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COLLEGE FILES
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WCUU
Corres.
Kingman, Harry 1926, 1927
Lacy, Carleton 1926, 1927
Larkin, Ray 1926
Lewis, Susan 1926, 1927

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0491



J.P.

February 1, 26 192

Dear Jim,

I cabled you today asking you not to use the story of Feng which I mailed you a month ago. I imagine you are just about getting the letter now. I enclose a revised story which I would like you to make public as you see fit. I sent the article off to you in such a hurry that I did not sufficiently consider that if the public statement got back to China it might embarrass the Y.M.C.A. It is advisable of course to keep out of party politics, and I have tried to leave out that part which would lay me open to the charge of prejudice in Chinese political affairs. A lot of the stuff I am writing these days doesn't get by with conservatives like Lockwood; I don't mind that of course but am trying not to be unreasonable. So far I have not been hopped on by Yui or any of the liberals. To boost Feng and at the same time to knock Wu Pei-fu might lay me open to justifiable criticism however, especially in view of the fact that Wu is likely to come back into power.

The other story which I enclose I am sending to Boy Scout headquarters as well, and later will give to the Shanghai papers. What can you do with it? I'd like to get it read by young folks and students in the U.S.

I have just returned from a two weeks visit in Shanghai. We had a student secretaries conference there. It was good to see the old friends again. O.M. Green, after meeting and talking for a long time with David Yui has completely changed his tone. I wrote him last week congratulating him on his new attempt to see more than one side. Woodhead, editor of the British paper here in Tientsin certainly hasn't seen any light yet.

Best regards Jim. Let me hear from you soon. I am sending you another article soon on the Chinese Student Movement. I hope that it doesn't inconven-

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ience you to try to place these stories.

Best wishes from us both to the lady.

Cordially yours,



Harry Kugman

P.S. Please return to me the snapshot of young Chen which I enclose. Please send me copies of any publications which use my stories.

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0493

68 Recreation Rd., Tientsin,
March 21, 26

Dear Jim,

For your information I am sending you a copy of the letter I have just written to Senator Borah. Please keep it confidential.

I am writing a good deal these days, and expect to soon be in hot water again.

Write me a long letter sometime telling me all about America, whether it is hard for a radical to find and hold a job, and what your advice is for me. Have you ever considered entering educational work?

Jack Childs is doing some fine work in Peking in educating the missionaries. He seems to be getting out of Chinese student work and interesting himself more and more in education.

How is the wife and family?

I have a fine Chinese associate now, Peter Kuan who has just returned from Union. He is a lot like K.F. Lum but is right at home in China. He is a radical. He was imprisoned for six weeks during the Student activities of 1919. He hadn't been in China two weeks before he was on the scene of excitement-- he was only a block away when the shooting took place in Peking on Thursday. A terrible thing. There were paid hooligans mixed in with an orderly student crowd apparently.

Kuan is pretty rabid against American returned students. He thinks they are a great problem. He thinks that the day of American returned students in China is past. European trained men are now taking the lead. Most American trained men are opposed to the Kuomintang, which I think is a very hopeful organization. Kuan fears that there is going to be an effort made to wipe out the organization. One indication of a move in that direction is the formation of a big Constitutional Defense League in Shanghai with a huge budget. I expect to enter the lists against its aim of solving labor troubles by suppression and persecution.

I will count on you never to quote me on any stuff which I write in letters

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which you think would seriously embarrass me or the YMCA out here. In case I send you articles to place, feel free to make changes in view of changed conditions since I wrote.

Sincerely yours,

Ray Krogman

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0495

March 31, 1926

Mr. Harry Kingman
Y. M. C. A.
Tien Tsin, China

Dear Harry:

Yours of February first came quite a while ago now. Your story of Akim Chen I shall send to the "Youth's Companion", and hope very much it can be used there; if not, I shall try it on some other boys' magazine. I am afraid Feng's story is too late to be of use. It looks as though he was down and out and if that is true I suppose no one will be interested in him. I mean the public will not be.

Send your stuff along without any embarrassment. It will be a great pleasure to place it if I can, and if I find I am not having much luck with it I will draft our friend Stanley High to see what he can do for us.

We had a big student mass meeting at Columbia Monday night, at which about 800 were present, to consider the crisis in China. Speeches were made by Professor Hodges of N. Y. U., Dr. Dewey, Jean Dickenson and Harry Ward. The latter reached to greater heights than I ever heard him do. It was a masterfully effort. You would have been thrilled to be there. I think the Chinese students appreciated it very much. They voted to send telegrams to the president, the secretary of state, and various other officials connected with foreign affairs, and are sending a delegation to Washington to call on the president to protest against the part he took in presenting the ultimatum to China, and to urge the Government not to abandon its policy of friendship in favor of one of threat and force. The great mass of the American people are still very friendly to China, but it looks as though there was some kind of secret agreement between our government and that of England. The present government at Washington is of course entirely controlled by Big Business, and is inclined to depend on force rather than on reason and friendship. Big Business is of course saying that in regard to the Philippines, for example, we must stop the nonsensical talk about independence. "Of course we must retain the Islands."

0496

We are expecting Elizabeth and Priscilla home the 26th of April on the "Leviathan". Oh, boy! I shall be glad to see them. They have had a wonderful time but are getting very anxious to see home again, especially Priscilla. We have had such splendid letters from them all winter.

With much love to the family,

Ever sincerely yours,

Y/P

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0497

May 10, 1926

Mr. Harry Kingman,
68 Recreation Road
Tientsin, China.

Dear Harry:

It is mighty good of you to keep on sending me stuff. I was immensely interested in your letter to Senator Borah and passed it on to Cranston to read. He and Maxwell Stuart and some of the Chinese students at Columbia were delighted. I was also very glad to receive the little pamphlet by Fox. Many thanks.

What in the world can I tell you about America. You probably know as much about it as I do. She is prosperous beyond all dreams and the average person thinks only of his auto, his loud-speaker, and when he travels, whether or not he can get a room with bath. That is one side of it. On the other hand there is still a little of the old idealism- much of it sentimental and uninformed, but approachable. If you depend on the newspapers you will think that America has no interest in the League of Nations. But if you go out and speak to the churches and Rotary Clubs, giving them the facts, you will discover that America is not so idealistic as our statesmen try to make us believe.

You mention Jack Childs. Will you please send me, or tell me so that I can subscribe, the names of the publications in which his writings appear. He is one of the most daring men I know and will help to put spunk into the more timid of us. Many of my friends here would howl if they could hear me describing myself as timid, but the fact is I do lack courage, both because of my obligations to my family and because of my obligations to the University. I am tremendously keen to get the West China University on a good sound basis, for I have great dreams that it may be more and more a progressive institution. Cranston and I are pledged to do our best to get a forward looking staff out there. At the close of a service yesterday a well-to-do retired physician who had apparently been greatly impressed, came to me and asked, "In your Theological School do they teach fundamentalism or modernism?" I told him I thought they did not teach either of them- were not particularly interested in that subject. Then said he, "They must be nonentities", and I suppose he decided he had no further use

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Mr. Harry Kingman---2

for that institution since I could not assure him they were not fundamentalists.

Go to it while you are young. Keep an open mind and be fearless. Now is your time- study all sides of the subject. Write me fully and I will promise not to quote you. I advise you if possible to stay on in China, you can do a tremendous lot there in the next ten years. So far as I can see, what happens in the world for the next five hundred years will be controlled very largely by what happens in China during the next thirty years. I do not know how hard it would be for you to get a job here in educational work. You would have to put in a year at graduate work certainly, because everybody seems fearful of people who have been in the Far East a long time. They have an idea that they are rusty and out-of-date.

Our girls are home from France at last, in fine shape after having had a most interesting year. We are to spend the summer as follows: July with my mother in Farmingdale, New Jersey and in August in one of those missionary houses in Ventnor. Don't fail to keep me in touch.

Best regards to the lady and Beverly,

Ever yours,

JMY
ELH

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Sept. 17th, 1926.

Mr. Harry Kingman,
68 Recreation Road,
Tien Tsin, China.

Dear Harry:

I thought you had forgotten me entirely until your letter of August 22nd came in not long ago.

No, I do not think it is particularly hard to talk about China in these days for people are all tremendously interested and while conditions seem to be getting worse and worse (as a matter of fact, as you know, many of the Chinese think things will get worse before they can get better) China is not after all going to the bow-wows and as I see it, opportunity for real education and for real helpful service was never greater.

Just now our papers are full of the scrap between Yang Sen and the British at Harhsien. You may remember that Yang Sen is an old friend of mine and I am particularly interested in this scrap. I shall be glad to get the Chinese side of the story. Willard has had nothing very definite about the affair as yet, and the only real report has been through London.

Judging from your letter, I should think it might be very possible that the Cantonese may win out. If Feng can come down from the north and the Cantonese can continue their drive, things ought to get pretty hot for the other war lords. Our latest reports here indicate that Feng has left Moscow.

The current edition of The Christian Century contains an article on "What is troubling the Y.M.C.A." I have not read it but Mabelle says it is very good.

I am interested in your proposed seminar and think I might join it myself. I have heard of Peter Kuan before and imagine you will greatly enjoy cooperating with him.

Well, your letter makes me wish I could go back to China and get to work with some of you chaps, rather than stay here and grub around with the money bags. However, somebody has got to do this work or the West China Union University will have to shut up shop. I suppose I shall turn into a regular capitalist before I am through.

I was very sorry indeed to hear of the death of Max Chaplin. I agree entirely with all that you say concerning God's

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Mr. Harry Kingman

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Sept. 17th, 1926.

relation to his death. I did not know until various people wrote of his death that you and he were related.

With kindest regards to yourself, Ruth and the baby,

Ever sincerely yours,

JMY/RT

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Dec. 30, 1926.

Mr. Harry Kingman,
Y. M. C. A.,
Tientsin, China.

Dear Harry:-

I went to see Mr. Froelick about your article. He went over it pretty carefully and said he could not use it because it was more of a newspaper article than one for his magazine. He says that there should be a good deal more of detailed study of the man - something that would bring out his inner feelings and display his personality. He suggested that I try it out on the "Outlook", which I did and they have returned it. I think you may go ahead and use it as it is, for the "Recorder."

I shall next try it out on the Sunday Edition of the New York Times, but I think those articles are not copyrighted, so it will be all right for you to use it elsewhere.

I hope this will not discourage you, because I know you have ability. I think you need to study your subjects a little more carefully and get a good deal more detail into them. One thing that Mr. Froelick said was, that your articles are too general and not specific. He would like you to sit down with Dr. Chang for a good many informal interviews, picking up his various moods and learning some of his characteristic phrases, so that you can give a picture of the man. He also suggested that you might make a study of the educational movement in China and the Universities of China, using Dr. Chang as your principal example.

Yours as ever,

JMY:EN

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Jan. 22, 27

Dear Jim,

Thanks very much for seeing Froelick about my article on Chang Po-ling. I think I understand his criticism and I feel that it is well justified. If I get the opportunity I will make another try on Dr. Chang, keeping in mind Froelick's suggestions. I hope that some New York newspaper will make use of the first article, though, as I wish that some American people could know something of the story of Nankai.

The Hankow affair has rather cut the ground from under the feet of a lot of China's friends in other lands I am afraid. It is unfortunate that the mob got rather out of hand and gave Foreign Business its opportunity to construct a case which scares foreign governments and creates distrust of the nationalist leaders. As a matter of fact I think that the Hankow affair has been greatly exaggerated. At the start the fault probably lay with both sides. Notwithstanding the bloodcurdling stories given to eager reporters by the anxious and excited women refugees upon their arrival in Shanghai, and the cables of foreign business propaganda from Hankow itself, it seems that since, as usual, no foreign lives were lost the danger was not so real as apparent. Chinese crowds yell "Kill the foreigner" about as meaningfully as American crowds yell "Kill the umpire".

The foreign die-hard press is enhancing the difficulty of the situation by pouring out a daily flood of abuse upon the nationalists. Eugene Chen no doubt wakes up in the morning with the intention of meeting the foreign representatives in a conciliatory spirit but after reading a broadside of insults from the clever and vitriolic typewriters of Woodhead

P.S. Have you gotten in touch with John Haques/Kelnes?

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and others he is not in a frame of mind to deal unprejudicedly with the situation. A stubborn crowd of British business men who shut themselves up in one building in the Hankow British concession and pretend that they are under siege, despite the fact that unbiased foreigners say there is no reason whatsoever for so doing, further infuriates the Chinese and makes impossible any friendly solution.

Now that Britain, France and the U.S. are moving more gunboats and marines to China it is possible that the Chinese will accept the challenge, and, with the feeling that despite long years of oppression the foreigner still intends to fight rather than surrender his unequal privileges, will bring back Boxer days. Chang Hsueh-liang is making it clear that if it comes to military action between the foreigner and any section of the Chinese people the civil war will be forgotten and all Chinese will unite in protecting their nation. As a consequence the American Consulate in Peking has arranged signals so that Americans will know when to rush to the three defense centers, the P.U.M.C., the Methodist Mission, and the Legation.

All this is inevitable for the Powers don't seem to be able to look ahead, and by just action satisfy China's legitimate desires before the aggressive campaigns have begun. Even the British Memorandum, sensational as it would have been a year ago, is now too feeble. Strawn's efforts are of course a joke. Like a man who gives an answer for a problem in physics without taking into account the law of gravitation Strawn pompously issues his China pronouncements without having realized that such a thing as Chinese Nationalism had come into existence. Canton didn't invite him to include the South in his junket so he gets even by entirely ignoring the whole nationalist movement. Do anything you can, Jim, to show the public at home what a miserably small bite of the whole truth of the situation Si took while he was over here.

Best wishes Jim. Hope to see you before the year is over.

Cordially yours,

Harry Kingman

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July 30th, 1926.

Mr. Carleton Lacy,
23 Yuen Ming Yuen Road,
Shanghai, China.

Dear Carleton:

I was mighty glad to get your letter of June 25th a day or two ago. Since you slam me because of my stingy postcards, I might remark about the wideness of your margins, but I was so glad to get your letter that I will forebear.

I am glad to know that you are to write for the Advocates and hope you will tell the truth without having to lose your job, which is a pretty difficult thing in the world these days.

Your paragraph concerning R. Y. Lo, C. T. Wang, and others, was most interesting. I should think Boynton would be glad to be back at his old job and the Hoose's will be glad to be in Peking, I know. I am glad you are able to arrange that for them.

There is not very much to write about affairs in America. You read about them, at least the important ones, in the Shanghai papers, so I need not comment. Affairs in China from this angle seem to be getting worse and the whole situation looks pretty dark. However, I am keeping faith so far in the great creative forces that are at work and hope they will be able to get on top before the civil war destroys every vestige of civilization that is left.

Starrett and his group passed through New York the other day and I had glimpses of them. They apparently had a very good trip and were glad to be back in America. I was sorry to miss seeing Miss Collier. I was not in town the day they arrived and she got the first train out for Boston. The Starrett's are to be in one of the missionaries' apartments near Union Seminary next Fall, so we shall probably see them quite often.

Miss Ellison expects to get her master's degree next month. George Neumann is now practically sure of his doctor's degree, his thesis having been accepted by the dissertation committee. He wrote on international attitudes, especially as seen in high school students. He seems quite jubilant.

My family have been visiting my folks in New Jersey for the past two weeks and are leaving for Ventnor on Saturday. I am to preach for the methodists and presbyterians in Montclair on Sunday and will then go down to Ventnor to spend most of the month of August, though I shall be preaching somewhere every Sunday and shall

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Mr. Carleton Lacy

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July 30th, 1926.

put in the week of August 16th to 22nd at Lakeside, Ohio, at the Epworth League Institute.

We are all in very fine health. I am sorry to hear that the Boutelle's are not very well. I hope they will enjoy vacation at Tsingtao.

With love to all,

Sincerely yours,

JULY 31 1926
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Agency Secretary

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SHANGHAI, CHINA

March 25, 1927

Dear Jim:

These are thrilling days. Everyone is excited. There is much wild talk. Few people are able to keep clear eyed and clear brained. The North-China to-day, in the person of Rodney Gilbert, goes after Rawlinson for running to the Missions Bldg to sleep, and suggests that hereafter he let up on his playing to the grand stand and trying to bust up China by abandoning extrality, etc. The militarists are crowing "I told you so. If we hadn't had all these troops in here see what would have happened to Shanghai. We'd have suffered a worse fate than has befallen Nanking." There is a rumor going the rounds that Shanghai is to be looted tomorrow. Mrs. Birney is alarmed because Cantonese troops are coming into the French Concession (if she but knew it I saw some Tuesday morning. The international settlement is issuing strict orders that none will be allowed--no one in uniform except its own authorized forces. No flags, no demonstrations, no one out at night. The Statement sent out by the SMC over Fessenden's name is a direct ultimatum to the Nationalists that the SMC will not negotiate. The Manchester Guardian well says that the matter will have to be taken hold over by the Governments and put over the heads of this assinine Council. The French are playing a more conciliatory game. There is comparatively little excitement over that way. The International is trengthening barricades between the two settlements fearing that the French will let the mobs thru as they did after May 30. There are no frenzied statements going out from the French authorities. Their council is already half Chinese. What a whirl pool we are living in.

Personally I have no fears for safety. I have never felt that foreign lives in any numbers in China were in danger if foreign military and naval forces could be kept out of the way. They are literally itching for something to do. The life of militarism is at stake. If they hadn't had a chance to perform here it would have been a terrible blow. They are on trial. Their finish is certain, tho perhaps the trial will be long drawn out. You didn't know I was a pacificist did you? These affairs are rapidly driving me in that direction. The papers are carrying reports that the American and British barrage in Nanking killed 2000 Chinese--but of course that was justified since the lives of foreigners were endangered. I heard an S.V.C. tell this morning of the noble courage of 6 Durhams who stood against 300 northern soldiers coming into the settlement down a narrow alley. When they did not obey orders to stop the British simply each picked a man and shot him thru the head. That piled them up and the column threw down their arms. It s was a glorious thing to do. It is now leaking out that Monday afternoon the U.S.S. Ashville dropped six shells into Pootung. It has yet to be officially verified or denied. We in our office heard four shots and remarked they sounded like a warship up the harbor. Howes heard them at the U.S. Court and they all went out to look. Probably it will never be officially admitted. But the papers admitted that foreign troops were landed in Pootung.

The minorities these days are being called all kinds of names. It is not easy to have to differ from your best friends. Sometimes one feels like a hypocrit to sit silent but I do get weary of arguing hopelessly.

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It is terrible what horrible impressions Americans and British are making for themselves among the Chinese. I do not wonder at times that some of them question whether any of us are Christians. We seem to be utterly unable to see ourselves as they see us, or to put ourselves in their places and look at things from more than one point of view. When I hear the godly bishops talk--gosh, I want to turn Bolshevist or something. I sat as Birney's guest and listened to him retail some of the things that it had been told to him "by a trustworthy witness who heard it" what horrible things the Nationalist leaders said in the mass meeting at Kiukiang against Christianity and the foreigners. I wanted to tear into the conversation and tell what horrible unchristian things missionaries have been saying about the Chinese. One man in my office exploded at the word "Justice". "Justice?" he exclaimed, "there is no such thing in China. If there ever had been there would be no Chinese now to raise a revolution. They would all have been executed years ago." Larkin told me when he was staying here in town among the saints at Miss Jewell's and the missionary home that he could hardly believe missionaries would talk in such unchristian language as he had been hearing up there. Stanley High came to China with the idea that the Christian Century had been maligning missionaries. If he doesn't find out before he leaves here that everything that has been said is more than true about a lot of them he is not as keen an observer as I give him credit for.

Millard said Monday night that in no other country would foreign newspapers be tolerated that criticised the national affairs and politics the way the British press does in Shanghai. Their day is coming. The day for a lot of us to clear out or change our attitudes and tunes is not far distant. Regret it as many may this superiority complex and the high and mighty attitude of the Shanghai settlement is bound to go. If the sweep cannot be carried thru without excesses and troubles then we'll have them. The Chinese and I believe the foreign governments would like as peaceful a settlement as we got in Hankow, but the Shanghai Club and many foreigners here as well as the newspapers will do all they can to save the glory of the Union Jack, etc etc.

R.T.Schaefer is here and I am giving him this and a bunch of letters to mail for us when he gets to America. There is a mess on at the Post Office. The Labor Union and the postal officials are in a fight to the finish. Don't know what the outcome will be. The British have opened a field post office. The Dollar Co is receiving mail. No provision has been made for the distribution of American mails which came in today. Hey-ho. Many patiences are being exhausted. Too many people have too little faith in the Chinese. They believe more in the power of the Soviet and the Devil than in the Chinese and the Lord.

Family is well and glad to hear from your wife a few days ago. Give them all our loving greetings.

Best wishes. Write and tell us what's doing in America and what everyone is saying and thinking about China.

As ever,

Carleton Lacy

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April 18, 1927

Mr. Carleton Lacy
23 Yuen Ming Yuen Road
Shanghai, China

Dear Carleton:

I cannot tell you how happy I was to get your letter of March 25th. I immediately copied off some paragraphs and sent them to Paul Hutchinson and Hal Luceck and Senator Borah. I haven't a great deal of confidence in Borah for he shifts around a great deal. On the other hand, he has an immense influence and it is well to keep him stirred up on our side. If all of the people in America would read the New York World now that Willard is writing (its editorials have been excellent right along), the New Republic, and the Christian Century, they would have a pretty intelligent view on the whole China situation, but of course the great mass of people read the Evening Graphic or the New York American. They are whooping it up for war, waving the flag, telling about China's atrocities, the insults to women and dealing out more lies *from* the old German debris.

Charlie Wood was talking to one of the big bankers of the country about six weeks ago on the China situation. He told him it was time for the British and Americans to go in and shoot down 200,000 of the Chinese and then take control of the country. That, I suppose, is Mr. Mellon's solution and that solution has the best chance of being worked out as far as the killing of 200,000 Chinese is concerned. Of course you and I know it will be no solution. I certainly lost all heart when I saw that article on the N.C.C. signed by Bowen and others. Of course no self respecting Chinese can cooperate with such a bunch of missionaries as that. Paul Hutchinson and Hal Luceck are pretty sick

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about the whole business. I saw T.T. Lew the day after the statement came out in the New York papers and he looked as though he could weep.

I was treated exceedingly well by the Lacy's last week. You sent me that fine letter and Irving came in to see me and I had lunch with him. I forgot my engagement one day and missed the train so I was not here when he came in but he was good enough to come back another day. He is looking fine. The folks in our house are all well and flourishing. Elizabeth is having a wonderful time at Swathmore. Ask Aunt Sadie to let you see the letter I have just written to her and you will know what some Americans are doing.

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard.

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Chengtu, Szechuan, China.

July 16, 1926.

Dear Jim: (Yard)

I have been hearing indirectly from you from several different sources at home, one in particular, my own mother. She said that you spoke in the Pittsfield church, and that she went up to speak to you after service, not knowing that you had been in Chengtu. We also get evidences that you are up and awake on the University proposition.

In your visits to old Wesleyan I suppose you have been able to learn a good deal about what is needed to stimulate the boys to further efforts there. A suggestion came to my ears about the possibility of sending an undergraduate out here to look over the university and spend a year or more here studying in the university. My answer to the missionary committee on this question was for them to save their money and the undergraduate's time; in the first place because he could not get here the equivalent of a year at home, unless he was well enough advanced to undertake a piece of individual research by the direct method. Again, with the intense feeling against foreigners that exists at present his coming would be misunderstood, and he would probably get first impressions which would send him back anything but a rooter for spending money on the Chinese of the present. We who are a bit seasoned can make allowances which he would be unable to make. He would also be tremendously handicapped with lack of the language, and would call heavily on the time and energy of the already overloaded missionaries to keep him going. It is also my firm conviction that China for the next year or two is no place for a new person to come to. We are summering at Behliuding against the advice of the consul, the urgings of the Chengtu authorities, and the advice of all of our Chinese friends. In the opinion of Dr. Lewis, the situation has never been so fraught with danger for foreigners, nor so hopeless for both China and the Christian church in Szechuan. In my own opinion I would give anything to have my wife and boy out of here for the next two years, for I think conditions are really unsafe. The British consul has repeated over and over again this year that if he could have the power he would order every woman and child under thirty out of the province.

M
With conditions as they are I would hesitate greatly to advise any new foreign folks to come out to west China. Most of the time I am in doubt as to the value of our contribution here. Of course we are better than nobody. But in educational lines especially, a western trained Christian Chinese could do a much more efficient piece of work than we can at a much smaller expense. In the light of my convictions I am suggesting to the missionary committee at Wesleyan that the thing to do is for you to find a ^{Chinese} fellow who has a year more of undergraduate work to do, and who is specializing in Economics and perhaps History or Political Science; send him to Wesleyan for a year, beginning this fall and get him out here either by ~~the~~ the fall of 1928 or as soon after as possible. I shall be going on furlough the spring of 1928 and will have to leave a fellow here to teach economics who has just graduated (1927) and whose economics are limited to my poor teaching. If conditions continue as at present, and I feel as I do now about things, I shall probably be looking for a job at home, and Wesleyan would need a permanent representative out here. The only satisfactory representative would be one who could be sure of a warm welcome (someone not a foreigner) and someone who had been long enough at Wesleyan to have made personal friendships with the student body.

0511

My reasons for thinking to stay home are hard to express. As I have already said, present day China is no place for a man with a family, and conditions politically are gradually getting worse instead of better. I would feel criminal if I had to bring my wife and family into the midst of dangers which I know to exist here at present. Of course now that we are here there is nothing to do but to stick it out. A second reason I have already mentioned, that we should begin soon to replace ourselves with properly fitted and fit Chinese, who without the limitations of the language can do a far better piece of work than we can ever hope to. My third reason is somewhat more personal. I am now at the age when I can probably pull up stakes and get established in another place with less difficulty than I shall be able to after another seven years (a thirty-eight year old vs. a forty five). Even the most optimistic admit that the time is soon coming when we shall replace ourselves with Chinese, and if that is true, I don't want it to happen when I shall become a charity patient or be forced to worry to keep the wolf from the door because I am too old to compete with the young blood at home.

I have written to the college committee in somewhat this vein, and have suggested that they get you on a man hunt for the right man. If Lawrence Lao is a sociologist but not an economist then we shall need a teacher of economics and most any other subject, chiefly history. If Lao is an economics teacher also, then the special line might be made in any other department, arts or science. whether I come back or not the Wesleyan boys ought to be stimulated to take care of this fellow as well as me. I did make the suggestion that if I could find a job near enough to Wesleyan to come over occasionally and make it my business to keep the boys alive on the Wesleyan in West China proposition, the circle would then be nearer complete than it has been -- a man who knows the needs and opportunities of the university in constant contact with the fellows who are providing the funds; and a man who has the Wesleyan spirit out here on the firing line giving his best for his own countrymen, and communicating to them the spirit in which Wesleyan boys are giving to their fellow Chinese students -- isn't that infinitely better than a foreigner with halting language and imperfect knowledge of Chinese psychology trying to educate Chinese students and keep up interest in a college of men none of whom he personally knows, and who are 12,000 miles away. If you get a chance, talk over this thing with the committee and let me have the benefit of your better judgment. At the same time let me know how I can help to keep up the interest at college from this end of the rope. I am enclosing a copy of a letter, which I have just sent down to Joe Beech with a suggestion that it either be posted for the student body to see at West China U.U., or to be put into the hands of the proper students and alumni.

Anne and I and Bert are all well, and are living in Miss Loomis' bungalow at Behliuding. Brewers are in Crawfords bungalow, Liljestrands and Johnsons in your old bungalow, and the Pilchers in the Service bungalow. Dr. Lewis in Miss Colliers (now Moncrief's). It is raining as usual. Beeches are staying on the campus, and Manlys probably going to Gwahhsien. I suppose you heard of the murder of Mrs. Sibley of Yuinhsien on the streets of Chengtu at mid-day, and the attack on Grace Manly the next day on a crowded thoroughfare in Chengtu, also with intent to kill. Red lantern rumors are the order of the day, and everybody is uneasy, altho trying to get it out of our minds.

Anne send love to Mabel and the childer, and I to you,
Thinely, in the bonds,

Ray Larkin

0512

Sept. 14th, 1926.

Mr. Ray Larkin,
West China Union University,
Chengtú, West China.

Dear Ray:

Your letter of July 16th reached me a bit more than a week ago. In regard to the first part of your letter, may I say that the more I think about the suggestion of sending an undergraduate from Wesleyan to Chengtu, the more do I feel that it would be undesirable. Of course under present circumstances (this is written while Yang Sen's rows with the British are on the front pages of the newspapers) it would probably be impossible. A student might get something out of Peking or even Nanking, but I think the total impression that he would get on the long trip from Shanghai to Chengtu, unless he had a particularly wise and tactful guide, would be anything but pleasant and he would not go back a booster for China. The poverty and the general backwardness of the people makes a pretty poor impression on a newcomer.

I quite sympathize with your wish that you had your wife and boy out of West China. We were there under several rather trying circumstances and I know quite how you feel. West China is alright during the few weeks each year when everything is quiet, but under disturbed conditions and especially such conditions as you have faced all summer, it is a poor place for children to say the least. I hope however, that before you are ready to return, conditions will be quiet and that you will be able to consider going back.

As you know I fully agree that Chinese should be added to the faculty as rapidly as possible. However, I believe that some foreigners will be needed for many years to come. Perhaps needed is not the word; I mean to say that I think foreigners will be able to make a real contribution to those Christian institutes, and as you say, newcomers will probably not be welcome as teachers. That means that the tried and true will have to stay by if possible.

Your letter reached me and the committee I suppose too late for us to do anything about getting a Chinese student into Wesleyan for the fall term. I think your suggestion is a good one however, and will see what we can do about lining somebody up to enter in February or failing that, next September. I think perhaps I can find such a person through the Chinese Student Association.

0513

288455

Mr. Ray Larkin

- 2 -

Sept. 14th, 1926.

I shall be at Wesleyan the first week in December and possibly at initiation time. When I am there I will take up this suggestion with the committee and we will see what we can do.

I am glad that you are able, under the circumstances, to spend part of the summer at Behliuding for that is just about the best summer place I know. I hope that you had a good time and that you get back to Chengtu without any trouble.

We have just moved into an apartment at Wallace Lodge and seem to be settled very comfortably. We are a bit crowded but the location is very fine and I am sure we shall be able to adjust ourselves all right.

Elizabeth will leave for Swarthmore on the 20th of this month. It will seem strange to have a daughter in college and we shall all miss her a great deal. The girls are having great fun helping her to get ready.

With love from us, all to your crowd there,

Yours as ever,

James H. Yard

JMY/RT

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Chengtu, Feby.27, 1926.

Dear Brother yard:-

Enclosed please find a request for matter for the West China History which the brethren insist I must write. I am given a reprieve of two years so that I may attend to this, complete some commentary work which I have begun, etc. I wish you would give a description of the work which has been ^{done} by us in Chengtu, illustrating with incidents of conversions and spiritual growth, such as that of C.T Sung. Then give times of crises, peril and deliverance, if any. you will know what to write better than I can tell you. Write as you would if the job given to me was yours.

We are sorry you were not permitted to go out and solicit funds for the University, but I am sure that your work in behalf of our missionary society is also very much needed. If the income of the Society does not decidedly increase this year, then hope along certain lines will quite fail. Already some of us are contributing money to keep poor preachers from starving. Last year some balances saved us from debt, but this year, despite further contraction of the work, we face debt at every turn. This means that unless the tide turns soon we must close up more work, for increasing debt on current expense is the way madness lies.

The University and middle school work has been especially prosperous, both here and at Suining and Tzechow, while our old school at Chungking has been at the limit of its capacity for years. Now we are holding steady for the spring term, but are looking with foreboding to the autumn. We are developing a fine junior middle school out of our higher primary out here. It looks as though that in the fall we must both face extra debt and reduction in numbers as well. Graduates of middle schools must both be refused entrance to the University and appointments in the work. They are stranded at a critical time in their lives. If they look elsewhere for a living, there is little chance except in the army. Everything goes into the maw of the military. Government schools are largely closed for lack of funds. If one takes position as teacher, he has little chance of drawing his pay.

Conditions in China grow more desperate daily. Except in the North the student class has been strongly in favor of Soviet government, but the Bolshevik smile is changing to a leer, and we are hoping that they will take timely warning. Living expense mounts daily. Rice here is \$3.00 per deo, and when you were in Chengtu half of that was thought dear. Else where in the province conditions are worse.

I fear this is not a very cheerful letter. But mission fields are not sending many cheerful letters these days. Miss Collier is retiring. She, Walter Crawford and the Starretts plan to leave here for home March 18th, going via Europe.

Mrs Lewis joins me in love and warm regards to you all.

Very cordially,

Spencer Lewis

0515

April 22, 1926

Dr. Spencer Lewis
Union University
Chengtou, China.

Dear Dr. Lewis:

Your letter of February 27th reached me about a week ago and this is just a note to acknowledge it and to say that I will try to do something along the line of your request. You wrote me such a good newsy letter that I feel guilty not to send you a long one, but I will try to make up for it when I send my little article for you.

Elizabeth and Priscilla are due home on the Leviathan next Monday and you can imagine just about how excited we are. Mrs. Yard and the two other girls are coming down to meet them and expect to have a great reunion.

Elizabeth is going to Swarthmore in the fall. I think it was a letter from Dr. Hodgkin that got her in. I fear she will have to work mighty hard to live up to the letter.

With best wishes,

Ever sincerely,

JMY
ELH

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June 28th, 1926.

Dr. Spencor Lewis,
Union University,
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Dr. Lewis:

I fear that I have waited a long time to send you this brief bit of history. I am really not very good at such a thing for my memory for details is very poor. If you could get Joe Beech to sit down in front of a dictaphone and talk for about a week, I suspect you would get a most interesting tale, but there is not much hope of that. I do hope, however, that you will get him to write something because his memory for just such things as you want is quite excellent. But I must heed your request—and so, meagre as it is, I am making my contribution. You will no doubt get contributions from Chinese. I am sure Mr. Du could comment on the building of the church as well as on the building of the girls' school or his part of the University. Please ask him, if he does make a contribution, to tell something about the erection and dedication of the new church.

I just had a postcard from Starrett this morning mailed at Genoa. They are expecting to sail from London on July 10th and I shall be seeing them all long before this reaches you.

We have been much alarmed by the reports of Mrs. Sibley's death and of the attack on Miss Manly. I hope that the swift action of the officials have set all your minds at rest long ago and that you will pass your summer without undue alarm.

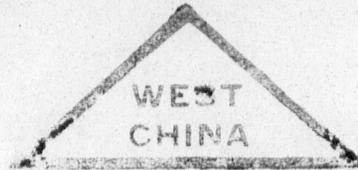
I had lunch with Harry Openshaw a few days ago at a Chinese restaurant and we had a good visit just before he started West. He expects to see "Auntie Lona" July 15th and they will sail on September 4th. He is the same good-natured Harry and is going back with a lot of enthusiasm. It was good to see him and to have a visit.

With best wishes to all,

Sincerely yours,

JMY/RT

0517



CC: Mr.Garside

INDEXED

TRANSFER

West China Union University

July 31, 1931

Rev.Spencer Lewis, D.D.
West China Union University,
Chengt'u, Szechuan, China.

My dear Dr.Lewis:

Mr.Albertson, Mr.Garside and myself are now at work here in New York on University accounts. We are endeavoring to harmonize the home base and the field accounts of the University.

In going over the land balances I find that there is no credit from the Methodist Episcopal Mission for the land that was assigned to them for their house and dormitory on the Middle School, Wan property, site. I do not have in the Senate minutes the measurements and valuation of the M.E.M.dormitory lot. I do find in Senate minute #1554 of April 12, 1923, a statement that Lot 3 is valued at \$392.26 gold. This Lot 3 is the Methodist lot.

As I said before, I am under the impression that this lot was paid for and that also the Dormitory lot was paid for, but there is no reference to it in the accounts that Mr.Albertson has with him here. I make this statement in regard to my impressions of the payment, first from a sort of hazy recollection of the transaction in which you figured. Again, if I had no recollection whatever of the transaction I cannot see myself as President of the University, and as a Methodist, permitting the Methodist Episcopal Mission to build a house on Lot 3 and to put down the foundations on the dormitory site without making a violent protest just as a matter of principle, and I was on the field when this house was built and when this dormitory foundation was put in.

Now with that as a sort of background,--whether suppositional or certain I cannot absolutely say - I am writing to you asking that you consult with Mr.Starr or with whomsoever it may be necessary to consult, that you ask Dr.Sparling to let you have my old Methodist Mission file in my office, and if you can dig up any proof that this land was paid for, let us know here immediately that you find the proof. As a guide to you, let me state that there are two transactions between the University and the Methodist Episcopal Mission that are also a matter of recollection and I am not sure but that these two Middle School land projects may have been involved in either of these two affairs. First, the adjudication of values in the settlement that was made between the University and the Methodist Episcopal Mission when we closed up the Wang property deal east of the Library Building. The other affair was when I secured the stamping of the deeds for University Methodist

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University and Methodist Episcopal properties during Mr. Brewer's administration of the college accounts. This latter transaction had several different angles to it as I recall:- first a government official owed to me personally, because I had assumed responsibility for it, a sum of money that I had advanced to him. This man later was the official in charge of registration fees. He paid my debt by stamping the deeds for the University and the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Methodist Episcopal Mission and the University paying the cash necessary to make the adjustment. I repeat that there is just a possibility that the land payment for the Middle School site might have been included in one of these two rather involved transactions. I remember giving Mr. Brewer a detailed statement of their relation to this latter transaction. I do not remember who closed up the Wang property deal with the University Treasurer.

If we are to rely upon our University books here the Methodist Episcopal Mission is in debt to the University for these two pieces of ground on the Middle School site. If they cannot prove that they have paid the bill then it is certainly high time that the bill was settled. I, of course, say this not to the Methodist Episcopal Mission as an outsider, but as a member of that body. Can you, as a favor, make this a matter of immediate concern and start the necessary detective work to complete the trail?

I hope you are well and having a good time this summer. Dr. and Mrs. Manly just came into the office while I was dictating this letter. I am going now to take lunch with them. They both look to be in very good health.

Dr. Gamewell just came in and said it is fifty years ago lacking two weeks since he left New York on his trip to China, sailing with you across the Pacific. He wants to be remembered to you. I think that both you and he should somehow celebrate that event.

With best wishes to Mrs. Lewis and to all the friends, I am

Very cordially yours,

JB-H

PS
If reply will not reach me by Oct 15. Write on envelope
"Mr. Gairde open if Dr. Read absent"
JB

Methodist Episcopal College
Of the WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Adh

Chengtu, West China, Nov. 2, 1931.

ack 1-22-32

Mr B. A. Garside,
Secretary and Treasurer of the
China Union Universities:



TRANSFER

INDEXED

Dear Mr Garside:

I received some time ago a letter from Dr. Beech, at the time when you, he, and Mr Albertson were comparing the University accounts. He says that he found no credit for the M.E. Mission for the sites assigned for residence and dormitory, and asked me to look the matter up. With the help of Dr. Sparling, Vice-president of the University, I made quite a thorough search, but with no result. It seems likely that the sites were never paid for. At least that must be the present assumption. Dr Beech can himself continue the search if he thinks best.

I am glad to report the University prospering and a good spirit prevailing. There are between two and three hundred students in the University and between three and four hundred in the Senior Middle school. Not many more can be received without increased accommodations. The walls of a fine Womens' College building are going up, and the aspirations of hundreds of girls are unto it.

We wish that the journey to West China were not so long, so that our many friends might delight us and have the joy of seeing one of the best university plants in China. With no other university within a ^{thousand} hundred miles, we must look forward to providing post-graduate work, some of which has already begun. The air planes have reached Chungking, and will soon reach Chengtu.

With cordial regards,
very sincerely yours,

Dr. Spencer Lewis

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West China Union University

January 22, 1932.

Dr. Spencer Lewis,
Methodist Episcopal College
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China

TRANSMITTED

My dear Dr. Lewis:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 2nd in which you report on the results of your search for information as to payments made by the Methodist Mission toward the M.S. sites assigned for residence and dormitory.

We are grateful to you for your thorough search for information. Unless and until further facts come to light we will follow your assumption that these sites were never paid for. Possibly Dr. Beech will be able to unearth some further facts when he arrives on the field.

It is good to know that the University is continuing to prosper in spite of the peculiarly difficult conditions which now prevail throughout most of China. I presume that the disturbances in Nanking have affected you about the least of any of our Christian Universities, though no doubt our West China students have been influenced to some degree by what has happened in the three Eastern provinces.

With all good wishes, I am,

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:PC

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