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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

*W. G. Spaulding*

West China



Union University

February 23rd. (1931) CHENG TU, WEST CHINA



Mr. B. A. Garside,  
Treasurer of the West China Union University,  
New York,

Dear Mr. Garside,

**TRANSFER**

*See "State Dept. of Education" 12/20/30*

I have received a letter from Mr. Sullivan of the University of the State of New York stating that they are preparing the diplomas for our graduates of last year and sending the account to me. I am enclosing his letter. Will you kindly write a check to cover this amount and send it to him. We have always in former years had this paid by the Treasurer at home.

Our Spring term will open next week. Prospects are good and we are anticipating a period without any special trouble. But one always feels that he must not be too confident in this, for matters can change very quickly.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Spaulding*

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West China



CHENGDE, WEST CHINA



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Chengtu, June 5, 1931

*ack. by Mr. Garride 7/20*

Dr. J. Beech,  
Dixon, Ill.

Dear Joe,



TRANSFER

We had another regular meeting of the Senate the minutes of which you will receive in due course. But before they arrive, or rather without waiting for them, I want to write to you about one or two matters which came up.

The first one is the Estimates. In the contractual agreement the Board of Governors agrees to supply, if possible, Gold \$25,000 per year to the Board of Directors. This is approximately what we have been getting. Then again the last meeting of the Governors agreed that the interest on the \$200,000 of the Hall Estate should be given to us to be divided, half to the Medical Dental College and half to the General Budget. We noticed in the Financial statement of 1930 that this interest amounted to \$11,367 and we assumed that this would be the amount. We gave half of this to the Medical Dental College and added the other half to the General Budget and with the bigger demands, especially in Science, this just covered our estimates. Then the question was raised, What if the Board gives us only the \$25,000, we will be over \$5000 short in the Medical and and short a similar amount on the general budget. We sincerely hope that the twenty-five thousand was in addition to the interest on the Hall Estate, for if not we will be terribly cramped. We would like you to take this matter up and secure for us the two amounts for only thus can we meet our present needs. It is not necessary to write further about this for you will understand it perfectly but I was asked to draw your attention to it and ask you to do your best for us.

Bob Taylor has been stationed in Shanghai as the Treasurer of the Baptist Missions in China. His resignation came before us yesterday and was referred to the Cabinet to deal with. We have no one in view yet to fill in for the year until Albertson's return but probably some one can be secured.

The Educational Faculty are asking for a Practice School to be carried on in the Educational Building but there is a strong feeling that it should not be so near the University. We have asked that Faculty to give the question further consideration and if necessary we will have a special meeting of the Senate before the end of the term.

It is good to be coming near to the end again. Two weeks more and the graduation exercises will be upon us.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Geo. W. Sparling

*Sent with Dr. Beech's letter of July 14*

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WEST  
CHINA

INDEXED

West China Union University

July 20, 1951

Dr. Geo. W. Sparling,  
West China Union University,  
Changtu, Szechuan, China.

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. Sparling:

Dr. Beech has forwarded to me your letter of June 5, and has asked me to comment on the discussion in the second paragraph of that letter in regard to Estimates.

Evidently the field has prepared the Estimates for the coming year on the expectation that the Board of Governors will supply approximately G\$25,000 exclusive of the half of the income from the Hall Estate funds which the Governors, by action G-895, agreed to allocate to the Medical-Dental College, and the other half of this income which is, by the same action, allocated to the general budget.

This is an extremely unfortunate misunderstanding on the part of the field for it can be stated quite positively that none of the discussions and actions of the Governors on this subject ever contemplated the appropriation of the Hall Estate income in addition to the G\$25,000, approximately, guaranteed by their contractual agreement. It would be impossible for the Governors to provide more than about G\$14,500 in addition to the Hall Estate income on the basis of present resources available.

The discussion in your letter is rather too brief to reveal the processes by which the field arrived at the conclusion that the Hall Estate income is not included in the Governors' guarantee of approximately G\$25,000, and as yet we have not had time to receive the minutes of the meeting of the session to which you refer. An examination of the phrasing of the agreement between the Governors and the Directors indicates that the Governors agree to assume responsibility only for the following:-

1. To continue, as far as possible, the payment of G\$25,000 annually toward all their obligations toward the total field expenses of the University, aside from the work supported directly by funds received from the Harvard-Yenching Institute.
2. In addition to this amount, to advance annually to the Board of Directors a sum to be agreed upon from time to time to meet the annual charges of the Department of Chinese, the Chinese Library, and the West China Union University Museum. (These funds coming from the Harvard-Yenching Institute)

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Dr.Sparling-2

7-20-31

Possibly there may have been some confusion on the field as to the separate identity of "Hall-Estate Funds, and the "Harvard-Yenching Funds". While both these funds came from the Estate of Dr.Charles M.Hall their identity is now quite distinct, Hall Estate funds being held as a part of the general endowment funds administered by the Governors, and the Harvard-Yenching Institute funds being held by the Institute in Cambridge.

The annual meeting of the Governors will probably be held the latter part of September, which will not give sufficient time for the field to get any corrected estimates in our hands after you receive this letter. I am, therefore, raising with Dr.Beech the question of whether it is advisable for us to cable you this information that the Hall Estate income is included within the G\$25,000 guaranteed by the Governors. Such a cablegram might still permit the field to get revised estimates in hand for the meeting in September. Perhaps, however, Dr.Beech will consider that since we are now in the midst of summer vacation it would be impossible to convene at any early date the groups which would have to assume responsibility for any changes in the estimates.

I am sorry to be a messenger of such sad tidings.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

B A GARSIDE

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West China



Union University

Sept. 10th. (1931) CHENGTU, WEST CHINA

Ack. 10/19

INDEXED

TRANSFER

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
Secretary Committee for  
Christian Colleges in China,

Dear Mr. Garside,

I have had two letters from you recently to each of which a reply has gone by cable. At least, one was answered in a cable which went forward to Dr Beech just before your letter arrived.

It is true that the Medical and Dental faculties have been very seriously disappointed, as they thought that in 1932 the extra money was to be given in addition to the regular budget but the recent letters leave them no longer in doubt. We are expecting that since only the gold \$25000 can be granted that there will be nothing said about the exchange and probably the gain on exchange can partly be used to help meet commitments already made. We have been anxious, however, not to use too much of the gain on exchange, for some day there may be a change back to the normal condition and we would find ourselves in difficulties if we had a budget which was using up to the limit of the silver equivalent for the gold grant. The Board will probably have met before this letter reaches you and the matter will be finally settled.

To-day I sent you a cable in answer to your letter concerning the correlation program, as follows, "Repeat our former minute and we gladly support the full correlated program, cabinet". We had a meeting of our cabinet yesterday when it was decided to reply giving our hearty support of the full correlation program. We did notice that our former minute merely accepted the part that we had in the program but we see every reason why the Correlation Committee should continue its work until it has accomplished its aim in cooperation and federation of the Christian Colleges in China. You may put us down as one of the institutions which have no reservations in the support which we are giving the scheme.

We noted the paragraph in your letter in which you appealed for good publicity material. We will take the matter up at our next Senate meeting and try to get some practical plans working whereby we will be able to supply you and the Committee in England with good material. Dr Beech will be on the field this Fall and no doubt will do much along this line.

Yours sincerely,

Geo. W. Sparling.

Copy to  
Mrs Anderson  
11/4/31

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Yours sincerely,



Christian Colleges in China

Sept. 10, 1931

Mr. A. C. ...  
Secretary Committee for  
Christian Colleges in China

Dear Mr. ...

I have had two letters from you recently so each of which a reply has been written. At least one was answered in a cable which was forwarded to you before your letter arrived.

It is true that the medical and dental societies have been very seriously disappointed as they thought that in 1931 the extra money was to be given in addition to the regular budget but the recent letters leave them no longer in doubt. We are expecting that since only the gold \$20000 can be granted that there will be nothing said about the exchange and probably the gain on exchange can partly be used to help meet commitments already made. We have been anxious however, not to use too much of the gain on exchange for some days there may be a change back to the normal condition and we would like ourselves in difficulties if we had a budget which was made up to the limit of the silver equivalent for the gold grant. The board will probably have met before this letter reaches you and the matter will be finally settled.

Today I sent you a cable in answer to your letter concerning the correlation program, as follows: "Report our former minutes and we gladly support the full correlated program, cabinet." We had a meeting of our cabinet yesterday when it was decided to reply giving our hearty support of the full correlation program. We did notice that our former minutes merely accepted the fact that we had in the program but we see every reason why the correlation committee should continue its work until it has accomplished its aim in cooperation and federation of the Christian Colleges in China. You may put us down as one of the institutions which have no reservations in the support which we are giving the scheme.

We noted the paragraph in your letter in which you appealed for good publicity material. We will take the matter up at our next cabinet meeting and try to get some practical plans worked out. We will be able to supply you and the committee in England with good material. It is possible that each will be on the field this fall and no doubt will be much along this line.

Yours sincerely,

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West China

Union University

Sept 22nd. 1931. CHENGTU, WEST CHINA

*ack. 11/2/31.*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
China Union Universities,  
New York,

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a statistical report which I have made out to the best of my ability. Your letter came just while Mr Taylor was preparing to leave us and he requested me to answer your letter and fill in the forms.

The list of payments is according to our field budget. It may be that they would wish to have the expenses at home included. I have taken the summary of property owned by the university from your last financial statement. Parts of this report could be best filled in at your office.

I am sending a copy direct to Albany and these two to you. Sometimes there is loss in the mails.

With kind regards,

yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

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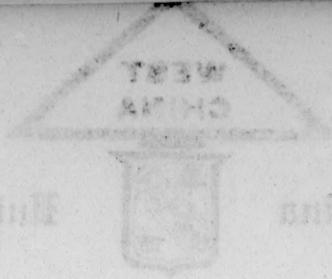
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West China Union University

Sept 22nd 1931

Mr. A. A. Gessner,  
China Union Universities,  
New York

Dear Mr. Gessner,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a statistical report which I have made out to the best of my ability. Your letter came just while Mr. Taylor was preparing to leave and he requested me to answer your letter and fill in the blanks.

The list of payments is according to our files. It may be that they would wish to have the expenses at home included. I have taken the summary of property owned by the university from your last financial statement. Lists of this report could be best filled in at your office.

I am sending a copy direct to Tientsin and also two to you. Sometimes there is loss in the mail.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

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October 19, 1931.

Dr. George W. Sparling,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtou, West China

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. Sparling:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 10th.

We note with interest your comment on the cablegram as to the amount of the appropriation requested from the Governors in the 1932 Budget. No doubt you will have received a copy of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Governors when this letter reaches you. I presume that Dr. Anderson will be writing in regard to the actions taken by the Governors relative to the contributions of the 1932 Budget; or if he does not send the letter himself, he may ask our office to do so.

I am passing on to Mr. Cressy a copy of the paragraph in your letter regarding the correlated program. We are having a meeting of the Committee for Christian Colleges in China within a few weeks, and are glad to have this assurance that West China is hearty in its support of the Correlated program.

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

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West China Union University

November 12, 1931.

Dr. George W. Sparling,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtu, West China

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. Sparling:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 22nd regarding the annual report to the New York Board of Regents.

We have just received a letter from Miss McCormack, the chief of the Statistics Bureau calling attention to the omission of Item I "days of regular classroom instruction". Will you please send us at your early convenience this figure, in order that we may transmit it to Albany.

Miss McCormack also calls attention to the fact that the total of Item 6 A, \$272,679.06 is \$48,000.00 less than the total of the figures as set down. We have asked the department to correct the total, and to allow the entries under the individual divisions to remain unchanged.

The Executive Officers of the Regents are treating our China Colleges a great deal more vigorously now than they have heretofore done. It is vitally important that these annual reports shall be correct when they reach the Regents. I wonder if it would not be desirable for you to send all copies of this report to the New York Office, so that we may send out copies with a minimum of delay.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:PC

B A GARSIDE

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West China



Union University

November 18th. (1931)  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
150 Fifth Ave, New York,



TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside,

To-day I have forwarded to the University of the State of New York our application for Diplomas for the students who graduated this year in Arts and Science. There are nineteen of these. I have requested that they send the account for these to you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

*noted  
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*Paid 3/2/32 - 90.00*

*Quayle & Son*

*No. # 1739*

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Yenching University      Yenching University



November 1931      CHENGDE, WEST CHINA



Mr. H. A. Garfield  
160 Plaza Ave., New York

Dear Mr. Garfield:

Enclosed I have forwarded to the University of the State of New York our application for admission for the students who graduated this year in Arts and Letters. There are nineteen of them. I have requested that they send the accounts for these to you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,  
Y. S. Li

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*George K. Spurling*

(COPY)

Chengtu, West China,  
Dec. 24th, 1931.

WEST  
CHINA

TRANSFER

Dr. Frank Anderson,  
Secretary of the Board of Governors,  
London, Canada.

Dear Dr. Anderson:-

INDEXED

I am writing to you and the Board of Governors at this time at the request of our Finance Committee concerning the recent unprecedented fall in the price of silver and the consequent different exchange received on money sent in Gold from America. You will remember that last year we had hoped that the money granted from the Hall Estate might be sent to us in addition to the amount granted by the Board of Governors and when we found that that was impossible, we then asked that we should be allowed to benefit from what we choose to call "Gain on Exchange" in order to meet the normal increase in our expenses due to the natural expansion of our work and also to meet those expenses which are due to the rise in the costs of articles many of which can be directly traced to the fall in the price of silver.

It is not my purpose nor have I the ability to give any full explanation of the causes for the fall in the price of silver but the fact remains that today silver is worth only about one-half of what it was three years ago in American Gold. Your resolution reads "According to past practice the rate of exchange has been reckoned at \$2.00 in silver for \$1.00 in gold, and all gains or losses on exchange on this basis have automatically reverted to or been borne by the Board of Governors; this offer of payment of \$25,000 Gold in the Contractual Statement is to be interpreted in accordance with this practice, and the Governors will have fully complied with this clause when they have remitted gold in accordance with the principle stated above". You say that "the Board will have fully complied with this clause when they have remitted Gold at two dollars silver for one dollar of Gold". It appears that the Board believes that they are doing as much for us today when the exchange is kept at two to one as they were doing a few years ago. I have been requested by the Finance Committee to write to you giving a few facts which will show that this is not really the case.

In respect to money spent at home this is true, for prices have not risen in countries where the prices are still quoted in Gold. Probably twenty per cent of our budget is still spent in gold for purchase of equipment for laboratories, for books purchased abroad and various apparatus. Though in cases, the prices actually paid for this equipment may be less than it was, yet the cost of transportation after they reach China has increased enormously. Under Customs autonomy the Chinese Government is free to levy what taxes it wishes and local war lords at Chungking and different places above, charge whatever they wish. The tax on Scientific apparatus has been as high as fifty per cent. One thousand dollars in silver was actually paid on a shipment of equipment which was invoiced at gold five hundred dollars. Besides this there are charges on the road above Chungking which altogether make the price laid down in Chengtu about double the purchase price abroad.

Again the fall in the price of silver has caused a rise in the price of all articles sold in China but purchased abroad and has also caused a doubling of expenses which have to do with foreign communications. Cablegrams which cost one dollar gold per word are now charged at over four dollars silver and if we paid for these out of a budget which was given to us at two dollars silver for one dollar of gold we would really be paying over two dollars gold per word. The same is true of postage which is now 25 cents per letter where it was 10 cents two years ago. Similar statements could be made about any articles which are purchased in the city of Chengtu but which are purchased in the city of Chengtu but which have come from foreign lands.

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During the last few months the price of native produce has also greatly increased which some would explain as a sympathetic rise due to the fall of silver which is the current coin of the country. These interior provinces are becoming more and more sensitive to exchange fluctuations because of the effect on the price of silk, wood oil, vegetable oil and other exports. A list recently prepared by one of the missionaries of Chengtu shows the great increase in the cost of living here during the past two years. This shows that where the tendency in the West with a Gold standard is for prices to fall the tendency ~~in the East with a Gold standard is for prices to rise~~ here where the standard is silver is for prices to rise and at the most conservative estimate prices average today 50 per cent. more than they did twenty months ago and they are still increasing.

It is true that nominally the exchange is nearly double what it was three years ago but really the money obtained from Gold when transferred into Chinese money has probably not more than one-third to one-half more purchasing power though it would appear to have double. If this is true, and our best investigations declare it to be so, if we receive only two dollars silver for each dollar of gold we are not receiving nearly as much value for our gold as we were a few years ago.

It is suggested that a sentence may be added to the Contractual Statement saying that an exchange of two to one is meeting the obligation of the Board. While not wishing to criticize or to appear to dictate to the Board as to what they should do in respect to finances, in view of what we have said we would hope that this would not be added to the Contractual Statement at the present time. \$50,000 no longer represents gold \$25,000 nor is it equal in purchasing power to what we have received during the past years. It is quite possible that if ever the rate of exchange is again stabilized and becomes normal that the rate of exchange between gold and silver will not be two to one but two and a half or three to one. In view of such a possibility we would suggest that no hard and fast rule be made at the present time but if a rule is to be made we should wait until conditions are more normal than they are at present. I might add that all these facts seem to come with even greater force to our Chinese associates.

The rise in the cost of living is forcing us to pay higher salaries to both employees and staff. The cost of living has risen at least 50 per cent. during the past twenty months but the salaries have not yet been raised except the usual increase due to length of service. There is a strong feeling that a substantial increase will have to be given in the near future. This will make it impossible to carry on on the same budget in silver dollars that we had before. Our salaries are now much smaller than government institutions of a similar grade and smaller than Mission institutions in East China are paying.

We are also recommending that students of our university and members of our staff who purchase books from abroad and through our library be allowed to pay for them at an exchange rate of three dollars silver for one dollar gold, while we subsidize the books to the amount of the difference between this and current rate. For example, it was reported at our committee meeting that a student gave an order for a medical book which cost \$11 gold. At the rate now prevailing he would have to pay about \$45 silver for the book, besides postage, and our recommendation is that he be given the book for \$35 silver and the university will pay the balance out of its budget. If some arrangement of this kind is not made foreign books will be almost prohibitive to our students and Chinese staff.

It is for reasons of this kind that we again call the attention of the Board of Governors to the need for ~~furth~~ consideration of the Exchange problem. We believe that an exchange from gold to silver ~~at a rate of three to one~~ would make our budget much nearer to the same purchasing power ~~than it had formerly~~ at an exchange of two to one. We desire that this information should come before the Board and that the resolution to limit the exchange as suggested should be not ~~advised~~ until the problem has been further investigated. Dr. Beech will probably write you more fully after he arrives and becomes acquainted with conditions as they ~~now exist~~.

With kind regards to all Members of the Board,

Yours sincerely,  
(SGD.) GEO. W. SPARLING



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



West China

Union University

January 8th., 1932. CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

*ack 3-22-32*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
China Universities Committee,  
New York,

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside,

*counted* In reply to your letter of Nov 12th, let me say that I am sorry for the omission in the statistical forms. I have up the "Days of Classroom Instruction" for the year and find them to be 181. One hundred and eighty one.

I am glad that you had the mistake in addition in the other column corrected.

I note what you say about sending the copies of these statistical reports to the New York office.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

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West China University

West China

CHANGCHUN, CHINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Faint, mostly illegible text, likely the body of a letter or report, possibly containing names and dates.

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## West China Union University

Chengtou, March 9th, 1932

To All who are interested in  
The West China Union University,

Our President Rev. L. G. Dsang left us to attend the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be held in America in May, on February the twelfth. He had anticipated attending an All-China Conference of the Church, in Nanking previous to leaving for America but due to the fighting between China and Japan, it was found necessary to postpone that Conference indefinitely. He met Dr. Beech in Chungking on the day of his arrival and was able to talk over affairs of the University with him before leaving for down river.

Registration for the Spring term began as scheduled on February the nineteenth with Classes opening on Monday the twenty-second. Quite a large number of students were present for the opening ceremony which took place at eight o'clock in the Assembly Hall. After the usual ceremonial opening of the meeting, Mr. S. H. Fong, who is Acting President during Mr. Dsang's absence addressed the students. He gave a very timely address on the Conflict between China and Japan impressing upon the students their duty under such a crisis. At the close of Mr. Fong's address the students bowed to the members of the Faculty present, announcements were made and another term's work had begun.

It is almost invariably true that a number of students who have been present in the Autumn term fail to appear for registration in the Spring. New students are not admitted in the Spring so those who wish to come in on trial come in the Autumn with the result that our numbers are usually less in this term. The decrease is about ten leaving over two hundred and thirty students. There are always some who are tardy about registering so that we do not yet know the final number.

Dr. Beech arrived at the University on Thursday, March the third. His journey from Shanghai had been a slow one but that was due to the bringing of an ambulance which he had secured from America and had brought up the river and from Chungking to Chengtu under his personal supervision. It is a strictly modern Ford Ambulance, beautiful in appearance and strong in structure. It was contributed by the students of the Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. The cost of its transportation to Shanghai was contributed by Mr. Edsel Ford while duties were remitted at Shanghai and other treaty ports by the various officials in charge. This ambulance will be at the service of the hospitals of the city and will no doubt prove a great asset to their work during the coming years. It is completely fitted with every modern convenience, having two padded emergency cots, enclosed cabinets for emergency supplies, a heater for the winter connected with the motor and an electric fan for the summer, with a cot on rollers which can be taken out and moved along the street. On Sunday evening and again on Wednesday Dr. Beech told to the students the story of the ambulance which now becomes part of the permanent equipment of our Christian work in Chengtu.

On Thursday March 3rd a meeting of the Senate of the University was held for organization and reports. We had hoped last term that we would be registered with the National Government before this which would mean that the Board of Directors would take authority in the university and that the Senate would no longer be called to meet. But no recent word has come in reference to the question of registration due no doubt to the confusion caused in government circles by the opening of hostilities between China and Japan. We are afraid that, while the government is so seriously engaged with external affairs, the question of registering our university may secure but scanty attention. Ac-

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According to their report all that is now necessary is that government inspection should be carried out and a report sent which we believe would be favorable and would make it possible to finally consummate the registration. But a brighter day will come soon and we will get the necessary attention and favorable word will be received and that for which we have so long labored will be secured.

The Senate opened with Bishop Song in the Chair. Dr. Morse gave a paper reporting the work which he had carried on in the Research Laboratory in Harvard University in Anthropological Research. Dr. Morse worked hard while there and was granted an honorary position of Associate in Anthropology in Harvard. Dr. Morse in his address made many practical suggestions for the future of Research work in our university which we hope will be acted upon in the coming years. The assistance provided by the Harvard Yenching Institute Fund has made possible the development of Research work and we expect that quite rapid progress will be made in this department during the next few years.

At the close of Dr. Morse's paper the Senate proceeded to organize and Bishop Song was again elected Chairman and Dr. Taylor vice-Chairman. Other officers of the university were appointed as well as the various committees found necessary in an institution such as ours.

The students have been deeply moved by the reports of recent events at Shanghai. They are pleased with the excellent and effective resistance which the Chinese troops of the nineteenth army have made against the invading Japanese army. On Thursday evening, March 3rd, the day for the meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations called specially to consider the Shanghai affair a Prayer meeting was held in the Assembly Hall led by Bishop Song. A large number of students and Faculty attended and hearts were united in prayer that wisdom and insight would be granted to the members of the League as they sought for a permanent and peaceful solution of the outstanding questions between China and Japan. When word was received of the withdrawal of the Chinese from Shanghai, a meeting of our student body was called and it was decided to join in the parade in the city organized by the schools to present a petition to the government and the military generals to send troops to Shanghai. On Monday, the seventh instant, no classes were held and the students went in a body into the city. They report that promises were given that troops would be sent but no date was fixed. Our students are soundly patriotic and anxious to do what they can to assist their country at this time of crisis.

Yours sincerely,

G. W. Sparling.

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West China



Union University

Sept. 27th., 1935. NGTU, WEST CHINA

*File.*



Mr. B. A. Garside,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York,

INDEXED

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside,

We are very glad to be able to report to the Board of Governors that our registration with the Chinese National Government is now an accomplished fact. We have been hearing for some time that it was about to be granted but not until two days ago were we able to be confident. Things have a strange way in China of getting near consummation and then being hindered and delayed so we waited until our official document was in our hands before making the fact public. Yesterday it was announced in the local daily press as completed and we are glad at this time to be able to send the same word home to you.

I intend to have an English translation made of the document soon and will forward you a copy of this. We have been working more or less tentatively during the past two years under the Board of Directors on the field. Now we will be able to put the new arrangement into effect.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

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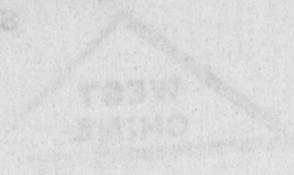
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Ministry of Education



West China

Sept. 27, 1933



Mr. B. A. Garfield,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York

Dear Mr. Garfield:

We are very glad to be able to report to the Board of Governors that our registration with the Chinese National Government is now an accomplished fact. We have been hearing for some time that it was about to be granted but not until two days ago were we able to be confident. Things have a strange way in China of getting near completion and then being kind and delayed as we find with our official. I thought you would be glad before making the fact public. Yesterday it was announced in the local daily press as completed and we are glad at this time to be able to send the same word home to you.

I intend to have an English translation made of the document soon and will forward it to you. We have been working on the document for some time and we are glad to put the Board of Governors on the fact. We will be able to put the new agreement into effect.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

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0797

West China



Union University

WEST  
CHINA

Sept 28th., 1933. CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Ack 1/10/34

Mr. B.A. Garside,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York,

Dear Mr Garside,

INDEXED

TRANSFER

President Dsang has requested me to reply to your letter of August 7th asking for more information to be sent to the University of the State of New York in connection with our application for a complete charter. I am taking up the items as you mention them one by one and answer as best I can.

In regard to item number one, the background and history of the university and its legal status, I note that you can secure the information in your office. If it will add anything to our prestige, you might add that we are now definitely registered with the National Government of China and are now part of the recognized system of Higher Education for this country.

## Item #2

Income. The only income that we are at present receiving on the field is included in, Fees, \$15,000 Chinese currency, Rents \$2400 Chinese currency, Teachers salaries supplied by different Missions and institutions, \$6,000/

Item #3. I am enclosing the list of teachers as cut from our latest catalogue. This list gives their ranking and degrees. This list I might summarize as follows, We have 21 full professors, 16 Associate professor, 24 Assistant Professors, 14 Instructors and 41 lecturers. Degrees are about as follows, Ph.D.'s 5, M.A.'s 20, M.Sc.'s 4, M.D.'s 20, B.S.'s 4, B.A.S. 25, D.D.S.'s 5, L.D.S.'s 3, F.A.C.S.'s 2, F.I.C.D. 1, D.O.M.S.'s 2, F.R.G.S.1. ~~\$\$\$~~ F.A.C.D. 1.

Item #4. Student life and activities. The students are organized into an association which has frequent meetings to consider matters which have to do with their own life and problems. There are also several smaller associations and clubs composed of the members of different classes or years. To these, speakers are invited to address the students on their own subjects. A weekly assembly of students brings many noted speakers from the city. There are also religious services and classes of various kinds. The athletic association seeks to interest the students in all kinds of games resulting in inter-class and inter-collegiate games. There are also two annual field days.

Item # 5. This information is contained in the catalogue. We have recently sent to you forty complete copies of the 1933-34 catalogue which sets forth the information in a way better than I could in a letter. (14 Recd - 11/6/33)

Item # 6.

0798

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
West China  
UNIVERSITIES  
CHANGING WEST CHINA



Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a letter or report, with a dotted line indicating a signature or name.

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## Item # 6.

The enrolment for the past few years has been as follows,  
 1928-29 250 students, enrolled in colleges as follows, Medicine and  
 Dentistry, 108, Science 37, Arts 105.  
 1929-30., 265. Medicine and Dentistry 113, Science 46, Arts 106.  
 1930-31, 259, Medicine and Dentistry 123, Science 40, Arts 96.  
 1932-32, 242, Medicine and Dentistry 130, Science 31, Arts 81.  
 1932-33. 355, Medicine and Dentistry 157, Science 52, Arts 127.  
 1933-34, 340 Medicine and Dentistry 164, Science 62, Arts 116.

The rapid increase in 1932 is probably due to the prospects  
 for registration. Although we were not registered until this year,  
 yet our application was made the previous year and that made it  
 possible for more students to come. In 1932-33. we opened a special  
 class in the Chinese language which enrolled 30 students, this year  
 it was decided to discontinue that class. Thus, excluding that class,  
 this years registration is an increase over last year and not a  
 decrease.

Item #7. The purpose of the university as outlined in our Con-  
 stitution should suffice for information here.

Item #8. A large number of our students have at different times  
 gone abroad for further study after graduation. A large number also  
 have gone to Peking to study either in YenChing University or in the  
 Peking Union Medical College. We have had eleven students take  
 post-graduate work at the Peking Medical College, Twelve have gone to  
 Yenching University at Peiping for two years study after graduation,  
 four have gone to Nanking. Seventeen of our students have gone to  
 the United States, Canada or England for post-graduate work and in  
 every case have brought back higher degrees. Quite a number of  
 these are now on our staff.

I hope that this supplies the information necessary in  
 regard to the application for a complete charter.

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

4-22-33

The enclosed for the past few years has been as follows:  
1932-33: Medicine and Dentistry 100, Science 40, Arts 100  
1933-34: Medicine and Dentistry 100, Science 40, Arts 100  
1934-35: Medicine and Dentistry 100, Science 40, Arts 100  
1935-36: Medicine and Dentistry 100, Science 40, Arts 100  
1936-37: Medicine and Dentistry 100, Science 40, Arts 100

The report for 1937 is probably the most important  
one yet received. It shows a marked increase in the  
number of students and a corresponding increase in  
the amount of work done. In 1937-38 we opened a school  
of medicine and dentistry in London. This year  
it has received a considerable amount of work and  
has been successful in its operations.

I am sure that the report of the university will be  
of great interest to you.

I have had several students who  
have been successful in the various departments.  
I have also had several students who  
have been successful in the various departments.  
I have also had several students who  
have been successful in the various departments.

I hope that this will give you the information necessary  
to the question of a possible visit.

Yours sincerely,

*Handwritten signature*

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

October 8th., 1933.

To the Members of  
The Board of Founders of  
The West China Union University

Dear Friends,

At the meeting of the Senate of the University held on Thursday afternoon, October the Fifth, we were requested to write to you telling of the present status of the university in respect to registration with the National Government and to express to you our deepest appreciation of the continued loyal support of the Board of Founders as the university now passes definitely into a new era of its history.

Two weeks ago we received from the Provincial Bureau of Education a document, a copy of which we will enclose with this letter, informing us that our petition for registration had been granted and making certain recommendations in regard to our work. We had been waiting for some time for this document and although we had been assured from time to time that there was no doubt about the ultimate result of our request yet it was impossible for us to assume that we were registered until official word had been received and no definite steps could be taken toward altering the form of our administration.

It is not necessary for us to review in detail all the steps taken by the university and by the Board of Founders to prepare for the day when this word would come. It is true that for nearly two years we have been acting under a Board of Directors on the Field and with meetings of the General Faculty in harmony with the new constitution which had been prepared by you some years ago. These two years have been a period of tutelage and have been very valuable both to us and to the members of the Board of Directors as it has made it possible for us now to pass into our new stage easily and naturally. Up to the date of receiving the official word of registration the Senate was kept in existence and the General Faculty acted as a committee of that body while the Board of Directors assumed definite responsibility for the work necessary in preparation for registration.

In as much as we had now instituted the new machinery for the administration of the university only very infrequent meetings of the Senate were called. One was called in March 1932 when all the minutes of the Faculty up to that date were received and approved. The next meeting was held last Thursday October the eighth, 1933. It was with mingled feelings that the members of the Senate gathered on that afternoon as they realized that it was the last time that they would meet as

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a Senate. As they thought of the history of the Senate and the many questions and problems that had been discussed and settled in that body and of the many members who had sat on that body in early years and planned the work of the university but who are no longer with us, feelings akin to regret continued to assert themselves. But when it was remembered that it was for this day that we had been definitely working and planning for many years feelings of rejoicing prevailed with a deep feeling of gratification that another milestone had been passed and a new ideal attained. This was to be the last meeting of the Senate and it was the Senate itself that had been largely responsible for that fact. It is said that it is the duty of every missionary to make his presence in any particular movement unnecessary by raising up native workers to take his place and who can do the work more efficiently. This is what the Senate had deliberately done and had now met to declare that this goal had been reached and its existence was no longer needed.

Bishop Song, the Chairman of the Senate, was present and presided at the meeting. A communication from the Board of Directors was read stating that definite word had now been received from Nanking that we were registered and also that at their last meeting they had passed a motion stating that they were ready to sign the Contractual Statement between them and the Board of Founders and thus to assume the responsibility which registration placed upon them. The Order from Nanking declaring that we are registered was also read. The Contractual Statement by which the Board of Directors binds itself to carry on the university in the interests for which it was founded was also read for the information of the Senate.

A brief history was then given of the preparation of the university for this significant event. It was with great care and anxiety on the part of the members of the Board of Founders and the members of the Senate that they approached the problem seven years ago. The Members of the Board at home will remember that at the meeting in Toronto in September 1927 this question first came before them in a definite form. The question seemed of such great importance and fraught with such significance that it was decided that it could not be adequately discussed in the two days at the disposal of the Board at that time and it was decided to adjourn and meet in New York one month later for the express purpose of discussing registration. This meeting was held and the result was a clear motion in favor of registering. It was then that the Board in a great act of faith and with courage born of definite belief in the leading of the Holy Spirit decided to enter into partnership with the Christian leaders in Szechuan in this work of building up an institution of Higher learning under Christian auspices. During the next three years work on the problem was continued and at the meeting held in England in 1930 with Dr. Beech present a minute was passed authorizing the Senate to take all the steps necessary in preparation. Another three years have passed during which reports and readjustments were made, all information required was sent to the government, inspections were undertaken by government representatives until they were finally satisfied that we in every way met their requirements.

Members of  
Board of Founders:  
West China Union University

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10/8/33

It is true that in the Order sent out by the government certain recommendations are made, but these need a little explanation. Unfortunately one of the inspectors sent by the government to investigate our institution belonged to the left wing and maintained the attitude of a critic rather than a sympathetic investigator and in his report succeeded in distorting many of the facts and gave a wrong impression. For example, he reported that attendance in religious classes was required and that religious teaching was masked under other names. He also severely criticized our Science department, probably because a certain government university teacher was not permitted to borrow apparatus from us for his own classes. When the report was sent in in this form, it was necessary for the government to recognize it and included a reference to it in their order but we do not feel that these criticisms were valid nor do we feel that any changes have to be made to conscientiously meet government requirements. The last recommendation that our Medical and Dental course be reduced from seven years to six has not yet been dealt with but will come before the Medical Dental College. It may be that they will feel that they cannot reduce or that more work will have to be done in each year.

A resolution was passed at the meeting of the Senate, in which we expressed our appreciation of the sympathetic attitude of the members of the Board of Founders all through these years and their promise of continued support as we pass under our new constitution. The university will continue to do the same kind of work, the support of the Church at home will be needed for long years to come and we have recognized and added the ever-growing constituency of sympathetic supporters on the field. The three great changes which the university was compelled to make and which we faced with some misgivings and anxiety seven years ago were the creation of a Board of Directors on the field, the appointment of a Chinese President and the making of religious work in the institution entirely voluntary on the part of the students. These changes have all been made and we are satisfied that they were all in the best interests of the institution. We have no regrets but believe that even if the government had not required them we would to-day find it necessary to make them.

It gives us great satisfaction to know by your letters and by the minutes passed at various times that you are altogether with us and are deeply interested in the work of the university as in former years when it was at a more tender age and kept closer under the parental roof. We might say that it is now in its adolescent years but yet far from maturity. It was difficult for us here on the field and in close touch with the problems of the country and its changing temper to be altogether and readily reconciled to the necessary changes so we wish as a Senate to express our deepest gratitude to the Board at home for the whole-hearted way in which they have continued their interest through these years of change and for the assurance that we have that that interest

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Members of  
Board of Founders  
West China Union University

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will be continued for many years to come.

This term has opened with good prospects. The enrolment of students is about three hundred and fifty, nearly the same as last year and a good spirit prevails.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Lincoln L. G. Dsang  
George W. Sparling

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From the Educational Bureau of the  
Province of Szechuan.

Order Number 1207

An Order to the West China Union University.

Some time ago we appointed a representative to inspect the university in reference to the place of Religion in the curriculum and other matters to which our attention had been drawn. The report was submitted to the Ministry of Education in Nanking and the following order has been received.

Order Number 8741 from the Ministry of Education, Nanking:  
"Having now a thorough knowledge of the work of the West China Union University through the reports given by inspectors sent to examine the university and learning that changes are being made in harmony with our orders and that the university is now in its main essentials in agreement with the government regulations, we hereby grant registration to the said university.

"However, we submit the following recommendations to the University. The College of Science should increase its equipment and engage some more highly trained teachers in each department. Consideration should be given to improving the status of Chinese teachers on the staff. More freedom should be given to students in electing courses in religion. The university has fixed its medical course at seven years, so we would point out that our regulations are that a student with Senior Middle School graduation and pursuing a course in Medicine should study five years followed by an interne year. The University should change in harmony with this regulation.

"Forward this Order to the West China Union University with instructions that they put these recommendations into effect."

We hereby submit this order in harmony with instructions from the National Ministry of Education.

Dated September 23rd, 1933.

Signed,

Kueh Hung Lien.  
Head of the First  
Department of the Educational  
Bureau

also

Acting Commissioner of Education  
for Szechuan

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THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS  
OFFICE OF METROLOGY  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN REPLY TO THE LETTER OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

dated August 1, 1957, regarding the proposed  
revision of the definition of the meter.

The National Bureau of Standards is pleased to  
acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 1,  
1957, and to inform you that the proposed revision  
of the definition of the meter is being considered.

The proposed revision of the definition of the  
meter is based on the speed of light in vacuum,  
and is being considered by the International  
Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and  
the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics  
(IUPAP).

The proposed revision of the definition of the  
meter is being considered by the International  
Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and  
the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics  
(IUPAP).

The proposed revision of the definition of the  
meter is being considered by the International  
Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and  
the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics  
(IUPAP).

Very truly yours,  
Director  
National Bureau of Standards  
Washington, D. C.

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West China

January 10, 1934

Mr. George W. Sparling  
West China Union University  
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

My dear Mr. Sparling:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 28th giving the information we requested on August 7th with reference to the proposed application of West China for an absolute charter.

This proposal will be brought to the next meeting of our West China Executive Committee. I do not know whether the Committee will wish to take final action on the matter or will ask that it be considered by the entire Board of Governors. But we will try to press forward with the matter as promptly as possible.

We are grateful to you for the care you took in assembling the information requested.

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

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December 18, 1936

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26 Grosvenor

Dr. George W. Sparling  
55 Humewood Drive  
Toronto, Canada

My dear Dr. Sparling:

Dr. Anderson has forwarded to us a communication from the Church Missionary Society in which they state that they are prepared to contribute LC\$450 toward the budget of the Union Theological College for next year and ask how this money should be transmitted. What are your wishes as to the channels through which these contributions are to be sent? Our New York office will, of course, be happy to handle such remittances if you so desire, but possibly you may have had some other channels in mind.

Since the contributions are defined in Chinese local currency, we may have to make some adjustment with each Mission Board covering fluctuations in exchange, but I am sure we can handle that detail without difficulty.

I am holding up any reply to the Church Missionary Society until I have your advice on this question of when and how the remittances should be sent to Chengtu.

With every good wish for the approaching holiday season, I am

Very sincerely yours,

B A GARSIDE

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55 Humewood Drive, Toronto,  
December 21st, 36.

*Recd 11/21/37*  
*W. W. Sparling*

Dr. B.A. Garside,  
Board of Governors,  
West China Union University,

Dear Dr. Garside,

We are glad to hear that some of the Missions are responding to the appeal of the Theological College. In regard to your question as to how these sums should be remitted, as far as I can see it, I should say that the money should be sent to you and transmitted by you to the field as needed. This money now appropriated is for the year 1937-38 so will not be needed until the summer.

I was quite gratified with the way the Board of Governors agreed to act in the home lands for the new Theological College but I feel that there are a number of details yet to be discussed and this can be done at the next meeting of the Board in May. In the meantime, I would suggest that all contributions be sent to your office and the exact method handling the funds can be decided at the next meeting.

With the season's greetings,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

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55 Humewood Drive, Toronto,  
June 16th., 1937.

*Acte 6/21/37*

Dr. B. A. Garside,  
Board of Governors  
West China Union University,  
New York,



Dear Dr. Garside,

Would you kindly tell me of any arrangements that were made at the recent meeting of the Board of Governors for the remittance of money for the Theological College to Chengtu. Will it be sent by you through the University Bursar or separately by the several Missions. Will each Mission make the same appropriation this year as last. Already some money is spent on preparation of the building for our work in the College and quite an amount will be needed immediately for equipment. Plans are now definite for the admission of the first class to the College this September. We would hope that the appropriation for last year and for this year will both be available as the expenses will be large at the beginning.

I am very glad that Dr Taylor was with you and was given an opportunity to speak for the College. He is a good advocate.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling.*

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WEST  
CHINA

June 21, 1937

Rev. George W. Sparling  
55 Runewood Drive  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Sparling:

We have your letter of June 16th, asking as to arrangements for remitting funds to China for the support of the Union Theological School.

So far as I can ascertain from information we have available, appropriations have been made by the eight cooperating Mission Boards as follows:-

American Baptist Foreign Mission Society	LC \$450
Church Missionary Society	450
Friends Service Council	No definite reply received
Board of Foreign Missions of the M.E. Church	US \$100
Board of Foreign Missions of the United Church of Canada	LC \$450
Woman's Missionary Society of the " " " "	LC\$ \$150
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the M. E. Church	No definite reply
Woman's Am. Bapt. Foreign Missionary Society	Plan approved but no definite appropriation made.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Anderson and will ask him to check the above information and to inform me of any further actions by any of the three groups from which our office has not yet heard.

As yet, we have not agreed on any fixed procedure as to the transmitting of these appropriations to Chengtu. Our office is therefore writing to each of the five missionary societies which have already made appropriations, asking them whether they prefer to send the money direct to Chengtu through their own organizations or to pay it over to our office here in New York for transmittal. We would be glad to follow either procedure the Boards prefer. The probabilities are that some will wish to send the amount direct and that others will wish to turn the amounts over to our New York office for forwarding.

We enclose herewith a letter for you sent by Dr. Anderson. It may possibly contain additional information on some of these matters.

Very sincerely yours,

B A GARSIDE

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1091 Broughton Street  
Vancouver, B.C.  
November 3, 1937

Dr. Frank Anderson  
Secretary of the Board of Governors  
West China Union University

Dear Dr. Anderson:

I have received your letter and the minutes of the Executive Meeting of the Board of Governors, and in reply to E1318 would say as follows:

On return to the Field, I will take up with the Board of Directors of the Theological College and with the Missions concerned, the question of the relation of the Board of Governors to the Board of Management on the Field and seek to make concrete suggestions. The Board of Management has already indicated its satisfaction that the Board of Governors is the body in the home lands sponsoring the College, but has not made any specific suggestions as to working arrangements. I will see that the matter is considered.

In the meantime I would make some remarks of my own in reference to the question.

(1) With five Missions in three countries interested in the College, it is necessary to have a committee at home representative of these Missions to whom questions can be referred, and the Board of Governors is naturally that committee since it represents those five Missions and has similar interests in West China. This work when it was carried on as a College of Religion was necessarily under the guidance of the Board of Governors and the new arrangement, which gives the Theological College its own Board of Management, does not necessarily change its relationship to the Board of Governors. We have the same relationships at home as formerly, though the working arrangement on the field has changed.

(2) The Board of Management will have matters of policy and direction which it must refer to a committee at home. There should be a committee at home which can meet and discuss the affairs of the College and can co-ordinate the opinions of the various Missions. This the Board of Governors will do.

(3) The financial support of the College will rest upon the Missions at home and the Board of Governors can discuss and recommend to the various Missions a budget for their allocation. In the future we will also need a plant, largely supplied by funds from home and the plans of the field Board of Management can be scrutinized by the Board of Governors and funds solicited directly by them or referred to the Missions.

(4) Problems will arise in the future as to the kind and grade of work to be done and advice and guidance from home will be needed. Various Missions may have various ideas and we can be guided only by the joint opinions of all and as representatives

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of these Missions meet in the Board of Governors, discussions can be held which will seek to find the joint opinion of all.

These ideas are general and my own and I am sure as we carry on under the Board of Management on the Field, we will have matters to refer to the Board of Governors. I will take up minute E1318 with the Board on my return.

We were disappointed at not being permitted to return to West China last summer. We had hoped to be in Chengtu for the opening of the College, September 13th, but events around Shanghai prevented that. During our delay, we have been visiting various places in British Columbia and Alberta. We now plan to sail on November 27th and travel to Szechuan, via Indo China.

With kind regards, and best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,

(Signed) George W. Sparling

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NO. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

March 2nd/ 38.

Comments on the Minutes of the Board of Management for the  
Board of Governors.

This meeting was held at this time in order to have the minutes in the hands of the Board of Governors in time for their annual meeting in April. We are sorry that the printed minutes will not be ready in time. I am leaving by aeroplane on Saturday next to go to Yunnanfu to help bring the baggage of the latest party. The road by bus is a very difficult one and we have thought it better to have the ladies of the party fly to Chengtu and I will go down and help with the baggage. Having been over the road once it will be easier for me than for a new hand.

Our Theological College is now in operation and its prospects for the future are bright. Every one is seized with the importance of this work and realize that it is vital to the development of the church in West China. We anticipate that next year will see a student body of probably twenty-five students and the following year probably twenty more. Accordingly we need now to make provision for this advance in the work. We believe that the time has now come when the supporting Boards should accept this as a permanent piece of work and lay ~~the~~<sup>THEIR</sup> plans accordingly. At this meeting of the Board of Management the members accepted the college as an established fact and all minutes passed were with the idea of permanence and stability. They attempted to project themselves a year or two into the future and to see the college as it is almost sure to be at that time. No questions were asked as to whether the college would succeed, it is sure to succeed if it can be supported and it is with that feeling of assurance that plans are now being laid and our appeals forwarded. We hope that the members of the Board of Governors and all members of supporting Boards will consider this work and its needs with the same assurance.

There is a real opportunity for a more aggressive attitude on the part of the church in West China. The people are greatly disturbed by the war and deep heart searching is taking place. Old foundations are being shaken and the people are looking for a firmer base for their hopes and ambitions. We know that we have the message which will prove to be the stable element which this country needs and many of the people are learning also to believe it. Just yesterday I was in conversation with Mr. S. C. Yang of the Friends church and who is Principal of our Union Middle School and as we spoke of our Theological College he said, "I greatly believe in that College it is the work which it seeks to do that will save China". The chastening of the war is driving the thinking people to search deeply for the realities of life and nothing but the realities offered by the Gospel can answer the yearning of these people.

SzeChuan might be called the centre of China's life to-day. Many departments of the government are in the province, Colleges and Schools have come from other parts of China and we continually hear it said that from this province must go new forces which will yet save the country. If this is true from the standpoint of the government how much more should the church seek to measure up to its responsibility at this time. The Church here must gird up its loins and advance or lose a opportunity which may not return. Other institutions are looking to us for strength and feel that they cannot do their part without a strong church supplying the power.

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

No. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

3-2-28

2.

The progress of the Church depends upon an efficient leadership is a truism which it is hardly necessary to repeat but with that fact in our minds we are fully seized with the importance of a College whose only function is the training of leadership for the Christian Church in West China. The place and function of this College will become even clearer to us as the years pass and its influence will become deeper. We look forward a few years to the time when we will have here a College representing all the Missions at work in the province and which by the interest and sacrifice of those bodies is preparing and sending out each year a group of well trained men and women devoted and consecrated to their work and seized with a message which will mean life to their people and that the life more abundant. Without this college our Church will be left without any vital leadership but with it we hope to produce a strong vigorous leadership with courage and determination and who will go up and possess the Promised Land.

I will now make comment on certain of the minutes passed at our last meeting.

Number 45. This is the financial statement of the Treasurer to the end of 1937 and thus is for one term of this academic year. According to this statement the money appropriated by the Boards last year will just be sufficient to carry us through the present term. We are grateful that we will not have to go into debt in the first year of the College.

Number 47. It is not necessary for me to comment further on this item. We gave quite a lot of thought to this question and will be glad of any other suggestions as to the relation of the two Boards that the Board of Governors or its Executive wishes to make. You will notice in the fourth suggestion we recommend that the Board of Governors not only apportion the budget to the supporting Boards but that they initiate methods of their own for securing funds. There may be people who would like to give money to such an institution as ours which is entirely interdenominational, who are not giving through the denominational Boards. It might be that an endowment for the College could be built up which would yield support year by year. We would commend this suggestion quite strongly to the Board of Governors. Probably no individual Board would undertake to secure an endowment for the College while the Board of Governors which represents all would be in a good position to do so.

Number 48. In a letter to Dr. Lindsay, Dr. Beech mentions the possibility of the Nanking Theological Seminary coming to Chengtu. We would like to have them here and feel that their presence would greatly help to establish our College. However, as you know we have no plant except temporary quarters which are rather small. If they come it would be necessary to erect buildings for them for which money would be needed. We would want any buildings that were erected to be of such a nature that they would be part of our permanent plant. The Board of Governors will be in a position to find out the latest plans of the Nanking group. We have a committee working on the permanent layout of our buildings and if money were supplied to erect buildings for this Autumn's work we will be in a position to place them in our permanent plan.

0818

WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NO 21 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都平原南門外第十一號

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

3-2-27

The progress of the church depends upon an efficient leadership... This is a problem which is partly necessary to regard but with that... in our opinion we are fully agreed with the majority of a college... those only question is the method of leadership for the church... church in west China. The church and leadership of this college will... can be clearer to us as the church grows and its influence will... become deeper. We look forward to the time when we will... have had a college representative in the student body in the ev-... vision and which by the interest and activities of these bodies is pro-... viding and sending out each year a group of well trained men and... women devoted and consecrated to their work and raised with a sense... which will be a blessing to their people and that the time more abundant... without it is called out. We will be left without any vital leaders... ship but with it we have to produce a strong vigorous leadership with... authority and determination and we will go up and receive the promised... land.

I will not make comment on certain of the minutes passed at... the last meeting... number 45. This is the official statement of the Board... and there is no part of this in this year. I am... the Board by the Board last year... through the Board... I will not have to go into the first year of...

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It is not necessary for me to comment further on... of board of this question and with... to the relation of the Board... You will... the Board of Governors and the Executive Board to... notice in the Board of Governors... not only question the Board of the Executive Board but that they... initiative methods of their own for setting things. It is not the... who would like to give more to what we have established as our... entirely in our own hands. It is not giving through the... local board. It is not the Board of Governors for the... will be which would be by the Board of Governors. It is not in-... the Board of Governors to secure an endorsement for the College... the Board of Governors all reports all could be in a... .

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In a letter to Dr. Mackay, Dr. Bass mentioned... of the Executive Board of the Union Theological College in Chengdu... have then had the Board of Governors... to establish our college. However, as you know we have... temporary matters which are rather small. If they are... to erect buildings for them for which money would... would want any building that was erected to be of such... part of our permanent fund. The Board of... will be in a position to find out the actual value of the... we have a committee working on the permanent fund of... our building and it seems now possible to erect buildings for this... will be in a position to place them in our permanent... .

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NO. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

3.

Numbers 49 and 50. We consider our College as affiliated with the university and are anxious to secure the assistance which Dr. Beech as Chancellor can give us. As he travels in the interests of the university we hope that he will include us in his heart and interest.

We would also covet the assistance which Dr. Taylor can give. We know that he is greatly interested in our College and knows its history and its present situation thoroughly. We would like the Board of Governors to invite him to act on our behalf. The Board might give him specific instructions as to what they would like him to do in the Home Lands for the College either in the raising of endowment or in raising funds for buildings. We leave the exact plan to you but we would like to have Dr. Taylor closely associated with our college in this way.

Number 51. The large increase in the amount needed in the next few years over last year is due to the fact that the number of classes will increase. This year we have only one class but next term we expect to add two classes and two more the following year. When the full number of classes is with us we will have three of the lower grade and four of the higher grade and these will require a great deal of teaching. For the higher grade work we are able to take advantage of classes given in the university as these students are of university grade. This will not be true of the lower grade and so the college will have to supply all the teaching they will receive. This will require a much larger appropriation for teaching. Other expenses will also be increased by the larger student body.

We would recommend that the Board of Governors urge upon each supporting Board the necessity of each one meeting its obligation of a proportionate share of the budget so that the work may develop. However, we would point out that some Boards are in a better position than others to take advantage of the work of the College and it may be that they would increase their grants.

We would also suggest that the Board of Governors recommend that to the supporting Boards that they make their grant to the Theological College in addition to the regular grant to the field for church work. It was pointed out by representatives of the Missions on the field that it is very difficult for the churches on the field to assume this responsibility within the amount granted for work of the church. It means that just so much is taken from the amount for salaries and church projects. It will probably mean, as it did in the case of one Mission this year that the amount cannot be granted and this is very serious for the College. The churches in West China are not yet strong enough or far enough advanced to carry responsibility for the development of the College.

We believe that the amount asked for this year, if granted in full each year would be sufficient for the next few years. If we could count on this amount each year the College would be in a position to make its plans.

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3-2-28

4.

Number 53. The Canadian Mission are offering to us the use of their land near the university for the Theological College buildings. As soon as this is ratified by their Home Board we will probably formally accept this as our site. In the meantime we are working on a suggested layout and have the help of Mr. D. Dye who is particularly good at this kind of work. When we have anything evolved to our satisfaction we will notify the Board of Governors and the supporting Boards. There are some graves on the property but we have the assistance of the university for their removal and have hopes that this will soon be accomplished. We do not expect to plan for large and expensive buildings but are anxious that they should all be suitable to the work, substantial and well-finished.

I think these are all the comments that I wish to make. All of which is respectfully submitted,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo W. Sparling.*

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3-2-38

Number 53. The Canadian Mission are offering to use the use of their land near the university for the proposed College buildings. As soon as this is settled by their Land Board we will probably formally accept this as our site. In the meantime we are working on a suggested layout and have the help of Mr. ... who is particularly good at this kind of work. When we have anything evolved to our satisfaction we will notify the Board of Governors and the supporting boards. There are some errors on the property but we have the assistance of the university for their removal and have hoped that this will soon be accomplished. We do not expect to plan for large and expensive buildings but we expect that they should all be suitable to the work, substantial and well-finished.

I think that on all the comments that I wish to make. All of which have been carefully examined.

Yours sincerely,

*W. W. ...*

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

私立華西



協合大學

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

CHENGDU, SZECHWAN

COPY FOR DR. GARSIDE.

INDEXED

March 21st 1938.

Rev. Frank Anderson, M.A., D.D.,  
26, Grosvenor Street,  
LONDON, Ontario, Canada.

Dear Dr. Anderson,

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 5th, and the minutes are enclosed. There are a few items upon which I would like to make comment.

One of the outstanding features of the President's report (enclosed) concerned the large number of students now attending the University. Our enrolment is over six hundred, the largest in our history. Besides this large number there are students from several down-river institutions visiting us, bringing the student body on our campus to over one thousand. It was a source of satisfaction to the Board of Directors that it has been possible for the University to offer accommodation and assistance to the staff and students of these Universities which have been compelled to come to West China for a temporary period. Some of the students from these visiting institutions have entered our regular classes; other Universities are carrying on classes independently. Assistance is also being given by members of the staff of other universities in teaching some of our classes, whilst some of our teachers are helping with the teaching of their students.

While we hope that their residence with us will not be too prolonged, i.e. that the reason for their coming will soon be removed, we are glad to give them a hearty welcome and to assist them in every possible way.

*the* We bespeak on behalf of this increased student body the generous support of Board of Founders both in respect to the budget for maintenance and also for certain temporary buildings which we have been obliged to erect. We would take this opportunity to thank the Board for the extra assistance they have already given - Gold \$5,000 for maintenance and \$5,000 for the erection of the Hospital Laundry, to be used temporarily by the University of Nanking for administrative and teaching purposes. You will note in the report the grants from the National and Provincial Governments towards the provision of temporary accommodation for these guest students and staff members.

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY



CHENGDU, SICHUAN

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

COPY FOR DR. GARSDIE

INDEXED

March 21st 1938

Rev. Frank Anderson, M.A., D.D.,  
28, Grosvenor Street,  
LONDON, Ontario, Canada.

Dear Dr. Anderson,

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 25th, and the minutes are enclosed. There are a few items upon which I would like to make comment.

One of the outstanding features of the President's report (enclosed) concerned the large number of students now attending the University. Our enrollment is over six hundred, the largest in our history. Besides this large number there are students from several down-river institutions visiting us, bringing the student body on our campus to over one thousand. It was a source of satisfaction to the Board of Directors that it has been possible for the University to offer accommodation and assistance to the staff and students of these Universities which have been compelled to come to West China for a temporary period. Some of the students from these visiting institutions have entered our regular classes; other Universities are carrying on classes independently. Assisted in teaching some of our of the staff of other universities in teaching with the classes, whilst some of our teachers are helping with the teaching of their students.

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3-21-38

It is this generous support of both the Government and of our Board of Founders that has made it possible for us to meet this unprecedented emergency in the history of our University.

With regard to the Pharmacy Building - after reading the correspondence from Dr. Meuser, minutes and correspondence from the Founders, the enclosed minute of the Board of Directors was passed. Here are set forth details as to the nature and use of this Pharmacy Building when erected.

You will notice that a committee has been appointed charged with the responsibility of preparing plans and detailed estimates for the proposed building and that when these have been prepared we recommend that the Board of Founders invite Dr. Meuser to represent them in the securing of funds for the Building in Canada and in the United States.

The contractual statement for the Goucher School is chiefly a matter of local arrangement, but we would request formal ratification by the Board of Founders. In view of the present situation in the School all concerned would be deeply grateful if after the Board meeting a cable might be sent stating "Goucher accepted", i.e. of course if the statement is approved.

We would draw the attention of the Board of Founders to the urgent need for increased facilities for clinical hospital work. There has been a large increase in the number of our own students taking Medicine, and we now have students from Cheeloo Medical School, as well as from the National Central University College of Medicine, to care for, so that this need is an extremely urgent one. Our recommendation is that of the \$20,000 estimated as necessary for the erection of Isolation Block, the Board of Founders raise one half and the Provincial Government one half. We would commend this need to the immediate attention of the Board.

In the Constitution of the Board of Directors as agreed upon by the Board of Founders Article VIII states that the General Faculty of the University "shall consist of all professors, associate professors, assistant professors and such other members of the teaching or official staff as the Faculty may elect thereto." But, according to Government regulations the membership of the General Faculty is limited. Our recommendation to the Board of Founders is that a change be made in the Constitution of the Board of Directors so that the membership of the General Faculty shall harmonise with the regulations of the Government.

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It is this generous support of both the Government and of our Board of Founders that has made it possible for us to meet this unprecedented emergency in the history of our University.

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U. N. I. V. E. R. S. I. T. Y.  
APR 26 1938  
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It is gratifying to realize that our University and its possibilities are becoming known to the Chinese people not only in West China, but throughout the whole land. This is largely due to the recognition that we have received from the Government of China, to the good work being done by graduates who have left our halls, and to the generous support of our constituency both in the home lands and in China.

With all good wishes for a successful Board meeting,

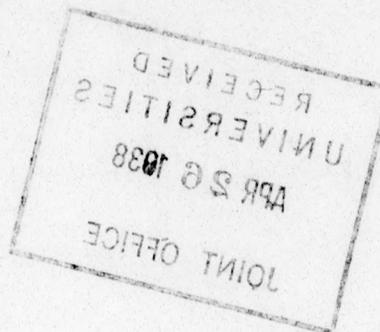
Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

English Secretary,  
Board of Directors.

GWS/MR.



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0828

3-21-38

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It is gratifying to realize that our University and its possibilities are becoming known to the Chinese people not only in West China, but throughout the whole land. This is largely due to the recognition that we have received from the Government of China, to the good work being done by graduates who have left our halls, and to the generous support of our constituency both in the home land and in China.

With all good wishes for a successful Board meeting,

believe me,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Boardman*

English Secretary,  
Board of Directors.

GWB/MB

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0829

return to Dr Anderson

WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

No 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

March 25th., 1938.

Rev. Frank Anderson, D. D.,  
Secretary of the Board of Governors,  
London, Ontario,

Dear Dr. Anderson,

B  
As We have told you before, the Mission of the United Church of Canada are offering to the Theological College the use of a piece a property which they own and which is in proximity to the university. We expect that this offer will be confirmed by the Home Board at its next meeting and then we will know definitely that we have the use of this site. The College work is now being carried on in buildings which are on this property. These buildings are suitable as temporary quarters but only until such time as other and more permanent buildings are erected.

We are enclosing herewith a rough sketch of a possible layout for these future buildings. The large area marked I is the area which we expect to use. On the other part are already erected a dormitory for the use of students who are now in Chengtu but who belong to Nanking university and also accomodation for some of their teachers.

On the drawing which represents our proposed layout you will see indicated in the centre a large quadrangle. This quadrangle, we plan will contain our college buildings apart from teachers residences and dormitories. We plan for four or five residences for teachers which will be situated behind the college. On one side are two dormitories for men students and on the other side one dormitory for women students. In the centre will be located the chapel, library, classrooms, offices and other buidlings necessary to carry on the work. This will be the main part of the college. At the head of the quadrangle will be situated a chapel which we want to be as nice and attractive as possible though not too expensive.

The time has come when definite efforts s should be made to secure funds for these buildings. Probably special appeals could be made through the various Boards for particular units of this layout. It might be that some one could be found who would contribute funds for the chapel building and another for a residence or a dormitory or perhaps the library.

Until more specific plans are drawn, it will not be possible to give the exact estimate for any of these buildings but an estimate close enough can be given. The chapel would probably cost about gold \$5000. Each residence Gold\$ 2500 Each dormitory Gold\$ 3000. Classroom and office buildings, two of these, each Gold \$5000. Walls, gatehouse etc Gold \$2500. We expect that all of the buildings in the quadrangle will be one storey while the residences and the dormitories will be two stories.

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NO. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

3-25-38

2.

The total of this estimate is \$36500. This sum would give us a plant which should be satisfactory, attractive and substantial. There are a number of questions which we must take time to consider, for example, whether the material used should be brick or wood. The cost will not vary very much between the two but there are advantages in each which we will have to weigh.

Just yesterday I received a letter from Shanghai stating that the Nanking Theological Seminary staff are considering whether they should come to Chengtu to carry on their work next Autumn. We are hoping that they will decide to come though from the standpoint of buildings we have not much to offer for their accomodation. If they come, it will be necessary to erect buildings for their accomodation. The Board of Governors will probably have more recent news of their plans than we have here in West China.

On the second page of drawings we have a style of buildings suggested by Mr. Dye. You will see that in it, is an effort to conform to Chinese style of architecture and at the same time have a suitable and attractive layout. These drawings have not been before our committee and so are not final but are sent forth as a suggested style of buildings. Before building is begun this suggestion along with others will receive careful consideration by our committee. If any members of the Board of Governors have suggestions as to type of building to be erected, we will be glad to receive them.

Our progress now depends on securing funds for the college and in this we are entirely dependent on our home constituency. We trust that at this annual meeting of the Board of Governors steps will be taken which will make it possible for us to proceed.

~~With kind regards,~~

Yours sincerely,

Geo. W. Sparling.

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The total of this estimate is \$36500. This sum would give us a plant which should be satisfactory, attractive and substantial. There are a number of questions which we must take time to consider for example, whether the material used should be brick or wood. The cost will not vary much between the two but there are advantages in each which we will have to weigh.

Just yesterday a letter from Shanghai stating that the Board of Governors will probably be held here in West China, offering for their consideration to erect buildings for the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors will probably be held here in West China, offering for their consideration to erect buildings for the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors will probably be held here in West China, offering for their consideration to erect buildings for the Board of Governors.

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On the second page of drawings we have a table of buildings suggested by Mr. Dye. You will see that in it is an effort to conform to Chinese style of architecture and at the same time have a suitable and attractive layout. These drawings have not been before our committee and we are not final but we are sure that a committee of our members will receive them with interest. It is our hope that the Board of Governors will be glad to receive them. Our progress now depends on securing funds for the college and in this we are entirely dependent on our home constituency. It is our hope that at this annual meeting of the Board of Governors steps will be taken which will make it possible for us to proceed.

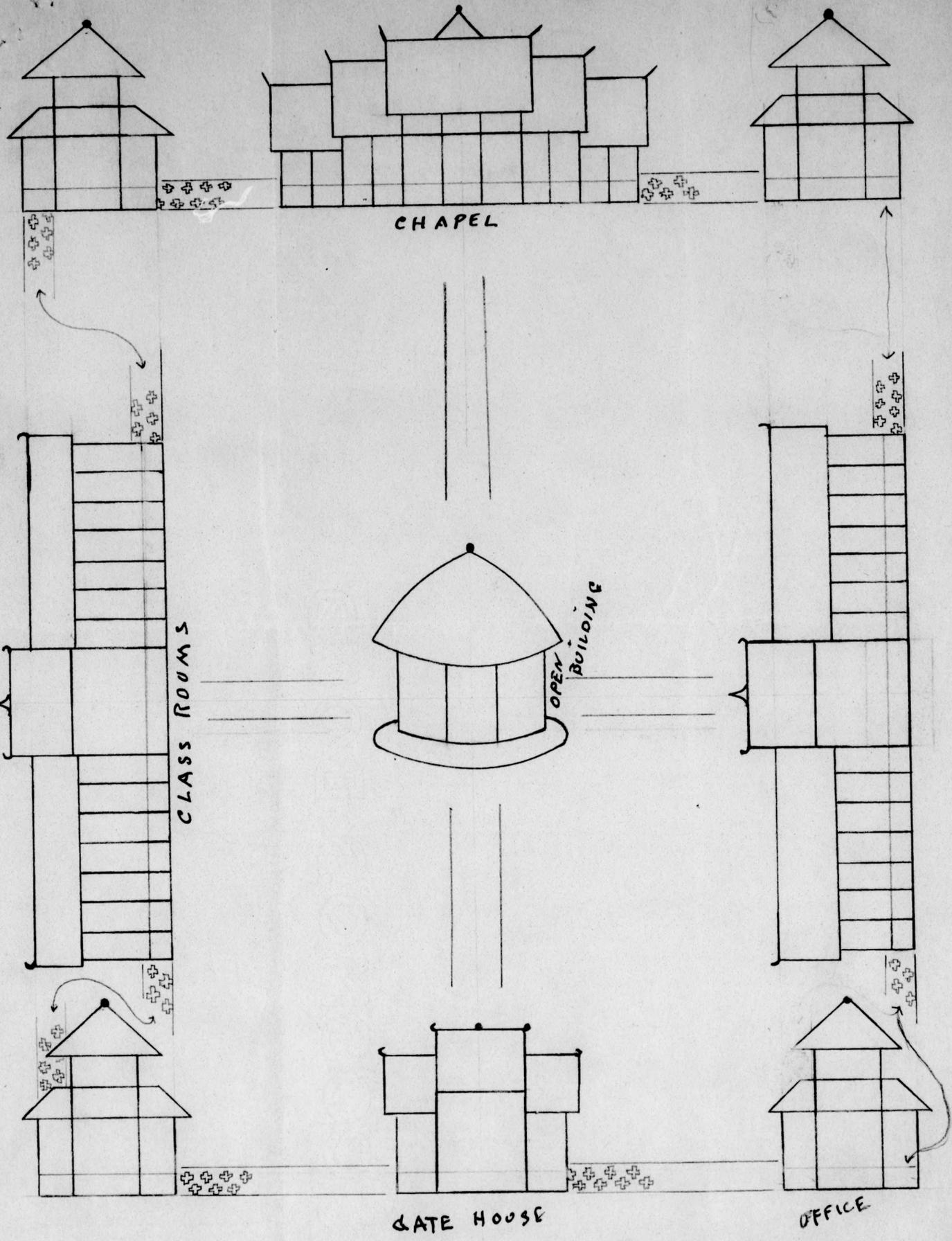
With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*W. B. Spalding*

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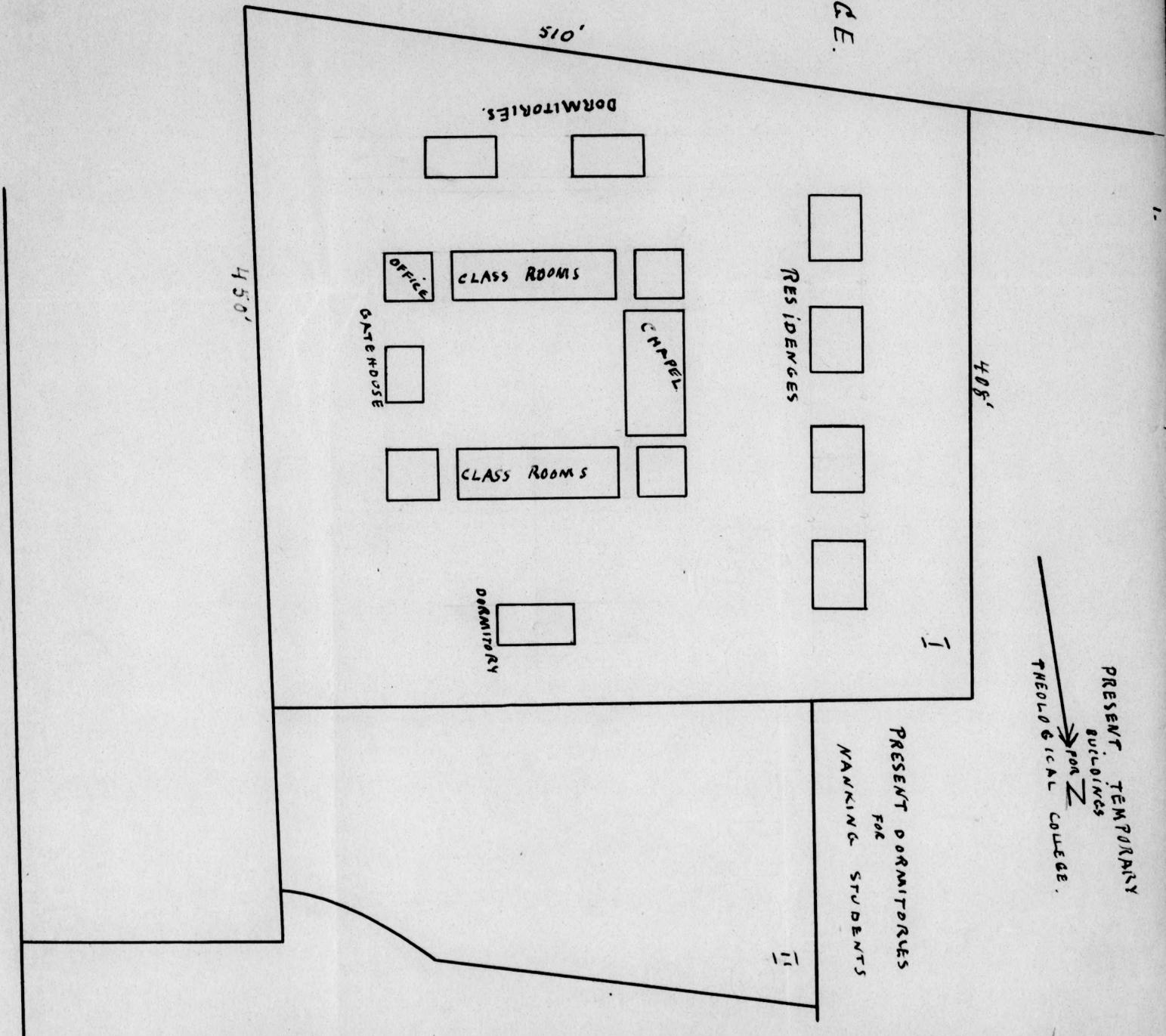
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0833

LAYOUT OF BUILDINGS.

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.  
WEST CHINA

SITE FOR THE  
THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE  
- 50 ENGLISH ACRES.  
CHENG TU  
WEST CHINA



*Serial out, C.S.*  
Union Theological College,  
Chengtú, West China, June 24th/38.

The Board of Governors,  
New York,

Dear Friends,

A few days ago we received word from the Nanking Theological Seminary that their Rural Church Department will come to Chengtu. You may already be acquainted with the fact. We are pleased that they are coming and will do our best to cooperate with them.

The coming of this letter has given us certain heavy responsibilities chief of which is the housing of the group. We have no houses or buildings which could be fitted for this purpose. We called a meeting of our Management yesterday and I am enclosing the minutes of that meeting. These minutes will all be self-explanatory.

Minutes nos 3 and 4 are the ones on which we would like the Board of Governors to take action. If we do not secure funds for the purpose mentioned we will be greatly embarrassed. Some time ago we had a letter from Dr. Beech inquiring how much money we would need to make temporary provision for Nanking teachers. At that time we knew nothing of their coming but now it is definite and we make our definite request. We do not want to erect temporary buildings as the buildings which we are now using are all temporary and we think it would be much wiser to erect buildings which would be a part of our permanent plant. We have the site ready for the plant if we were able to proceed with building.

Letters sent by regular mail are very slow in reaching us. We have not had any word since the meeting of the Executive. Letters sent by air mail via England reach us in less than three weeks. I believe the meeting of the Board is on July 26th. We will have to wait until after that before we can make any preparations for these people from down river. I am going to the hills for July but will come down in August. We would like a cable from the Board to say whether any money has been supplied according to the request. We would also like to hear as soon as possible concerning our regular maintenance budget. At present we have no money whatever except that which has been paid by the Canadian Mission but part of which we have been forced to use in the preparation of a house for Mr Wang our teacher.

I am sending this letter by Clipper so that it will reach you in time for the meeting. This also accounts for the style of paper used which you will pardon.

We trust that the meeting of the Board will be a good one. We are glad that Mr Silcock is to be with you. These are days of wonderful opportunity in China but opportunity carries with it heavy responsibility.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling.*

*Copy sent to  
Dr Anderson*

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June 15, 1938

The Board of Governors  
West China Union University

Dear Friends:

In view of the approaching meeting of the Board of Governors we are anxious that another letter should reach you so that you may have before that meeting the latest information concerning our Theological College. We have not yet received any letter since the meeting of the Executive on the Fourth of May so you will pardon us if any suggestions made here seem superfluous in the light of action taken at that time.

As time passes and our work in the college becomes established we are able to see more and more clearly the place that this work will have in the future development of the Christian Church in West China. The church and its place in Society is being recognized in this land but the question is whether we will be strong enough to go up and "possess it." This will largely depend upon the kind of leadership we are able to furnish. Just the other day, Mr. Li who is the head of the Department of Agriculture in our University requested our College to give a course in religion to their special students in agriculture. His remark was that they wanted those students to see the place of religion in life and in relation to their other studies. He said, "It is being recommended by some men in command of the army that Bible classes should be held among the soldiers for it has been found that where these soldiers see the place of religion in their lives they make braver and better men. If such is true with soldiers, it will hold just as strongly with students."

There is an ever increasing place for men and women who have a good, sane and vital knowledge of the message of the Bible. This is the sphere of the church and upon our College rests the responsibility of providing these leaders in increasing numbers. We are very pleased with the prospective enrolment for next year. This year we have had only four students but they have been good men and all of university grade. Our applicants for next year up-to-date include the following: four men and two women for the regular class which requires Senior Middle School graduation and ten students for the lower grade class which requires Junior Middle School graduation for entrance. Besides these we have had intimations from four students of higher grade. Two of these have taken work elsewhere and will take our fourth year work and graduate next summer. There are also two students who wish post-graduate work in Theology. Two of these four are men and two are women. This will give us an enrolment of about twenty-five students next year. When during the following two years we add two or three more classes we will have quite a good sized student group.

This will require an increased staff. Our staff at present consists of two full time teachers, Mr. Wallace Wang and myself. We are also engaging Rev. Li Yao Dong from Nanking to give us half of his time. Rev. A. Lutley of the Church Missionary Society will also give us considerable time. Besides these we have other who are teaching one course each. We should have another full time Chinese teacher and before long we hope that each Mission will give one Missionary full time to this work.

Just at the moment we are arranging our staff for next year but have no knowledge of what finance will be provided. The Missions have made only one payment to the work of the college and we have now completed one year and that money has been expended. We are acting on faith. We have presented our budget which calls for a grant of \$6000 local currency. With our expanding work this will all be required. As we said in the former letter we hope that this amount will be provided. We also hope that some way will be devised whereby some assurance can be given that

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G.W.Sparling

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June 15, 1938

this amount will be provided each year. We will be greatly embarrassed, if after our Chinese teachers have been engaged and other commitments made, we are told that it is impossible to meet our needs.

We are glad to be able to report that the site which we have, that is, which has been offered to us by the Mission of the United Church of Canada is being cleared of graves. Right in the centre of this property are two large groups of graves in which there are five hundred. When the Government Broadcasting Station appropriated some of our land for their buildings they spoiled the property as a building site because of the presence of these graves. Mr. Chow, who is the official in charge of this station agreed to help remove these graves. and during the past week about fifty men have been busy opening graves, taking out the bones, placing them in large jars and carrying them away for burial elsewhere. When this is all completed we have a better building site than before the other fields were appropriated.

When this land is cleared of the graves we will be in a position to plan definitely for our future buildings. The first thing necessary will be a wall around the property. If we had the money for that we could thus enclose our building site, plant trees and make use of money for the buildings as it is provided. We can carry on in our temporary buildings for the present and during the time necessary to erect the plant, but a beginning could be made at any time. We have already given a preliminary estimate of buildings required.

We have not yet had any definite word from Nanking Theological Seminary concerning their plans for next year. They will probably try to carry on their work at some point down river though we hear of some students who are planning to come to our institution. It is necessary that we be able to stabilize our work and let it be known that we are planning for a complete four year course for our students. We already feel that confidence in our future is growing for which we are grateful.

Chengtu remains quiet and one would judge confident that the final result of this struggle with Japan will not be the defeat of China. The Japanese are now marching towards Hankow but the Chinese are prepared to put up a strong resistance. The farther west they come the more we are in danger so we are naturally hoping that they will be halted before taking that city. We cannot but admire the way in which China has united her forces and is determined that she will not be conquered.

With kind regards and best wishes to all members of the Board, I am

Yours sincerely

GEORGE W. SPARLING

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Union Theological College  
Chengtu, west China  
June 24, 1938

The Board of Governors  
New York

Dear Friends,

A few days ago we received word from the Nanking Theological Seminary that their Rural Church Department will come to Chengtu. You may already be acquainted with the fact. We are pleased that they are coming and will do our best to cooperate with them.

The coming of this letter has given us certain heavy responsibilities chief of which is the housing of the group. We have no houses or buildings which could be fitted for this purpose. We called a meeting of our Management yesterday and I am enclosing the minutes of that meeting. These minutes will all be self-explanatory.

Minutes # 3 and 4 are the ones on which we would like the Board of Governors to take action. If we do not secure funds for the purpose mentioned we will be greatly embarrassed. Some time ago we had a letter from Dr. Beech inquiring how much money we would need to make temporary provision for Nanking teachers. At that time we knew nothing of their coming but now it is definite and we make our definite request. We do not want to erect temporary buildings as the buildings which we are now using are all temporary and we think it would be much wiser to erect buildings which would be a part of our permanent plant. We have the site ready for the plant if we were able to proceed with building.

Letters sent by regular mail are very slow in reaching us. We have not had any word since the meeting of the Executive Committee. Letters sent by air-mail via England reach us in less than three weeks. I believe the meeting of the Board is on July 26th. We will have to wait until after that before we can make any preparations for these people from down river. We would like a cable from the Board to say whether any money has been supplied according to the request. We would also like to hear as soon as possible concerning our regular maintenance budget. At present we have no money whatever except that which has been paid by the Canadian Mission but part of which we have been forced to use in the preparation of a house for Mr. Wang our teacher.

I am sending this letter by clipper so that it will reach you in time for the meeting. We trust that the meeting of the Board will be a good one. We are glad that Mr. Silcock is to be with you. These are days of wonderful opportunity in China, but opportunity carries with it heavy responsibility.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

GEORGE W. SPARLING

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MINUTES OF MEETING  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

June 23rd, 1938  
Chengtú, China

Members present

Dr. J. Moncrieff  
Miss F. Fee  
Miss C. Trotter  
Rev. A. Lutley  
Bishop C.T. Song

Rev. E. Hibbard  
Rev. H.G. Brown  
Rev. Y.D. Li  
Mr. R.L. Simpkin  
Rev. V. Donnithorne

Rev. A. Maxwell  
Rev. F. Smalley  
Rev. O. Stockwell  
Mr. W. Wang  
Rev. G.W. Sparling

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Dr. Sparling.

Some correspondence was read including a letter from Mr. Dean Sage of New York.

A letter from Dr. Handel Lee, President of Nanking Theological Seminary was read in which he stated that their Board of Management had accepted our invitation to come to West China. That is that the Rural Church Department of the Seminary would come and cooperate with us after the summer. Their suggestions for cooperation are as follows:

1. They will loan their staff of the Rural Church Department to our College for the coming year for one year.
2. Professor Frank Price will be appointed to our College upon his return from the Madras Conference in January 1939, to the end of the school year.
3. Mr. Chow Ming-i, director of Rural extension work, Rev. Chu Ging-i and Mr. Yu Mo Ren will be loaned to our college for one year.
4. Their salaries and travel expenses will be paid by Nanking Seminary. They expect our College to provide residences for them.

1. Resolved. that we write to the Nanking Theological Seminary stating that we are glad that they are able to come to Chengtu to cooperate with us next year. That we consult with them as soon as they arrive as to the course which they will give in the college and the work that they might do in the province during the year. We would make the following tentative suggestions. we will have four classes of students, one post-graduate and that they might offer three subjects to this class. To the class of the regular grade they might offer two subjects. To the Junior grade class they might offer three subjects and to the special short term classes three or four subjects. we would also suggest that institutes be held during the year at different points in the province at which one representative might teach.

2. Resolved. in view of the coming of the Nanking group to admit special short term classes throughout the year. These classes will last for six weeks each and two will be held in the Fall term and two in the Spring term. The courses given will be consecutive so that any one may remain for one course or for more. The students will be responsible for their own board and a fee of two dollars will be charged for each six weeks course. The curriculum will consist of courses in religion and rural church work.

The Nanking Theological Seminary have suggested that we be responsible for the housing of the teachers who are coming to work in our College. At present we have no residences so it will be necessary to rent buildings. It will also be necessary to prepare all the rooms in our temporary buildings for dormitory space and teachers' offices.

June 23, 1938

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Minutes of  
Union Theological Colleges

3. Resolved. to request the Board of Governors to supply an emergency maintenance fund of Gold \$1000 to cover cost of rental and repairs of buildings.
4. Resolved. Also to request the Boards of Governors to supply Gold \$1500 for the erection of residences. The graves are now removed from our property and we are free to begin on the erection of our permanent plant.
5. Resolved. That a committee be appointed consisting of S.C.Yang, E. Hibbard, W.Wang and G.W.Sparling to secure houses for the Nanking teachers.

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Adjournment.

G.W.SPARKING

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July 27, 1938

Dr. George W. Sparling  
West China Union University  
Chengtou, West China

My dear Dr. Sparling:

I am sure you will be glad to know that we have had a well attended, and I think fruitful meeting of the Board of Governors during the last two days. There was a very full agenda, but the Union Theological College received attention on the first day, and I think it is true to say that a very large amount of time was allotted to its concerns. I am writing by airmail to give you the results.

Relations. The statement of relations contained in Minute 47 of the Board of Managers was passed in a modified form. This is given in the separate sheet attached.

Budget. You will have received the memorandum which I sent to the co-operating mission boards regarding the financial situation of the Theological College. I am afraid the replies will be somewhat disappointing. The United Church of Canada and the American Baptists granted \$1,000 each. The Friends replied that they would have to consider the matter further, and the C.M.S. were prepared to make an allocation on the basis of their being 1/3 of one unit in the organization, but the matter is referred to the body representing them on the field. The Board instructed me to write again to the boards which had not yet acted, pressing the matter again upon them in the strongest way and stating that they consider the budget of the College to be eminently reasonable, and the work of the highest importance. My own feeling is that those responsible for obtaining the annual grants towards the College should be the bodies on the field rather than myself as representing the Board of Governors. I cannot help thinking that if the bodies on the field reported their needs in the strongest terms to their supporters at home, while the Board of Governors at the same time endorsed and passed on their requests to the mission boards, this method of attack might be more fruitful.

Building. With regard to the building program, after a full discussion, the following resolution, which was carefully worded, was passed:-

RESOLVED that the Board of Governors has heard with sympathy of the hopes and plans of the Board of Management of the Union Theological College for the building of a suitable plant. It will await with interest the promised and more detailed plans. Meanwhile, it would express the opinion that present conditions in China are not propitious for the final decision on the building of a permanent plant, or a favorable response from the supporters of the Mission Boards on behalf of such a project. The Board of Governors would advise further study of this matter by the Board of Management, and will give careful consideration to recommendations that may result from this.

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Dr. Sparling

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July 28, 1938

I may add that no one of the cooperating units was prepared to vote the quater of Gold \$36,500 for which the Board of Management asked.

Accomodation of Nanking Students This matter was also discussed and Dr. Beech somewhat quaintly said "let them bring their houses with them." This appeared to represent the sense of the meeting and it was resolved to request the Board of Management to refer this matter to the Board of Founders of the Nanking Theological Seminary. This would seem to me to be a reasonable suggestion. Dr. Beech also mentioned some temporary quarters that might be available. You, no doubt, have already considered the situation from this angle.

I asked the Board whether I should cable all or any portion of the above action, but they said that they could not see that there was any necessity so to do, and that if I wrote by Clipper mail, it would fully meet the situation.

I shall take immediate steps to communicate again with the Boards, and propose that at the same time you get the Missions on the field to place their needs before their Boards at home.

Warmest regards,

Yours sincerely

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1. The Board of Management represents the churches on the field as the Board of Governors represents the supporting Mission Boards. Thus through the two Boards the Churches and Mission Boards may conveniently cooperate.

2. The Board of Management will from time to time consider the policy and plans of the college and when they wish to make recommendations to the supporting Mission Boards will send these to the Board of Governors where the representatives of the supporting Boards can jointly discuss them and, where desirable, agree in a united response.

3. The supporting Boards or one or more of them may wish from time to time to send recommendations in regard to the policy and plans of the college to the field. These would usually first come before the Board of Governors for joint consideration, findings being sent to the Board of Management.

4. Appeals for finances for the maintenance of the college will be forwarded year by year by the Board of Management to the churches on the field, and to the supporting Mission Boards, and to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors as it considers this appeal may have two courses of action -

a) After considering the appeal they may recommend to each supporting Mission Board its share of the budget for the year.

b) They may initiate plans for the securing of funds for the maintenance of the college in addition to the amounts provided by the supporting Mission Boards.

5. The Board of Governors may consider such plans for the buildings necessary for the college as may be submitted by the Board of Managers, and make recommendations thereon. They may consider the finances necessary for the buildings and solicit funds for them through the supporting Boards and other units.

6. The staffing of the college is the responsibility of the Board of Management and this Board besides making appeals to the churches on the field may make appeals for the staffing of the college to the Board of Governors who will consider them and forward their recommendations to the supporting Mission Boards.

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

No. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

September 1st., 1938,

Dr. F. Anderson,  
Secretary of the Board of Governors,  
London, Ont.

Dear Dr. Anderson,

I was very glad to receive a day or two ago your letter written after the meeting of the Board of Governors in New York. It was a little disappointing to hear that only two mission boards had really assumed a share of the budget for this year. I think your suggestion that members of the various missions on the field should write to their home boards advocating the cause of the Theological is a good one. Accordingly I have seen or written to various members of these missions and they have assured me that they would do what we suggested.

In talking to some of these members of various missions I find that they are not agreed that each mission should be regarded as a unit and expected to raise one sixth of the budget. Some missions are stronger in West China than others and get much more out of the college. I note that your letter stated that the representative of the C.M.S. stated that they might assume one third of a unit. The Friends also can hardly be expected to assume a full share.

Probably some time throughout this year we will take up this question in a joint meeting of representatives of the missions and discuss it. A meeting of our Board of Management might be the place. We should come to some definite understanding so that the College will be assured of support. We might be able to recommend a method of dividing the budget among the missions other than equal sharing.

We will continue to work on plans for a permanent layout and be ready to build when money is available. We hope that the need for money for this permanent plant will be kept before our people.

Our college will open for the autumn in about ten days. Prospects are good. We will have over twenty students of our own and we expect some from down river.

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling.*

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

No. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Nov. 8th, 38.

Dr. F. Anderson,  
Secretary of the Board of Governors,  
London, Canada.

Dear. Dr. Anderson,

You will find enclosed a copy of the last minutes of our Board of Management meeting. There were two reasons for holding this meeting at this time. We are expecting that some representatives from participating Boards may visit us after the conference at Madras. We desired to have a meeting which would more or less be a preliminary to their coming as there were a few matters which I wished to bring before the members of the Board so that they could have them on their minds and be prepared to discuss them at that time. Mr. Wallace Wang, our Deam, will leave for Madras next Friday and it was very desirable that we should have this meeting before he left.

You will notice by #67 that we have acted on your suggestion that missionaries on the field should write to their respective Boards urging the needs of the college. We hope that there will be some results from this. #69 gives an idea of the discussion which we had concerning the division of the budget among the Boards. This recommendation is only a tentative one and will serve as the basis of a further discussion next winter when some representatives from home are present. As you know, at present only part of our budget requirements ~~##~~ is being met which is quite serious for us. We should work at this question until we have found a division which is acceptable to all of the Boards.

A copy of a report which I prepared is also enclosed. Since it was prepared one teacher, Mr Chow Ming-yi, has arrived from Nanking and also two students. We are expecting two more teachers and probably two or more students. Transportation is very difficult to secure so they are being delayed on the way.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

*I have sent a copy of the minutes to  
Dr. Garside.*

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

No. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Nov. 8th, 38.

*ack 12/20/38*

Dr. B. A. Garside,  
150 Fifth Ave,  
New York,

Dear Dr. Garside,

Enclosed you will find a copy of the minutes of the last meeting of our Board of Management. I have also sent copies to Dr. Anderson in London.

The most important question that we had before us was that referred to in #69 namely how to find a division of the budget which would be acceptable to all of the participating Boards. The present method does not seem to meet with the approval of the Missions and the College is faring badly. We will have further discussion concerning this question at our next meeting.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE  
CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NO 81 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南門外下街五十一號

CHENG TU WEST CHINA

Nov. 28, 38

Dr. B. A. Garstide,  
150 Fifth Ave,  
New York

Dear Dr. Garstide,

Enclosed you will find a copy of the minutes of the last meeting of our Board of Management. I have also sent copies to Dr. Anderson in London.

The most important question that we had before us was that referred to in W-3 namely how to find a division of the budget which would be acceptable to all of the participating Boards. The present method does not seem to meet with the approval of the Missions and the College is faring badly. We will have further discussion concerning this question at our next meeting.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*W. W. Spaulding*

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**WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

No. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Dec. 12th, 38.

Dr. F. Anderson,  
66 Grosvenor Street, London,

Dea. Br. Anderson,

Enclosed is a copy of a picture of our group in the college. We have twenty-two students who are all in the picture as well as three teachers. We have three teachers from Nanking Theological College and they are doing good work with us. We were able to fix up a place for one of the families while the other went to live in rooms at our church in the city. The third is a single man, at least his family is not with him here, and he has a room in our dormitory. A letter from Dr. Frank Price tells us that he will be coming to work with us after the conference at Madras.

We wish it was possible to find some way of securing some money for building but the Board of Governor thinks that it is not a good time to solicit funds. However we would like to keep our needs before them and hope for some response before long.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Geo. W. Sparling*

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NO. 51 CHIANG SHI SHIA KAI

成都外南漿洗下街五十一號

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

Dec. 12th, '38.

Dr. F. Anderson,  
66 Grosvenor Street, London,

Dea. Dr. Anderson,

Enclosed is a copy of a picture of our group in the college. We have twenty-two students who are all in the picture as well as three teachers. We have three teachers from Nanking Theological College and they are doing good work with us. We were able to fix up a place for one of the families while the other went to live in rooms at our church in the city. The third is a single man, at least his family is not with him here, and he has a room in our dormitory. A letter from Dr. Frank Price tells us that he will be coming to work with us after the conference at Madras.

We wish it was possible to find some way of securing some money for building but the Board of Governor thinks that it is not a good time to solicit funds. However we would like to keep our needs before them and hope for some response before long.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Leo. W. Sparling*

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