything to those general suggestions this morning. I will outline proposals after the next Senate meeting.

I regret that I have very little to send on to you in the way of publicity material from this end of the line. Our last edition of University catalogues is nearly exhausted. I am sending bundles of 1924-25 catalogues as we have these on hand. I am also sending a bundle of last commencement programs as they have some publicity value. An article has been written for the China Press dealing with the science work of the University. I judge this will be published in a coming Sunday edition, and freely illustrated. I have asked that they print this article as a special supplement. I will increase the number asked for by about five hundred\*copies, and ask that they express to you as soon as printed. I will send you at this time photographs of the University buildings and activities, and try to get others on the way to you from time to time. I hope that you can keep these filed for future use.

I am wondering if you have freedom of action in the various constituencies, or if your activities are to be circumscribed by the Methodist Episcopal circle. You doubtless will have liberty to sow everywhere, but will you have liberty to reap? That is the question. Write me as explicitly as possibly on this phase of the question as plans for future development must be developed that will fit their conditions, and in some measure overcome the obstacles to the financial progress of the University.

I will have your telegram read at the Senate which meets tomorrow. I am sure I shall find an echo of my own delight, and I am inclined to think the opposition against having a man at home for the work that you are undertaking

\*Orders 1000 sent to you.

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2834452

March 3, 1926

has been, in a measure at least, broken down by Sir Joseph. If I am not mistaken he will prove equally valuable in helping to make your work a success. Therefore, I need hardly say it, join your forces with mine to keep him where he is. I will put a resolution through the Senate along this line.

We have begun the second term, had an auspicious opening and had a fairly good attendance for the first morning. Most of the classes are in operation today.

There is no change in the political situation. A clash between the Chungking and Chengtu ends is anticipated. It is rumored that Yang Sen is in alliance with Yuen Dsu Min at Chungking. I could rejoice at the coming back of Yang Sen, but I cannot entuse over his associate. Since his arrival at Chungking students, and others, have smashed up the Seventh Day Adventist church, and done some other damage in the vicinity. I hear some of these students have been put in jail for their actions, and I hear that the Chamber of Commerce has put out a notice that they will only recommend and engage graduates of mission schools for business positions. If this last item is true it not only reveals the thought of the Chamber of Commerce, and the solid business interests of Chungking, regarding the anti-Christian propaganda, but it constitutes also a fine commendation of the work we have been doing in education in that port.

The Comissioner of Foreign Affairs here gave an address to a mixed company of foreigners and Chinese at the Foreign Office last Sunday afternoon on Foreign Relations, dealing especially with the so called unequal treaties. I asked if their removal would have a detrimental effect upon our University work. He answered, "Certainly not. The solid interests here heartily approve of your work, and are opposed to the noisy element who do not weigh much, and their propaganda against you." He continued by saying, "When my friends ask to what school shall I send my son for an education I answer without hesitation to the Union University because they are reliable, and are doing good work." He also added, "I do not say this because 'Bi Bo-si' is here. I say it when he is not here."

Well, now go to it old man. You have the help and prayers of your old friend and fellow laborer, and we are in a campaign that is not going to lose.

Yours respectfully

*Joe Beech*  
President

JB:A

X Later. Let out on demand of Anti Xta Co.

*P.S. Just got news that the E Bd only guaranteed the Bd Gurs \$3600 instead of \$6000 as agreed. They put \$2400 in as designated to be gotten. Do not let our Bd. drop or all will drop - including the "bottom" here.*

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West China



Union University



TRANSFER

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

March 24, 1926

Mr. George Vaux, Jr.  
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania



My dear Mr. Vaux:

I have just written Mr. Williams that I hope the passing months will be kind to him, and that they would bring added health and strength, and I wish to pass on the same thought to you and to assure you of my prayerful interest in your complete recovery. I am not altogether selfish in this, although I am somewhat selfish to have you back on the board, and able to take an added interest in the affairs of the university. The passing show here in China has not decreased my faith in the work that this university is called to perform, but increased it. I have more conviction than ever that the strategy of Christian Missions centers about institutions like this, and that for the work to be most effective we need to make them more Christian, and more national. I am certainly out to do both, and I do crave your help and sympathy in forwarding such a program.

I have received a copy of Dr. Coles' will. In the last analysis we receive one nineteenth of the estate. About one half of all the shares are retained by the trustees until the death of twelve administrators. We are to receive quarterly payments, interest on our share, until the death of these "twelve lives." After that we become trustee for our share, the income still to be applied "For the up keep and extension of our buildings." This, you will note, is our first real good beginning on endowment, and it comes right. I am sure you will rejoice in this inasmuch as you knew Dr. Coles and helped to interest him in the university.

With very kindest wishes to you and Mrs. Vaux, I am

Respectfully yours

*Joseph Beech*  
President

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March 29, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtou, China.

My dear Joe:

I sent you a rather long cable the 25th (which Dr. Edwards is paying for) asking you to cable proof of the statements in one of your letters to Cranston, dated I think November 3rd, and in section 1, Senate Minute 1365. The cause for the cable was that in your very latest letter to Earl, you seem to be going back a little bit on the warpath of your earlier statements. Neither I nor Earl want these men to go to West China under any misunderstanding. They are willing to accept a salary of \$125. Mexican per month and a house. It is understood that for the time being at any rate, they will share a house with Cranston. Of course, if they should marry later on that will want a house of their own, of as good quality as that occupied by missionaries. I have met both of these men and they are real chaps, and they will be a great addition to the University. They have had unusually wide experience and are possessed of the right spirit. I hope you will all give them a very hearty welcome.

The only way to carry on the University and build greatly on the splendid foundation already laid down is by adding Chinese of the finest quality. We all know that they cannot be secured in these tremendous days except on the basis of absolute equality of terms, without regard to race, or, as you say "previous conditions of servitude".

On your way home I want you to be sure to visit Peking in order to meet with the men there, foreign and Chinese, at Peking University, and at the Peking Union Medical College. That will involve extra expense, of course, but we will take care of that at this end. You will be worth a whole lot more, even then you will be benefited after a week with these men in Peking. That added to your extraordinary experience in Chengtu will make you an invincible pleader for West China Union University. Get all the rest you can before you reach the good old U. S. A., because by that time I expect to have some pipe laid and we shall keep you busy once you arrive.

Please send me at once a list of the men and women who have already contributed to the University, together with their addresses.

I had a long talk with Jim Lewis this morning and got much valuable information and many good hints.

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Dr. Joseph Beech, President.

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March 29, 1926

I spoke Wednesday evening to a crowded church in Paterson on the Anniversary of the W. F. M. S. of the Newark Conference. I had a wonderful time and even got a space in the New York Times the next day. The morning after I got ten minutes to speak to the preachers and believe me, I talked fast.

With love to all, ever,

Sincerely,

James M. Yard

Representative of  
WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY.

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April 6, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech  
West China Union University  
Chongtu  
West China

Dear Joe:

I remember to have noticed some of the drawings which Mrs. Kitchen has made of West China Center. Can you possibly get a view of the originals or some copies from the "News", or some place, such as might be useful in our publicity? For example, the cover on the present "West China News" of the Gorges would be a very attractive thing on some of our leaflets if she has anything of that nature. I wish we could have it in our files, here.

How much money ought we to ask for to cover the cost of a residence for a professor at the University, either Chinese or foreign? I imagine the estimates have gone down. I question the advisability of houses that are too pretentious and costly, as I also question the advisability of building houses for Chinese professors that would rent for say \$10. That would seem to me too flimsy. Perhaps high school teachers and assistants in the laboratory might occupy \$10. houses, but a man with the rank of professor certainly ought to have just as good a house as a missionary.

How much, therefore, do we need for a residence? Would \$4000 be enough? Please let me know soon about this.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

Y/P

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West China



Union University

WEST  
CHINA

April 12, 1926

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Mr. William O. Gantz  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Gantz:

I have sent forward to Dr. Augustus S. Downing, Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, Albany, New York, request for the following degrees:

Bachelor of Arts

Den Tsung Hwen  
Fu Fang Chi  
Wang Si Du  
Yang Djen Lung  
Yang Hsin Chien

Bachelor of Science

Djang Wen Shuen  
Fung Da Ran  
Wang Yu Wen  
Wu Shuen Shi

I have requested Dr. Downing to send the bill for these diplomas to you. I trust that you will honor the same, and hasten as much as you can the dispatch to us. They were sent forward by express last year. Interminable delay resulted. I am inclined to think that registered mail will bring them to us more expeditiously, and if care is taken in the packing, I judge they will come as safely as would be the case by express.

With very best wishes, I am

Respectfully yours

*Joseph Beech*  
President

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Union University



CHESTNUT WEST CHINA

June 30, 1926

Mr. Miller  
Office of the Registrar  
Union University  
Chestnut West China

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. regarding the matter mentioned therein.

RECEIVED BY
LEGAL DEPT
5/27/26
W. S. L. L.
DATE

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
JUN 30 1926
JOINT OFFICE

283552

West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

April 15, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

Be on the lookout for those one thousand copies of the Science work of the University sent to you at 150 Fifth Avenue, from Mr. Powell of the China Press. They should reach you before this letter.

I was glad to get yours of February 25th, and to know that you had a cordial welcome from the members of the Executive and that Sir Joseph Flavelle gives such fine evidence of his interest. I have been sowing good seed in his yard for a long time, and it is gratifying to see evidence of growth on all sides.

We were very glad to get your letter stating that <sup>Mc</sup>Gibson would probably get behind the two men that Cranston had been after. There are a good many question marks in connection with the coming of these men. I have not raised them, neither have I tried to down them. The questions are whether these men will be able to do their work in Mandarin. Chinese members of the Senate emphasize this phase of the question in particular. They feel that if these men come from other provinces they might be handicapped by their use of the Chinese language, and they also felt that they might be poor in Chinese generally, owing to their emphasis on English. We want Chinese, but we want Chinese who are Chinese scholastically as well as in other respects.

Another question is, of course, that of salary. There is to be some heat gendered under the collar by men who have been working for the University, or the Mission, who think they should get much more, and who think they are worth much more, but thus far they have not received it, and in the future probably cannot. Some of us fear they will represent that group which Jesus mentioned in the parable of the penny at the close of the day.

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2834452

April 15, 1926

Nevertheless our mission have authorized me to cable asking that these men come out at the same rate that Lincoln Dsang is getting , one hundred twenty dollars a month with house. We have the matter before a committee of the University this afternoon.

Our first need is not for a pharmacist. We would prefer that the man be a doctor, but if that cannot be then we approve of the pharmacist coming. The other man ought to give the major portion of his time to education, and he will have to do it in Chinese largely.

There are more sides to the question upon which some West China missionaries have been writing to The Christian Century than have been yet expressed. I think it ill advised to keep a question like this in the columns of The Christian Century. Neither they, nor their constituency, will be any wiser after all the writing is finished. The fact does remain that there has been a vast amount of what perhaps you would call kibosh in regard to China. I think there has never been so much poverty, so much starvation, so much robbery, so much trickery and dishonesty generally with a break down of government and institutions. The yamens have resumed the old beating process, and, I am reliably informed, that right here in the city of Chengtu people are captured and beaten, or otherwise tortured to compel them to disgorge for the benefit of their captors. Thousands have died of starvation in Szechwan because of insufficient crops, and yet there was never so much opium grown. If I get the reaction of the rest of the country aright something like that prevails in most provinces. One of the worst features of the whole thing is the lack of hope among the solid elements, and the frenzy among the students. I do not think it would do any good, I think it would do harm to publish such statements as I am passing on to you, but the fact that such statements can be said ought to restrain friends of China from too free a use of the white wash brush. I am told that some one in Baltimore said that the treaties were at the bottom of all of China's troubles. That is so far from being true that it constitutes a misrepresentation and places the emphasis of the blame upon a subsidiary rather than the main cause. I would like to see all the objectionable treaties removed, and other foreign irritants, in order that the Chinese themselves might get down to the real causes of their troubles. When they do so they will find something more fundamental than government reform and treaties are required. My hope of China is partly built upon a belief that they will do so. If they ever get to the place where St. Paul was when he said, "Who will deliver me from the body of this death" we can expect great things to follow.

I am about to write a letter to Mr. A. A. Hye, Wichita,

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-3- Mr. James M. Yard

April 15, 1926

Kansas. Mr. Hyde is, I believe, a Congregationalist. He is the manufacturer of mentholatum. I am informed that he has an income of about \$100,000 a year, and that he keeps one tenth and gives nine tenths to good causes. He is interested chiefly in men and works rather than in buildings or endowments. In the letter I will state that you are representing this university, and that if the opportunity offers I hope that he may see you. Among other things I am going to mention our needs in medical work and pharmacy; this because I judge this side of our work might be more appealing to him than some others. If you should have a chance to go to Wichita, Kansas, do a little advance correspondence with some one there that Mr. Hyde may hear you, or that you may be able to see him.

We had a fine University Day the other day. Our chief speaker was not a Christian. The theme of his address was "The Place of Religion in Life." The anti-Christians have been doing us a real service. This man, and one other talked about religion. They were earnest about it. The second man, a representative of the Educational Department, would, I think, not get by with his definition of religion, but it is significant that religion is a topic that can be freely discussed anywhere now. In fact people seem compelled to discuss it because of the publicity given to it by the antis.

We are at peace in Szechwan. Yang Sen is staging a partial come-back in the eastern half of the province.

With best wishes to all of yours.

As ever yours

  
President

Beech

P. S. Mr. Hyde publishes some single sheet leaflets. They are intended for enclosures in correspondence. I have three such leaflets and a note from Mr. Hyde stating that he will supply as many as may be needed. The titles of the three that I have are "Satisfying Investments", "Wills" and "The Job." The last is a poem by Badger Clark from The Christian Century. ~~Get done~~  
from him. 

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April 15, 1926.

Copy of Resolution passed at Meeting of the  
Chengtu Station of the M. E. M. on April 9, 1926.

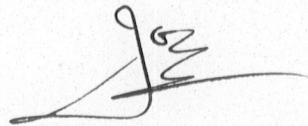
Resolved, that as a basis for consultation with a  
representative group of university officers and teachers  
we suggest:

1. that we cable Mr. yard welcoming Mr. Lao to the  
university faculty as a representative of the  
M. E. M. to teach education, English and  
sociology a total of approximately eighteen hours  
per week with the understanding that he be able  
to use mandarin acceptable in Szechuen, that he  
receive \$120 per month silver without regard to  
his status as a single or married man, that he  
be provided a house, that his contract be from  
three to five years, it being further under-  
stood that his salary and travel be provided  
outside and in addition to our present budget.

2. that, while the need for a medical man is  
greater than the need for a pharmacist, if a  
medical man is not available, we would welcome  
a pharmacist on the same terms as indicated  
above under #1.

Furthermore, it is our deep conviction that our great  
need is for pronouncedly and avowedly Christian men.

P. S. I have been interesting Mr. Carnrick in the  
university. I am looking forward to some worthwhile  
memorial to his father from him. If you meet him continue  
to interest him. Should you talk in figures, at all do not  
talk in small ones. I hope some day to have some definite  
proposition to put before him. If we start in pharmacy  
he might get behind it, or he might build our chemical  
building. Either one of these buildings ought to work  
into two or three tens of thousands. He writes that he  
met you at your recent visit to Montclair in the home of  
St. John. "Keep the home fires burning."



Just rec'd a nice letter of  
greeting from Gen Yang Sen at  
Wahsien.

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

April 21, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

I have your letter of March 2nd. Now, believe me I am not going to get shot as a publicity stunt. If the American public can't take interest in a man unless he has been kid-napped, or shot at, I think it is about time that we turned loose a few million of the bankers on them so that they may appreciate some other side of life. Tell Mr. Pond to come over here, and I will fix it up for him. I think I can get him riddled without half trying.

I will write something for you on the lines that you want information, namely, "Friendly Relations with the Chinese."

In regard to the University Hospital, yes we propose to go on with that project. I am going to try to get the Chinese to take part of the hospital load. If we can persuade the medical faculty that we can use a hospital with separate units I think the thing will be easy as we can secure a number of small gifts, each complete in itself. At all events if you have anyone in mind for that proposition go to it, and we will arrange for the erection of the big hospital as a quadrangle. We estimate that \$75,000 will be needed for that building. If it is equipped \$100,000, and we ought to have a guaranteed income of not less than \$5,000 a year for maintenance. I can write you much more about it, but these are the main facts. I am sure the medical faculty would say that I am on the under side rather than the over side of costs, especially maintenance.

I will try to get what you want about Chengtu from Tom Torrance.

George D.

Write Professor Hubbard, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio for his published pamphlet on Chengtu, and the Chengtu plain.\* He gathered a lot of information that will be useful to you. I am sure that he will be glad to send you a copy. Write him

\* Title. The Geography of the  
Chengtu Plain.  
(Chengtu "Paris of China")

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-2- Mr. James M. Yard

April 21, 1926

at my request.

The students staged a big blow out as protest against the Taku-Peking affair. A good deal of anti-foreing noise, but nothing more. Our students did not participate, and did not ask to participate. Other schools had two days holidays.

Everything lovely here at the University. The weather and the spring roses are beautiful.

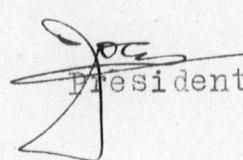
A delay in answering your cablegram has occurred, owing to a number of questions involved. I will telegraph you as soon as I can, and will write you facts when I get them from the parties concerned.

The action of the executive in deciding not to start a department of pharmacy creates a big question mark in connection with the outcoming of Mr. Chen. Another question mark has also been raised in connection with his outcoming. Some folk here appear to know him, and are of the opinion that he is not a Christian, and that he is not inclined to be favorably inclined toward Christianity. This may or may not be the case. At all events we need to have pronouncedly Christian men come out because we have so many of our Chinese staff who are not Christians, especially in the department of Chinese. This is all for the present, more later.

I think your cablegram came to me by freight, and I may have to send mine to you by the same method.

With love to you all. Your remembrance to Miss Andrews passed on.

Respectfully yours

 Beech  
President

*P.S. Tom. asked to send you  
his material -*

*Note Miss Andrews has addressed you Mr. I am going  
to attempt to cut two strokes out of the "M" and bend another so it  
looks like the front of "Billy Bibber"*  
*J.B.*

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April 22, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech  
Union University  
Chengtu, China.

Dear Joe:

Your first letter after receiving my cable arrived yesterday and I was very much delighted to get it and the package of pictures which came with it in the same mail. I was needing them very much. If the China Research Society takes a trip this summer be sure to send me some pictures from that, and as much of a story as you can get. We must use all methods to advertise West China. Let us play up to the romance of it just as you have done in all your publicity, - its nearness to Tibet, its possible anthropological and other sorts of research.

If you will write me up an article along any of these lines I think I can get it into "Asia". The editor, Mr. Froelick, is an old Princeton man with whom I have had some close contacts. The fact that I am a Princeton and Hartford, as well as a Wesleyanite, has proven helpful in these days when I need contacts. Fortunately I have kept up my Princeton contacts all these years, and do not have to re-establish broken connections. I have taken lunch with some of my classmates at the Princeton Club several times during the past month. By-the-way, I am to have lunch this noon with our old friend J. A. R.

May I emphasize the necessity for you folks warming up on the reception of these two young Chinese who are soon to be on their way to join your faculty. As I have said before, they are very fine, brilliant and lovable men. Last Saturday I went to the Troy Conference with Lau (or Liu as you will spell it) to show him to the folks. Frank Ryder is endeavoring to get some other churches to go in and support Lau. Cobleskill will be responsible for part of his salary and will probably pay his entire out-going expenses. I have a good letter from Jim Stewart of cordial welcome to them which will cheer them up. They will be leaving before you can get a letter back so you dont need to say anything to me, but be sure to give them a welcome when they arrive. Of course, you will do that but there has been a suspicion in their minds, we think, that perhaps Chengtu was far away and therefore a bit conservative, and not ready to go far in this new Chinese movement. I am mighty glad

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Dr. Joseph Beech-----2

April 22, 1926

that you with your marvelous tact are on the job in these days,  
and will be there when these two men arrive.

When you are out looking through the curio shops  
some day please get me a couple of sets of these big stone seals,  
the ones that are heavy enough to serve as book-ends. Sometimes they  
come in sets of three. The little one in the middle does not matter.  
What I want, as you know, are the two heavy ones at the end. If  
they do not cost too much you might bring several along and they will  
make nice gifts for friends at the University. Of course they are  
pretty heavy so you will not want to bring many.

Our girls are due to arrive on Monday. To-day  
is Friday so we are getting quite excited. Mabel, Mollie and Florence  
are arriving to-morrow, and we shall spend Sunday in Roselle Park,  
New Jersey, where I am to speak on China and present the work of the  
University. There are some good prospects in that church.

With much love to all,

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard

JMY  
ELH

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April 22, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech  
Chengtu  
West China

Dear Joe:

Your letter of February 25th telling about the Washington's Birthday banquet reached me yesterday. I sent you a cable about February 15th telling you that I had taken up this job, and of course your letter makes it evident that you had not received the cable. I wonder if it ever got through. Well, anyway, I was mighty glad to get your letter and one from Miriam which I sent on to Mabelle.

Dr. Cady suggested a scheme the other day which sounds to me pretty good. It is that we raise a fund in connection with our Wesleyan in China for sending an under-graduate from Middletown to study in Chengtu for a year, say at the end of his junior year. I think it would be great stuff both for West China and for Wesleyan. It would be pretty good, also, if Wesleyan could lead out in such an enterprise, for I am sure in a few years many of our colleges will be doing that. For example, last year a friend of mine, Dr. Godshall, spent a year in China studying the political situation on a fellowship from the University of Pennsylvania. Please let me know how the idea strikes you.

I was at Wesleyan Sunday, Monday and part of Tuesday. I gave a lantern lecture in the church Sunday night, spoke at a faculty student bun in the Gym Monday night, where I was received most cordially by about 300 or more. I also spoke about eight minutes at the chapel services Tuesday morning, and at a conference with students with Clinchey and Reynolds of the Y until noon on Tuesday. I had a bully time. I put up at the Psi U House.

Mabelle and Florence have had the flu recently but they are all right now. Molly and I seem

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April 22, 1926

to be the teachers and members of the family. And by the way, Holly was in an oratorical contest in the high schools a couple weeks ago. Her subject was "America's Contribution to Constitutional Government." She got honorable mention, and one of the teachers and one of the judges told us that her subject matter was certainly the best and that she would have received the first prize if she had not spoken so rapidly, and therefore in spots not distinctly. Not bad for a freshman, eh?

Love to all,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

April 26, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

I have received your letter asking for a list of names, also making similar request of the members of the faculty. I will have your letter read to the Senate, and so get the information on. I will try to get you some names before long.

I am sending you herewith a request which has been received from Mr. Soper. Mr. Soper is looking after the industrial end of our work here, and has the beginnings of a machine shop which is serving the University, and community. He writes that he needs a gear cutter, and the Barnes Co., as noted on the enclosed sheet, page 16, have a gear cutting attachment for the lathe. We have the lathe. We do not have the gear cutting attachment. It occurred to me that you might find someone who would like to supply this. The gear cutter will cost at the Barnes Co., freight prepaid to Chicago, \$85.00. The chuck wanted may cost \$25.00 gold. Forty dollars will cover freight, packing, customs, insurance. One hundred fifty dollars from somebody will land the thing in Chengtu. I send it on to you with the hope that you may run on to somebody that is interested in just this thing. If you should get a speaking appointment at Rockford, Illinois I imagine that would be the place to get it.

It looks as though we are going to have another military drive in Szechwan. There is a combine being formed to drive Yuen Dsu Min out of the province. He holds Chungking, Luchow and other points in that vicinity. I hear that Yang Sen is in the combine against him. I do not know whether this will mean a division of forces here in Chengtu. I sincerely hope not. I cannot say that I would be sorry to have Yuen Dsu Min beating a hasty march to Kweichow, where he belongs.

Very respectfully yours

*George Bech*  
President

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

April 28, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

4 There are always some people who are willing to give a little to help on a cause like ours, and to continue that little for a number of years. What we would like to have in connection with the enclosed list are donors who will agree to give these magazines for one, three, or five years. I suggest that the money might be paid to you, and then put in a special gift fund for Library with the University Treasurer, notification of the gift being sent here. We will place the order for the magazines in order that there may be no duplication, and then draw on this special fund as required. In case some party would prefer to donate the magazine that, of course, may also be done, but in that case a standing order for the magazine should be placed for not less than three years in order to avoid the expiration of the subscription. I cannot tell you just when these various magazines expire, but it will be safe to begin any, or all of these magazines at the beginning of 1927.

Cordially yours

*Jos* Beech

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May 4, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech  
Union University  
Chengtú, Szechwan  
China.

Dear Joe:

I enclose herewith a letter which I have just received from Dr. Gamewell in reply to one I sent urging that no cut be made in the appropriations of the University. This will show just what we are up against, and makes more evident the need for an adequate endowment which will give us an assured income.

I was with the Ryders in Cobleskill over Sunday and had a bully time. They are certainly delightful folks. They have practically enough money in hand to pay the traveling expenses of Mr. Lau, the man for sociology, and Frank assures me that through the Laymen's Association he can raise enough money to pay his salary for the next three years. As you know already, Mr. Charles Gibson of Albany, N.Y. is standing behind Mr. Cheng, the pharmacist.

Please get me some good pictures of paper making in West China. There are several good mills in the vicinity of Pengshieu and perhaps even near Beahluding. Get a half dozen of them with the various processes with some people in them at work. I shall want them for some articles which I am thinking of writing, and more important than that, to show to a Mr. Moses, a big paper manufacturer in Springfield with whom I hope to get in touch. More later.

Ever sincerely,

James M. Yard

JMY  
ELH

Enclosure.

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May 7, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech  
Union University  
Chengtu, China.

Dear Joe:

I sat in yesterday by invitation at a committee of the various China colleges, all of which are looking forward sooner or later to financial campaigns. It is hoped that there can be a campaign for higher education in China, but the more we talked the more it became evident that the only joint campaign possible will be one in which Peking, Nanking, Shantung, Fukien and West China can unite. Of course, Peking includes Yenching, the Woman's College, and Nanking includes Ginling.

It also became extremely evident that West China is the best of all possible cases. Lots of people, and all of the great Foundations simply will not talk except in terms of coordination and cooperation. West China has that in perfection and always has had it. East China never has had it, and as Dr. Robert Speer said yesterday, when one thinks of the Southern Baptists and St. Johns there is very little hope of it in our generation.

I think we are very fortunate in any case to have got started and I hope we can rake in a fair pile before this union effort goes in effect, because in many respects I think West China will be better off to go it alone.

And now this is all by way of preface to say that I think you had better come home as early next year as possible to join in and make this a real campaign. I am moving as rapidly as possible, but, as you know from past experience, contacts are made slowly and it does not pay to rush things too rapidly.

I received your cable in answer to mine regarding the salary of these two Columbia students and we were all pleased with your reply. I am looking eagerly for a letter. Jim Stewart is in town and he and Cranston, Brace and the Chinese Lau and Cheng and I had a Chinese supper together last night.

With best wishes to all,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard.

JMY  
ELH

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

May 7, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
 Board of Foreign Missions  
 150 Fifth Avenue  
 New York City

My dear Jim:

The Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Science, the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Religion, the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Dentistry, each grant a scholarship of free tuition for one year to the student who ranks highest in the University in their faculty at the end of the first, second and third years of college work proper. This means that each faculty awards three scholarships of free tuition each year. One scholarship costs the University, at the present rate of exchange, approximately \$25.00 gold. The total number of scholarships awarded by all the faculties is three times six, or eighteen scholarships each year. Can you get donors who will give us \$75.00 for one year, or for a number of years, to enable each of these faculties to grant these three scholarships. The amount, as you see, will be \$75.00 per year. If the gift is continuous for from three to five years the name of the donor will be printed in our catalogue. These scholarships should not come through the special gift department of the Methodist Episcopal Church, *only*.

A still better method is to get some donor to give a sum of money sufficient to produce the annual interest to cover these scholarships. See Rosemond Scholarships in our catalogue.

If you can not get donors to give \$75.00 for a number of years get them for one year, or get a number of individual gifts for the single scholarships granted each year.

In addition to these scholarships we would <sup>like</sup> to have one or more standing scholarships of free tuition for

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Mr. James H. Yard

May 7, 1926

one year in the University to those students who rank highest at the completion of the precollegiate, premedical and pre dental courses. These correspond to our previous Junior Division (Yu Ko) courses. These scholarships should be for the same amount as the others. We have no scholarships now for this grade of students.

Yours respectfully

Joseph H. Beek  
President

P.S. I should have said we have dropped the Junior 3 yr Division + Senior 3 yr Division. We now have a 4 yr. College Course proper. With 2 yr. Sub fresh or precollegiate to enable the old fashion Middle School student to qualify for entrance to College Courses.

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West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

May 8, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Jim:

For the time being I am inclined to think that the title of "Executive Secretary" might be more fitting for you than "Representative of the University." I have another title under consideration, but I am not quite prepared to pass it on. I am, however, including the title "Executive Secretary" in the catalogue for 1926-27. I will be sending a goodly number of these catalogues to you, and I think it is well for you to prepare the way for the title listed therein.

Mr. Brewer has written you in reply to your cablegram. I think that nothing needs to be added. I prepared a cable much longer than the one sent, but every dollar here looks like ten now, and so the mission cut the message down to the length you received. I hope the main facts were clear.

The action of the Board of Governors in not approving the course in pharmacy may create a situation difficult to handle to the satisfaction of Mr. Chen. There will be a little work to do in pharmacy in connection with the course in medicine, and there will be pharmacal work that he will be asked to do, but it will be in the C. M. M. Hospital, and more under the direction of that mission than the University. There will, of course, be work that he can do in connection with the Science Department, and perhaps in the Medical and Dental Departments. I mention this in particular because we do not want Mr. Chen to come on the assumption that the University is in a position to conduct a course in pharmacy at present. His coming may make that possible, but please let him understand the situation.

So far as our mission is concerned our great need is for a doctor, and if we could get a "bang up" doctor I think we should put that down as our first need in Chinese personnel.

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May 8, 1926

Miss Brethorst is doing excellent work in the department that she took over from George Neumann. Most of our sociological work is in the University proper, and there are not advanced students enough to justify two workers giving the major portion of their time in that department. Miss Brethorst majors in sociology, and minors in education, and is the head of the department of sociology. This would mean that Mr. Lau could possibly be appointed with his major in education, where he is asked for, and his minors in sociology and English. We will have no difficulty in filling up the quota of either, or both of these men, in English.

There is another side to this question that has not been mentioned in any general way, but I desire to mention it here in order that you may ascertain if the men would be agreeable to the proposition. We desire to have very close relations with the Government educational authorities and Government schools. We are frequently asked to loan one of our teachers for part time to a government school, or to make an exchange of teachers in specific subjects. It might be that either one or both of these men could serve both the University, and the cause of Education in West China to excellent advantage if they would be willing to render service after this order. The stipend which would come from such teaching would not, of course, be in addition to their salary. The work would constitute a part of their regular quota of hours, and the remuneration would come to the University and not to them. The rate which is paid here would not exceed the average charge upon us for salary and rent.

In your letter of March 29th you state that my latest letter to Earl seemed to indicate little less warmth in regard to these men coming than that contained in a previous letter. There has been no change in my position whatever. There has been misinterpretation of the resolutions passed by the Senate. For instance about "appointing workers on the same basis as missionaries" was never intended as a resolution to go to the home boards. It was intended as a resolution to go to the missions here on the field, and simply meant that the missions would provide the men, paying their salary, and furnishing them a house. We never bother about any other conditions of the missionary. They may come with one shirt, or none at all, but the University does not trouble itself about that. That particular resolution taken up especially after Earl had written assuming that it applied to conditions at home needed more careful statement, and that may perhaps seem to be where the lack of warmth came in. Then again, I think, I have a little more dan dsi than

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May 8, 1926

some members of the faculty and members of the mission. Some of them fear that it will create pandemonium among the University Chinese teachers, and mission workers, if we pay newcomers more than we are paying our No. 1 men at present, and especially since we can't raise the salary of the men now engaged to the salary proposed for these newcomers. I see difficulties, but I am inclined to meet them head on, and get the men to come out. I have, however, tried to be fair, not only to my own position, but to the sentiments of others; in this case I think the majority. Since we are paying Dsang Lin Gao \$120, and these men are willing to come for \$125 and house we are so near together that I think there would be no trouble. We will try to make the men satisfied both with their living, and their job. Certainly we will give them a good welcome, and treat them as equals. That last word, I think, needs qualifications. By that I do not mean that we would give them a Sabbatical year in America, or give them missionary rates for the education of their children, but that socially and educationally we will treat them as equals.

I have promised you that list that you asked for, and some of these days I am going to get it to you. I am using all the spare time I have now on the catalogue, and other odd jobs that come along like flies at this season of the year.

I note what you say about visiting Peking. I plan to visit all of the Universities north of the Yangtze. We may go home via Siberia. If I have not said so in previous letters, I ought to add here that it is our present intention to get to the United States in the summer of 1927. We do not plan to leave West China until early in 1927. I am going to try to stir things up in England, and since they are rather conservative and orderly over there one has to go about it rather slowly and decorously. Hence I may be there for sometime. I am, however, planning to be in the United States in the summer of 1927.

We are still at peace, although things are doing at Chungking, the particulars of which are not clear. It is reported that Yang Sen has driven out the Kweichow man from that city. It is also a fact that troops of Chengtu factions have been hastening to Chungking, probably with the hope of getting into the city before Yang's troops get control.

We had a little agitation here due to the killing of the students in Peking. The students smashed up the Japanese Consulate. They deny that it was students. They said the scape-goat was rowdies. About the time of this demonstration they were

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-4- Mr. James M. Yard

MY 8, 1926

rather free with insulting expressions to foreigners on the street, among which "sa, sa!" was frequently heard.

With very best wishes, as ever

Joe Beech

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May 13, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech  
West China Union University  
Chengt'u, West China.

Dear Joe:

I wrote Mr. Roger Green yesterday urging him to make a trip into West China this summer to investigate the Medical School with the idea of putting some of their funds into it. I assured him that someone from the University would meet him at the end of navigation and act as escort.

I did this after a conference with Miss Eggleston of the China Medical Board, who says there is not much chance of our getting money from any of the Rockefeller interests, except through the Medical Board. There is no chance of getting anything immediately because their income is all tied up for the next two years in a building project in Peking. She did give the impression that we might get something after that.

There is a possibility that we may get something from Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., as a personal contribution, and that must be secured through Mr. Raymond B. Fosdick with whom I am in communication. That will also require some months or years I imagine, but there ought to be ways of interesting Fosdick in our work.

I hope you will keep close touch with the American Boxer Fund Commission over there. From something I heard the other day I had an idea that West China Union University might legitimately come in for a share. Will you please take it up with somebody there on the field, and also send a copy of your letter to Dr. Paul Monroe. I think he is not in this country at present. I will look him up as soon as he returns and talk with him on the matter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

WEST  
CHINA

INDEXED

May 19, 1926

TRANSFER

President Joseph Beech,  
Bursar W.B. Albertson,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtu, Szechwan, China.

Dear Dr. Beech and Mr. Albertson:

At last I am able to take up with you the matter of the West China accounts and our ways of handling them. You will have already heard something from Mr. Gantz but this will go into the matter quite at length.

I am sending you under another cover a copy of the audit of Lybrand, Ross Bros. & Montgomery of the accounts of Mr. Vaux. This audit was made before we took over the books and has been of very great value. You should note, however, that the form of the books and of the balance sheets which we use in the Central Office for the Universities is <sup>not</sup> the same as that used by Mr. Vaux or set up in the auditor's report. A little later I will explain our method here, after first going over some of the items in the audit.

On page 1, undoubtedly the record of the meeting in 1919 was somewhat ahead of the actual payments. Apart from this there is no reason for us to spend time on it.

The Josephine Gallup fund referred to on page 2 we will take up with the Methodist Board later.

On page 3, the process by which the auditor determines the funds used for other purposes, so far as we are concerned, need not affect us because this condition is shown, I believe, clearly by the form of bal-

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ance sheet which we use and which will bring the facts forward in a more fully analyzed manner. You will note the comment of the auditor as to the capitalization of parts of the appropriation for the purchase of equipment. We have not traced back to find out just what items the auditor has put into this equipment account, and if we had I am not sure that we would know whether these items were purchases on Current Account or on capital funds. Of course, if they are expenditures intended to come from the current funds, the process of the auditor has thrown the balance out as between plant and current funds, and what he should have done would have been to make a journal entry on both sides of the Plant Account, charging Equipment, and crediting an account which would be called "Plant Funds from Current Funds", charging drafts originally to Current Appropriation for the year. This would have kept the matter clear. As it stands, however, if he has actually charged plant funds with equipment that was intended to be purchased from current funds, he is correct in saying that an amount should be credited from the unexpended income to offset this. This, however, we should leave as a matter to be investigated and worked out in course of time.

With reference to Page 4 and the supporting schedule on Page 9, note, I think, should be taken of the fact that whenever the auditor saw an action in the minutes which seemed to indicate that an amount was to come from the Boards for a given year, either hoped for or agreed to, he put it on the books as a pledge to be collected. In some of these cases, undoubtedly, the pledges were never made in the first place. In other cases - as, for example, in the case of some pledges of individuals - the pledges have been paid but not paid through the Treasurer of the West China Union University, and therefore have not appeared on the books and seemed to the auditor to be still uncollected. Investigation of the status of these uncollected pledges we will undertake, but it would be a very great help to us if you would write us of any, which in your personal knowledge, have been paid and of the sources through which payment has been made to the University. You will notice that the item of uncollected assessments and pledges is not added in upon the balance sheet of the audit.

I think I need not comment upon the other pages of the audit inasmuch as the adjustments of the statements there made will appear in another document which I am also sending.

At the request of Mr. Gantz I have made to him a report of the situation as I found it under date of April 3rd. This report explains the processes which we have gone through here in adjusting the accounts to our processes here, and in preparing for further work. Attached to this report is a trial balance as of December 31st, bringing down to that date the accounts in just the same manner as they were kept by Mr. Vaux. I enclose a copy of the journal entries which effected the change from this trial balance to our trial balance on January 1, 1926, after the re-organization of the accounts. You will note in this statement of January 1st the way in which our accounts are regularly set up. Endowment, Plant, and Current Accounts are kept entirely distinct from each other, and as shown by this statement, there is in the Endowment Account \$7175. of endowment funds which have never been, and which ought to be invested. At present these are on fixed deposit at 4% pending any indication from you as to whether they ought not to be permanently invested, and as to whether

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you are likely to so draw upon the accounts as to force us to use these endowment funds to meet drafts, a proceeding which is, of course, entirely improper but which might result from the fact that you and we have not had opportunity to understand each other yet as to just what can be drawn.

The plant section sets up the funds on the right as shown. We will eventually analyze account #121 to show the funds contributed by the mission boards, but we have not yet had time to make this analysis.

In the case of Special Funds, if the figures here seem perplexing to you, you should note that we have added to the principal of the funds the unexpended balances in the "Income from Funds" account which appear on page 11 of the report of the auditor. On the other side of the account you will see the accounts to which your drafts and any disbursements made here have been charged. I am not altogether sure that as many equipment accounts as we have are necessary, but we are holding them as they are in order to be able to trace their connection to the audit and eventually to your accounts. The Building Fund investments, of course, represent the balance of the Whiting Memorial Fund that is invested.

Under Building Operations we have grouped all of the disbursements for building as it was obvious that none of these accounts represented completed buildings. Ordinarily when a building is completed it is entered in Account #23 under its name, but while building operations are going on we keep it in Account #26 with a view to eventually closing out this whole block of accounts and simplifying the future books. We know, of course, that these Building Operations accounts represent only the amounts which, so far as we know here, you have drawn for the specific buildings indicated. Undoubtedly Account #26-F should be distributed over several buildings, and I have a suspicion that you have received directly from mission boards, or in other ways, funds that have gone into these and other buildings which should appear upon the balance sheet.

As you will note, there is no cash in the Plant account, and it has borrowed from the Special Accounts \$8239.91. This is <sup>the</sup> deficit in the Plant account which may in part be due to the charging of the Equipment Accounts with equipment purchased from Current Funds and placing Current Funds on the liability side of the statement. This might modify this deficit somewhat but it is evident that, as things stand, you have had more plant funds from us than you should have unless there is in the Undistributed Account expenditures upon the Administration Block covered by the Whiting Memorial Fund. If this is the case then the Building Fund investments should be sold at least to sufficient extent to restore the plant cash to the proper side of the statement and to refund the amount which the Special Accounts should have. Will you not, therefore, advise us of what you understand you have drawn from us in total for the Administration Block, and authorize us to transfer sufficient amount from #26-F to bring #26-J up to the amount which you have drawn from us for this building. If the amount so drawn exceeds the difference between the fund and the investments, we will liquidate sufficient investments to cover the difference.

It is our theory here that as the Governors are the legal corporation responsible for the funds, their balance sheet ought to show, in the case of Plant Funds the actual facts, both as to the funds received and as to the expenditure of those funds in land, buildings and equipment. In other words, the asset side of the Plant Account ought to represent the gold equivalent, at the actual rates of exchange concerned, of a similar statement

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of assets in local currency which should be upon your books. In all of the colleges we are steadily working toward this situation. It means that in time we will be able to state to donors just how their gift has been used and also to demonstrate to prospective donors and foundations of just what capital investment and capital assets the plant of the University consists. It will undoubtedly take us some time to work this out but we should steadily move toward it.

Before passing from the Plant Accounts, I would call your attention to the fact that the March 31st plant balance sheet is the same as the January 1st balance sheet, except for \$67. received from the Canadian Methodist Women's Auxiliary for road improvements. The Endowment Funds also stand the same on March 31st.

The Current Accounts will be better understood if we turn now to the March 31st balance sheet. The Current General Accounts represent the funds received and the disbursements made for your Current Account of the current year. Your drafts and purchases made here on your account, and paid by us without draft from you, are charged to accounts Nos. 31 and 32. Account #36-A and 36-B contain the expenses of the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee and the other home base expenses. The right hand side of the sheet shows the amounts actually received from the mission boards on account of appropriations of the current year. In the account #136 "Designated Items" are placed gifts intended for your use on the field, for special purposes, received from other sources than the mission boards. Analysis of this account will be sent you with such authorization to draw as the account may show is necessary.

Customarily we keep in Current Special Account everything we do not know what to do with in order not to confuse either Plant Accounts or the Current General Account for the fiscal year. There is carried over into this from 1925 certain miscellaneous funds that appeared in the audit as undrawn. These are in accounts Nos. 173, 174, 176 and 178.

We have placed in Account #177, as a reserve, the balance from all Current accounts prior to December 31, 1925, together with the amounts paid after January 1, 1926 by some mission boards upon their appropriations for the years prior to that date. This would seem to indicate a large balance, but when this was presented to the Executive Committee Dr. Endicott seemed to think he had discovered that his board had not rendered a bill for three years for some salaries which were chargeable to the University, and I believe his bill amounted to several thousand dollars. Of this I will write later. Campaign expense section I think I need not comment on.

At the end is a memorandum account of the uncollected pledges as they appeared on March 31, 1926. As I indicated, we have considerable doubt as to whether some of these are correct. Some, however, are certainly correct and collectible.

A further statement should be made concerning our method of keeping accounts, lest you be under some misapprehension. Our accounts are kept strictly on a cash basis. We do not set up a charge against a mission board in these cash accounts when a board makes an appropriation, nor do we, on the other hand, set up a credit in these accounts when the Board of Governors votes an appropriation to the field. Actions of this type we regard as in the nature of setting up a budget, and these budget

accounts we keep as memorandum accounts. They do not appear in the trial balance or cash statements and appear only in a budget memorandum which we keep to show how much we figure you have a right to draw and how much we figure we have a right to collect from the Boards. This I have referred to in the third numbered paragraph on page 2 of my memorandum to Mr. Gantz.

Returning to this memorandum, I want to call your attention to the second point under Item 5. Apparently these two drafts, Nos. 317 and 318, have been lost between the bank and Mr. Hinkerton. We have assumed that these were chargeable to the Field Budget for 1925. If this is not correct please notify us that we may transfer them to the proper account. A good many of the details to which I have referred above you will find cleared up in the memorandum to Mr. Gantz. The place where we are stuck, and the most vital place in the whole business, is our inability to determine what you think you have a right to draw upon us for, and what we have a right to collect from the boards and from other people. A few days ago I received from Dr. Endicott a transcript of the minutes of the Executive Committee and of the Governors, referring to financial matters. I am far from clear that I shall be able, even with this, to determine just exactly what the amounts are which are the authorized budgets for disbursement for a given year, and how much of any given budget you are authorized to draw from the field, how much is to be paid to one or another of the Boards for salaries they are paying in Chengtu in behalf of the University, and thereby to know the net amount which you can draw from us by draft in the case of each budget. Dr. Endicott sends us the letter, a copy of which I enclose. I should be glad to be guided by you as to whether this is correct, and where, as Treasurers, we would find in the minutes or elsewhere, authorization to pay these amounts.

We also would like to have you indicate to us how much you forecast we should pay to this Board for the year 1926. If the statements Dr. Endicott makes for 1923 to 1925 are correct we will charge this against Account #177, the reserve funds in hand for previous years. You will see, however, that this, together with your current drafts and the overdraft in the plant, would draw us pretty low unless we fell back on the Endowment Funds which I do not think we have a right to do. Taking this statement of Dr. Endicott's into consideration and the actions of the Governors and of the Executive Committee, we should like to know very clearly the following points:

1. What amounts do you understand you can draw upon us for in the Plant Accounts?
2. What amounts on Current Accounts up to the end of 1925 do you understand you still have a right to draw?
3. What amounts do you understand you have a right to draw upon the Current Budget for 1926?
4. What amounts of the Current Budget are we supposed to disburse to any mission board in return for any salaries paid on the field -

- (a) remaining unpaid for the year prior to Dec. 31, 1925
- (b) for the current year 1926?

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Please also go over the uncollected pledges and give us any information you can that will enable us either to write off the items that are not properly in this statement, or to assist us in justifying an effort to collect the amounts named. You will recognize that our ability to provide the funds which you no doubt believe you have a right to draw will depend upon whether we are able to collect some of these uncollected pledges. You must help us at this point.

Furthermore, we are at a loss to know the net result of all this on the cash amounts you will expect us to provide this year, and we are living in some trepidation lest in blissful ignorance you draw upon us for funds we do not have. You will have to recognize that, in the present Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers, you do not now have gentlemen whose independent means enables them to float University overdrafts at the bank, and we must know exactly where we stand.

You know doubt feel the need of knowing exactly where the University stands on its finances just as much as we do, and I can assure you that we will be only too glad to do everything we can to help to work out these problems.

As to current procedure, please note that hereafter all your drafts should be drawn upon the Treasurer of the Board of Governors of West China Union University, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y., and not upon any bank. This, I believe, Mr. Gantz has already stated to you. Furthermore, we would urge you, if practicable, to send us notice a couple of weeks in advance of all drafts which you draw. This enables us to make sure that there has been no monkeying with the drafts, and also to know the amounts which we are to be called on for. I nearly collapsed some weeks ago when there was presented in March 1926 a draft drawn by you in November 1924. Where are we to be if ancient history is to rise up and assault us in that manner? Please also explain to us how you handle your drafts in connection with the associated mission treasurers or other method by which you realize on them so that we may understand the processes at your end.

I find I have some personal hesitation to accept the simple printed form of draft which you use and am wondering if it is at all possible to get a form of draft less likely to be tampered with, and perhaps a little more durable. If you think we should have some printed here on protected paper let us know and indicate the form which you would prefer. We assume and understand that drafts will be signed by both President Beech and Bursar Albertson.

A further item of current procedure consists of the manner in which we report to you the state of the accounts. As soon as we can after the close of the month we will send you a trial balance and the cash statement for the month in which there will be shown all the receipts and disbursements, and you will know just what our condition is right along. Please note, however, that the appearance of any item in our receipts is not an authorization to you to draw. Authorization, so far as the Treasurer's office is concerned, will be given you by separate communication indicating specifically under which account drawings may take place

5-19-26

I enclose a confirmation of my cablegram to you through Mr. Main under date of April 29th, upon which we have not yet had a reply. It is important that we should have the notice referred to in this cable and that drafts in amounts above \$500. should be at three days sight. This is to enable us to adjust our banking arrangements, for Mr. Gantz is trying to get the largest amount of interest possible, and also because we do not endorse these drafts to the bank for payment, but pay them here by check upon which check we have to have double signature. From what I have written, however, you will understand to what I refer in the last part of the cable, indicating our desire to know the total amount you believe you have authority to draw, stating to us what that balance is at the time, immediately after you drew draft #336. \$500

I am looking forward with much satisfaction to the opportunity to cooperating with you in the work for West China, in which I have had an interest ever since my days in the seminary, and for that matter even before that, from what I knew of President Beech through Wesleyan connections.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

Assistant Treasurer

EMN-H

Enc.

(copy of confirmation enclosed)

MISSIONS SHANGHAI (CHINA)  
VIA NORTHERN

NEW YORK APRIL 29, 1926

W.A. MAIN SHANGHAI CHINA JOSEPH BEECH GIVE NOTICE BY LETTER A FEW DAYS BEFORE AND USE THREE DAYS SIGHT DRAFTS AMOUNTS ABOVE US \$500. TELEGRAPH IMMEDIATELY WHAT BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS DO YOU REGARD YOU HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO DRAW AFTER GETTING DRAFT #336 ERIC (M. NORTH) (W.O.) GANTZ

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

May 22, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
Board of Foreign Missions  
New York City

Dear Jim:

Perhaps I am firing things thick and fast at you these days. Before you receive this letter you should receive a cablegram, the burden of which will be that we want you to place an order with the Kohler Company, Kohler, Wisconsin for one or two of their automatic electric lighting plants. The type that we have in mind is what they call their model "S" capacity eight hundred watts. The prices that they quote are f. a. s. steamer Seattle, or San Francisco \$530 for the automatic plant; \$452 for the manual control plant, Model "T." It is the same machine except that one is automatic and the other is manual. I think it would be worth \$80 to keep the Chinese from monkeying with the Machine, so I am asking for the Model S, automatic plant, \$530. We would, of course, prefer to have it delivered at Seattle as the time element would be reduced.

The terms quoted are cash against documents at port of shipment. The export measurement is 24 cubic feet, and the rate twenty-seven cents a cubic foot, or cost to Shanghai approximately \$6.50.

Dick is of the opinion that the Kohler people wrote him once upon a time that they would give him 25% discount if he acted as agent here for them. If we put in an electric plant of this kind we will certainly be acting as agents for the Kohler people. I think they could afford to give us two, and charge it to advertising.

The burden of this letter is that you write, or see, the Kohler people, and either get them to present one of these plants if we buy another, or get a missionary discount and an export discount. Usually these firms can be worked from both of these angles. Their export department can discount their U. S. A. prices, especially if delivery is going to be taken on the American continent so as not to interfere with their export agents. Secondly you can get discount in the

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May 22, 1926

United States on the basis of churches or missionary interests.

Now as to pay. If you do not get a cable I have nothing to say on this subject. But if you do get a cable, so much as you may have to pay will be guaranteed from this end for at least one complete machine at the price quoted above. I plan to use some of Yuan Shi Kai's money for lighting and furnishing the library. Of course, we would like to have somebody furnish us with this outside, and save Yuan Shi Kai's money for very much needed Chinese libraries in our new library building, which we will occupy in September.

M I am not going to Behluting this summer. I am going to finish that library building, and get it ready for occupancy in September. I plan to wire it. We will put a temporary motor in so that it can be used until the Kohler plant arrives. This library will be open to scholars of the city, and with the gates open at night, as they certainly will be, and a road to the library so that rickshas can make the trip clear here our own lighting system will be seen by a good many people.

Secondly we want to put a large electric globe on top of the Clock Tower. It can be seen from a good section of the city.

There is a fairly good system of electric lighting in the city, but it is fairly uncertain. There are many places outside the city where electricity is impossible. Hence, I believe an automatic plant like we are ordering would find sale here in the province, and we would be willing to act as local agents for the firm if we could make anything by so doing.

When I telegraph you I shall probably say,

"Purchase Kohler Model S electric plant complete. Purchase price guaranteed. Ship immediately fast freight."

Bills of lading should be made out in triplicate. The goods should be shipped to the West China Union University, c/o Canadian Methodist Business Agency, Chungking, Attention Mr. Frier.

S.H.

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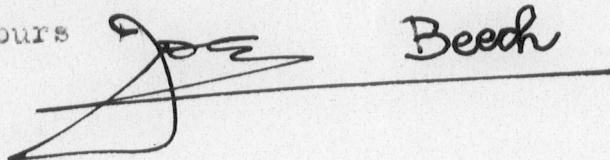
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-3- Mr. James M. Yard

May 22, 1926

I have given you all the facts that I think are needed. I will look through the booklet, and if I find anything that needs to be added I will put it as a postscript to this letter later on.

Yours

 Joe Beed

P.S. Will get down to answers to your letters of recent date. Catalogue has had right of way for some time & will for a few days all quiet. No prospect of May<sup>30</sup> trouble in sight to date.

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J. M. Wesscheck

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For all get down to answer to your letter of the  
date Chicago has been made a matter of  
way for some time since for a  
few days ago all quiet the Governor of  
the state is still at the

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May 25th, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech,  
West China Union University,  
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

Your letter of April 15th has just arrived. The material from the China press has not yet arrived, but I shall be on the look out for it and shall be exceedingly glad to have it. I am working on a little booklet, but it is not ready yet and I need some material for some people I have interviewed recently.

By the way, I had a wonderful time with Leon Willman at Wilkes Barre-over Sunday. As you know, he has a lot of wealthy people in his church. Several of them heard me on Sunday morning when I seemed to be at my best, according to his reports. There was a good account in the paper yesterday morning and besides all that, Leon spent all of yesterday morning going around with me calling on people, both in his church and in the other large Methodist Church in Wilkes Barre.

On my way back from Chicago I also stopped in to see Sir Joseph and had a whole hour with him last Thursday afternoon. I hope to use him as a drawing card for some dinners here in New York and Philadelphia next Fall and Winter. Some of these nabobs here in New York would be quite pleased to attend a dinner presided over by a titled Canadian. He promised to fall in with that plan.

I do wish you fellows were a little bit more enthusiastic about the Chinese who are going out to the University. Let me emphasize again that they are exceedingly fine men of real ability and of the finest Christian spirit. You would not object to receiving two missionaries from our Beard who had never seen a Chinese character and could not speak one syllable of any kind of a Chinese language, yet there seems to be a question in your letter as to the ability of these men to use Mandarin. Of course they both read Chinese. Cheng speaks Mandarin ~~fairly~~ well but Lau knows very little. However, he ought to be able to learn it much more quickly than an American and I have no doubt that he will and in the end they will be of infinitely greater value than any Americans I can think of.

I can see your difficulty with some of the Chinese already on the field and I suppose their salaries will also have to be raised, but you are a rare diplomat and I believe you will be able to get by these trying times.

The cable was a long time arriving but it finally got here and Earl and I passed word of it on to Cheng and Lau. Since then, according to a

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Dr. Joseph Beech

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May 25th, 1926.

letter I find on my desk from Earl, he has received a letter from Brewer. That letter disturbed these Chinese fellows a bit, but they are still prepared to go.

It is discouraging to hear what you say about robberies, starvation, etc., and many others have written along the same line. I suppose these conditions will last for some years yet until some leader or some group of leaders can bring order out of the chaos. On the other hand, we must not forget the great constructive forces like the Universities and the mass education movement and various educational associations that are making progress in the face of unspeakable obstacles. We must also face the fact that the whole temper of the new China is against foreign domination and control. Some times that new spirit may be irritating to us, but after all it has in it the promise of a better day.

I don't quite agree that there is a lack of hope among the solid elements. For example, men like David Yui said in my hearing a year ago that while conditions were discouraging, they had the greatest hope for the future and that eventually China would emerge a great and powerful nation. Doubtless some of the old fellows with long, grey whiskers have no hope, but you will find very many of the younger and most intelligent of the population, while eating a lot of bitterness, are not without hope.

I note what you say about Mr. Hyde and will follow that up. More some other day. Ever,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

P. S. When I saw Sir Joseph the other day he said he was anxious to draw his check for \$2500 to erect those residences for the Chinese faculty. As soon therefore as you can get me word that somebody is prepared to build those residences, he will draw his check to our account. Please therefore, get busy. It is a shame for him to be nervous over such a matter as our not wanting a check.

J.M.Y.

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

May 27, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
 Board of Foreign Missions  
 150 Fifth Avenue  
 New York City

Dear Jim:

I think I will have to write letters to you one at a time. Yours of April 6th is here. I have passed on your request to Mrs. Kitchen. Hope to have something in reply later.

In regard to your paragraph on residences I am inclined to believe that the P. U. M. C. has the most ideal solution of the residence question, especially as it applies to this university. up to date we have only two university residences, and I think we should not go into the business of providing residences for our teachers. I think we should go into the business of providing residences which our teachers can rent, and that the rent on such residences should be well below the nominal rental value. When we furnish the house there is always much to be done, and much better required, and a good measure of dissatisfaction when we have done our best. This applies not only to the university here, but to the school workers and pastors in the city. In estimating ten dollars rental we are not thinking of the value of the house. We are simply not trying to bowl over too rudely the wage standard that prevails in the several missions. We put our salaries about ten dollars higher than the prevailing salaries in the missions, and then said we would let that ten dollars be for rent. There are a number of houses on the campus that can rent for approximately ten dollars a month at their nominal value. We have discovered that one of our university graduates preferred to move out of a ten dollar house into an eight dollar house, and another one out of a twelve dollar a month house into a ten dollar house, and they paid the rent.

Now what we want here in the house line are a number of substantial houses, and when I say substantial I do not mean undesirable in any sense whatever, for the most part double houses. We have a committee at work upon the matter, and we

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X are getting information from other places. A four thousand dollar gold house for a man with a salary of \$100 or \$150 is impossible. It requires too large an upkeep for the man who is not out for show. That is the experience that is coming from down river. Government institutions are putting up fairly good houses. Here again they are generally in groups. I think from four thousand to five thousand dollars will put up two good houses, one roof covering both. There should be some houses that are cheaper than this. There should be some houses that could be put up for from three thousand to four thousand dollars for a double house.

Now our proposal of rent was based on an approximate four per cent, plus insurance. Houses of this kind would rent, therefore, for from about twelve to eighteen dollars a month. The repairs, as you can see, are not included in this figure. Some arrangements would have to be made in regard to repairs. If this were added on to the rent it would be about five dollars a month for each house. Each one of our foreign houses requires an annual outlay of about fifty or sixty dollars a year for repairs. In so far as we want houses, therefore, suppose you proceed on the basis of from three to five thousand dollars for a double house. We will have some men working for \$60 a month, and some for two or three times that before the decade is over.

#10,000 We want one house for the principal of the Middle School. That will be a single house. We need about \$3,000 for this house. We also need a wing for the Middle School building which will accommodate the Science for the Middle School. That wing and its furnishings, not equipment, should cost about \$8,000 gold. It will be two stories high, and about 80 feet long. If more can be secured we will put it into equipment.

We also want one more science building for chemistry and physics. We had thought to have two separate buildings, one for chemistry, and one for physics, but if we had one building that corresponds to the Atherton building, and which stood opposite to it, like it in architecture, we could balance out that part of our university layout. The Atherton building cost \$25,000 gold, and more. This new building will cost \$40,000, perhaps \$50,000.

I mention these two building items, not that they should be first, but simply because they are somewhat in the same line with the house request. As I have written our first need is

May 27, 1926 , Mr. James M. Yard

for gifts running through from five to ten years to supplement our current budget to enable us to equip our buildings much better than they are at present equipped, and to teach our classes better than they are taught. I think we can use up about \$1,000,000 of this kind of money. If we cannot use it all at once we will invest it in real estate, and have something for a barren year. More later.



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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

May 27, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Jim:

Replying to yours of March 10th regarding the use of one hundred thousand dollars, first we should have \$100,000 for our university clinical hospital in connection with the Medical School.

This hospital should be erected and equipped in units. The first and main section of the hospital should cost to build \$50,000, to furnish and equip it \$25,000 additional. There should be a \$25,000 invested fund to keep the building in repair, to pay its insurance, and to keep the equipment at par. Reasons. The clinical hospital is separated from the university Medical School by a journey of three quarters of an hour. A small number of students can reside at the present clinical hospital in the city. Our contribution to medical education is practically limited by the accommodations of this hospital in the city, not for the capacity for observation in the hospital, but for living accommodations of students in connection with the hospital. Our staff is so limited that the men who are living at the university must travel to the hospital, and men who are teachers, and who are living at the hospital, must travel to the university several times a week. This is a most inefficient use of our personnel which is the most expensive part of our budget. The maintenance of one teacher alone requires the equivalent of a \$50,000 endowment, yet we are using a number of these men in such a way as to practically waste the whole time of one. If we had a hospital at the university where we have ample room for its erection adjacent to the medical building the medical students could use the college dormitories, and practically all of this oscillating back and forth of students and staff would be eliminated at a great saving of money and great gain in efficiency.

As you know, one of the finest services that the west can render the East is in medicine, so reported that very expensive commission sent out by the Rockefeller Board. The China Medical Board with the P. U. M. C. resulted from that survey. This state-

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ment becomes more convincing when we say Christianity instead of the West. It is one of the finest and most effective forms of Christian service that can be rendered. It is probably least subject to attack, and conducive of the greatest degree of approbation.

This hospital would not only supply medical needs. It would supply certain dental needs also. About fifty per cent of the students who are coming to this university now desire to engage in medicine or dentistry. To be sure many of them drop out of the way before they get to medicine or dentistry, and the burden of their training up to that time is thrown largely upon the Science and Arts Faculties; but the large number who desire to enter these professions is an indication of the place they hold in Chinese thought.

You, of course, know that the medical building is not complete. Not less than \$30,000 should be forthcoming to complete the building itself, and about \$20,000 ought to be added to that for furnishing, equipment and maintenance of the building.

In the first paragraph I intimated that I was mentioning one unit of this hospital. At least two more units, and possibly three should be added as staff and demands upon the institution justify it. When the whole plant is complete it will probably be in the form of a quadrangle. I have had in mind the front section in the remarks that I have made above. At least \$100,000 would be required to build the front section, and two wings. I hesitate to recommend this as that would place additional overhead on our current budget, which budget is already too limited to bear the load now upon it. I would, however, like to see the front, and the two wings put up soon, providing the additional sum of \$100,000 could be secured for equipment, and maintenance. I think you can add what is needed to this item.

Second, you know where the Atherton building stands. We need that side of our university balanced up, and we need to make permanent provision for the two departments of chemistry and physics. Sometime ago we had thought of putting up separate buildings for each one of these departments, but we cannot do that without leaving our central section unbalanced. It would, therefore, be better to build one large building, with physics downstairs, and chemistry upstairs, to match the Atherton building. You have the photographs, and they certainly ought to constitute an appeal for such a building. The building will cost from \$40,000 to \$50,000 now. To furnish and equip it properly at least \$25,000 more will be required, and then there should be added with such a building, and two such departments

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at least \$25,000 endowment to meet the overhead expense for the departments, the cost of maintenance and insurance of the building.

Personally, I think the teaching of physics will supply one of the most fundamental needs of the Chinese people. If there is anything lacking in the Chinese character it is just these things that physics ought to supply in its everlasting insistence upon weighing, measuring, exactness, and the eternal correctness of all laws that cannot be departed from. "Tsa bu de" is impossible in physics. It forms the basis of that subject we call scientific thinking. The study of mathematics leaves them sterile. They can theorize on that and get away with it, but not so with physics.

The commission that is distributing the American indemnity has decided to use practically all of the American indemnity for science teaching. That commission, as you know, is made up of five or six American representatives, and ten of the best of Chinese leaders. I believe that the contact between the east and the west will be more permanent on this scientific side than in any other field. China must revert to her old civilization, and position, or she must follow the west in scientific development. She lacks the entire background herself, and the west must be the big brother in this field as I see it. As soon as the present wave of excitement is over I believe China will come to lean very heavily upon the west for scientific knowledge, and experts in science. I think the last foreigners to leave this university will be men in the sciences. This not because the Chinese cannot comprehend the sciences, but because they allow that organization that is essential to the successful carrying on of a department to develop loose motion, and to go into disrepair like their road arches and public buildings.

There has been a war on between science and religion, but I am inclined to believe that science and Christianity are going to be regarded as complimentary parts of one thing, namely Christianity. I think that China will associate science with Christianity, a part of that body of revelation upon which our civilization, and the civilization of the future, is built, and to be builded.

Now these sciences are fundamental and necessary to medicine and dentistry, as well as to all the industrial development, and organized utilities that China needs. Doctors, dentists, manufacturers, railways, telegraph, telephones, radio; in fact all of these things that add so tremendously to the success of living in the west will have to grow up through the sciences. The contribution, therefore, in the teaching of the fundamental sciences is simply beyond measure, and \$100,000 is just about one hundredth

May 27, 1926

millionth part of what ought to be expended in this direction.

As you know, we are crowded at present in chemistry in one wing of the Atherton building. The future plans and extension of biological work require that we get out of that building. In physics we have Hart College, but here again we are in a building not constructed for physics, and are expected to move sooner or later. We are continually compelled to make expenditures in this building in order to provide proper facilities for teaching in placement of apparatus, etc. All of this expenditure, more or less, runs to waste in a temporary location. Before long we will need the room that physics now has for the development of the work under the faculty of religion and the faculty of arts.

I deprecate any more buildings unless we add something to maintain them. One hundred thousand dollars would permit us to erect this building, and it would provide sufficient maintenance to keep this charge off of our current budget.

If these two fields of endeavor do not satisfy you, or satisfy any prospective donor, I would refer him to Robert Browning, and ask him to look at that little passage which, if I remember correctly, says: "pity the head and the heart of him."

We can, however, make marvelous use of \$100,000 for building up a library. We would spend about half of it within the next five years, and then use the other half as a fund to keep the library in shape, and to add books continually.

I have sent you a good many photographs, but I will try soon to send you some of our Chinese staff if I can get them to sit in one place long enough.

Good-bye for today.

*Joe Beech*

West China



Union University

WEST CHINA

file Belch  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

INDEXED

May 27, 1926

Mr. W. O. Gantz  
Mr. Eric North  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Gantz and Mr. North:

I find your names jointly signed to a telegram which has been forwarded by letter from Shanghai. The telegram has not yet arrived, although the letter giving contents of the telegram has been here about five days. I am not quite clear as to the purport of the telegram. What it seems to say is,

"Give notice by letter a few days before and use three days sight drafts on amounts above \$500 Gold. Telegraph immediately what balance of accounts you regard full authority to draw after draft #326."

We are not clear whether you wish us to telegraph what balances of accounts we have authority to draw, or whether you wish us to telegraph when checks are drawn for gold above five hundred dollars.

*Clear*

*Right*

I have asked the bursar to prepare a statement which will show the amount that has been spent on buildings that are in the process of erection, and, as far as possible, indicate our authorization to draw, or at least the understanding upon which we are drawing funds on these accounts. Mr. Albertson assures me that he can send you such a statement in about two weeks.

The only other account upon which we are issuing drafts at present is the current budget. The only authorization that I find for this is in the September 23, 1925 Executive Minutes under Minute with the head "Maintenance Budget, 1926." (Unfortunately the minutes of the Executive and the Board of Governors Minutes were not numbered as usual.) We have numbered the Minutes, and according to our number this number would be 556. In this Minute, under section 3 is the following statement:

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May 27, 1926

"The Board is reluctantly limited to authorizing for 1926 \$17,500 for use on the field, retaining \$7,500 for needs at home."

What are they

I do not find this Minute recorded in the Board of Governors Minutes. There was no covering letter with the Minutes, and there was no action taken on the budget question at the January meeting of the Executive in Toronto, except notification from the Methodist Episcopal Board that they could guarantee only \$3,600, but that they hoped to get the rest from designated gifts.

I am not quite clear whether the \$17,500 authorized for the expenditure on the field is the amount that may be drawn from the University treasurer in New York, or whether it includes amounts that may be received on the field. I would appreciate a statement from you in regard to the exact amount that you may be drawn upon for the calendar year 1926 current budget.

?

In the Board of Governors' Minutes of September 23-24, 1925 under the Library Building, which Minute we have numbered 686, there is authorization to use so much of the James Keen, Mrs. Matilda Mason, per Mr. Botkin, and Mr. Morris gifts, as may be permissible under the terms of the gifts, for the completion of the library building. The secretary has sent you a statement in regard to a confusion in the library building account. In 1919 the University drew upon library funds by mistake. They supposed that funds were in hand. These funds were used for general building purposes, the completion of houses, etc. that had been begun, and for which there were no funds in hand. Upon my arrival on the field I called attention to the error, and this charge against the library was duly transferred to other building accounts, and report made by the bursar to the treasurer at home. The original gift of Mr. Lamont was \$15,000 gold for the library building, and it has all been paid into the university treasury. We understood that the original authorization to proceed with this building covered the right to draw upon the Lamont gift as it was paid into the treasurer. The amount expended on the building to date considerably exceeds the amount of Mr. Lamont's gift, and consequently permission was sought to use gifts that I secured at home, which were free of designation for other purposes. As stated in the Board of Governors' Minutes the Matilda Mason gift was approximately \$3,500. This was paid to the university treasurer, and the exact amount should be upon your books. Mr. James Keen included the university in his will for a sum, which I believe was \$5,000, with the intention, if possible, of paying the amount before his death. Two thousand dollars of this amount was, I believe, paid through the Methodist Episcopal Board. I have not the original correspondence. I am under the impression that I passed it on to Mr. Vaux. Reference

Only \$1000 on records

\$ 3,028.15  
Pd. 8/30/1918

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Audit p. 18  
This is in file #121

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May 27, 1926

Only 400.  
received

to the University books, and the Methodist Episcopal Board treasurer's books should make clear the amount of money that was paid by Mr. Keen. Mr. Keen was of Mitchell, South Dakota, and also Mr. Morris. Mr. Morris made a gift of \$1,000 which was paid as part of his Centenary gift. I am not sure whether he paid the entire sum. Here again reference to the Methodist Episcopal Board books should reveal the amount that was paid. I have written to Mr. Morris asking how much he has paid on the gift. I have not received his reply. We are proceeding with the completion of the library building upon the assumption that there is available in these gifts sufficient to complete the library section of the building. It was to these gifts that the last draft, #329 for \$5,000 on the library should be charged. Treasurer's check #345, dated May 24th, favor Baker and Taylor, chargeable library current budget 1926 has been sent to the treasurers in Shanghai. I will take this method of notification. I regret that I cannot be more specific in this letter. I hope that the bursar, when he sends forward his statement in the course of the next two weeks may add what is lacking.

4000. acc.  
Letter of Jan 8/25  
signed by G. Coles  
indicates he paid  
for clock & bell  
himself.

I am in receipt of a recent letter from Mr. Vaux. He confirms our original impression that the gift of \$5,000 from Dr. Coles was for the erection of the tower, and that he was to pay for the clock and bell as a separate item. Will you inform us what is the condition of this gift. Was \$5,000 paid into the treasurer? Was the clock and bell, or any portion of it chargeable to this gift of \$5,000, and if so what is the amount on your books.

Remitted to file  
Nov 30/24 3000.  
Arch fees 439 21  
3439 21

Bal. on hand 560.79

Yours respectfully

Joseph Beech  
President

copy sent to Mr. Eric North

4. Bursar draft or check has also been sent forward, No. 346 favor A. Thomas Dental Co.  
Dated May 27th, \$160. Debt Current 1926 Budget

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May 27, 1936

Page 3, Mr. Gantz and Mr. North

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 amount on your books.

Yours respectfully

President

Proposed to Mr. Eric North

RECEIVED BY	
Proposed to Mr. Eric North	
7-2-36	
DATE	BY

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