Yenching
Corres.
Boring, Alice 1944 Sept.-1947
1949

September 6, 1944

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

We had unwelcome but pretty reliable information last week that during the next six months it is extremely unlikely that any missionaries other than doctors and nurses will be given passports for China. A few other special cases, where the work they will do on arrival contributes very directly to the war effort and the keeping up of morale, may get by, but the advice is not to push for others. In this latter category Mr. Claude Thomson evidently falls, for the Presbyterian office told us at almost the same time that we got this word that his passport has been granted. I think it is his recent work in public health and his projected studies in nutrition, which we stressed in our letter to Mrs. Shipley, that boosted him over the hurdle.

The situation being what it is I think you can probably settle down to a quiet semester of work. Perhaps by February or March things will ease up enough to give promise of success in pushing your application. But I do not believe it will do a bit of good to try now. Incidentally, I don't believe either Ran Sailer or Marnie Speer would have had any luck if they had tried to get back to Yenching this year.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle Ballou

EB/mo

1331

September 6, 1944

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

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Very sincerely yours,

Earle Ballou

EB/mc

September 20, 1944

Miss Alice Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Prof. W. A. Adolph
103 Eddy Street
Ithaca, N.Y.

Dear friends:

Here on a separate sheet is an excerpt from a letter I have been writing to Miss Grace Boynton--the paragraphs dealing with her anxiety regarding Dr. Stuart.

I am sorry it seemed unwise to send as definite a statement as was originally intended. Folks here in this office and Miss Ferguson also felt it would be wiser to be a bit guarded in the mention of names. Miss Ferguson, before she left Peking, arranged with Alfred Sun of the Chung Foo Bank for money to be sent in regularly, but through two or three different people, including Dr. Hoeppli in his strictly private capacity as friend of Dr. Houghton. Sun is a P.U.M.C. trustee and a good fellow. These arrangements may have fallen through, but there is no way of telling at this end. Before Dr. Forkner left China he was able to send by what he considered to be thoroughly reliable agents US$1000, and made it plain that more would be available when that amount was exhausted. He has gone back expecting to check on what has been done and to make whatever further arrangements may be desirable and possible. In each case there was no distinction whatever as between Dr. Stuart and the P.U.M.C. men. In fact Dr. Stuart keeps the accounts for the trio and does all the "suaning" with the cook. The extra food which Mrs. De Vargas has been sending in has almost certainly been provided from the funds for which Miss Ferguson arranged. No one to whom I have spoken is inclined to give any weight whatsoever to the interpretation put upon things by Philip Fugh.

Very sincerely yours,

Inc.
EHB/mmo

22th Sept. 1944
Yenching University
Chengtu, China

Dear Miss Boring:

One of our assistants, Mr. C. T. Chin has recently decided to go to Kunming, joining the Entomology research division of Tsinghua University, thus leaving one vacant position in our department of biology in Yenching. I suggested to the authorities that instead of taking another assistant, we will like to take Dr. Hui-lin Li (M.S. in Botany, Yenching, Ph. D. in Harvard) as assistant professor in botany. The motion was favorably passed by F. E. C. and the same committee suggested to ask your opinion. I think you know Dr. Li very well; he is an excellent scholar with very good character, and should be precious to any department of biology. By Dr. Li's joining us, we add no financial difficulties to the university, because the salaries of Mr. Chin for the whole year will cover the salaries of Dr. Li for half year. But it will strengthen the department a great deal and make the registration of the department in the Ministry of Education much easier. Soochow university and Central university are both thinking of inviting Dr. Li, but as Dr. Li wrote me, Yenching is his first choice. In order to loose no time in the decision and sending the invitation, I am enclosing a letter to Dr. Li, which I hope you will send it if you have no objection of his joining our department. His address is 'Academy of Natural Sciences, Phila. Penn.'.

What time will you be able to leave America? We are all expecting that you will be able to arrive here for the spring semester, and Dr. Li, if he is coming after all, to arrive at the same time.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joseph T. Chang

Joseph T. Chang

惠林：来信由 令婶處轉來收到，並高米務請查 見事此担任
生物系副教授（亦現為副教授）月薪伍拾元 大約為二百七十元
至二百九十元另加津貼（一）米貼——直屬親及本人米各一双斗
另加一双斗（二）生活津貼，薪水之百分之五十（三）生活指數津
貼，以先任指數百分之二十五乘之薪水百分之二十五 大約三項合計
約一万餘元，惟省房金，以目前成都生活程度計，一人生活尚足
足有餘。此西由博敦接處轉，共二份，因恐信件遺失，如蒙
見告，即請手續時可詢博敦接地址一時最好能偕
渠同返也。此西每〻不多述，代為購物事，弟明後日另有西直
接告者 兄也即此致回

匡 住

弟言切上 九月十二日

BALLOU

REC'D 9/28

ANS'D 9/30

BARD HALL
30 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

Sept. 27, 1944

Dear Dr. Ballou,

I am enclosing a letter from Ralph Lafwood for you to see. This settles the financial side - they can take care of me. I do not believe the need of me to carry on and let both Lafwood and Bard come home on furlough would count with the Passport Office?

As soon as you know when the P.U.M.C. meeting is to take place, and S.D. Wilson will be here, please let me know.

Please return the enclosed letter after you have copied any part you need.

Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

1338

September 30, 1944

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

Thanks so much for letting us share the letter from Mr. Lapwood, which I return herewith. It is most reassuring to learn that they have a place for you on their local budget when the time comes. I think, however, we should do all we can just the same to secure every bit of support we can on this side of the world.

With things as they are I doubt if we would get more than a rebuff by efforts to secure a passport for you before the beginning of the new year. The other evening Searle Bates and Plumer Mills both told me that they had been given a sort of promise that sooner or later their passports will be coming through. That was better word than I feared might be the case with them. But they are men--which in this case is something of an advantage--and they have rather special work awaiting them--and they do not yet have their passports! So I still feel there is nothing to be gained by pressing your case this autumn.

The PUMC meeting has now definitely been set for the afternoon of October 13. Word just came this morning, so it will probably be several days before we learn what Stanley's plans are. I will let you know as soon as I hear. I am a bit surprised by Lapwood's reference to the PUMC in his third paragraph where he mentions "... the apparent lack of any drive to ensure the future of PUMC ...." I do not know what he may have had in mind, but there is no lack of intention on the part of all the trustees known to me to reestablish the PUMC. Questions arise as to the scope of its program and the aspects of medicine which it will emphasize. Decisions on these matters will have to wait till we know, among other things, how many bricks both the Japanese and American bombers leave one upon the other.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Enc.
EHB/mcc

BALLOU

REC'D 10/28

ANS'D 10/28

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

Oct. 26, 1944

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Sorry I could not get away to come to the luncheon for Kung to-day.

Enclosed are two letters which I think you ought to see to keep in touch with the bombardment I am getting from Chengtu. Y. P. Mei expects me "by Christmas" and Ralph says that he and Bell Bard and Grace Boynton are all leaving next summer so I must be there before they leave — they are the only foreign faculty at Yenching now.

Also I think the Office should know about the plan Ralph speaks of for the Biology Department (the letter he speaks of from Chang Tsung-ping who is head of Biology at present has not arrived as yet). What is the procedure about the travel arrangements for Chinese in this country who return to Yenching to teach? Hsui-lin

was a graduate student at Yenching and is a very fine person. If the Biology Department is to carry out the ~~[illegible]~~ curriculum planned by the Ministry of Education, we certainly need a Botanist, so here is a good chance to get one. And wonderful F.E.C. is budgeting the salary. But how does he get out there? I want to write him and urge him to go to Yenching but before I write, I must know whether he can depend on our Office to make his travel plans for him.

Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

October 28, 1944

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall 50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

I have your letter of Thursday with the inclosed letters from Dr. Mei and Mr. Lapwood. Thank you for letting me share them.

I fear the hopes that you may be on the campus for Christmas and that the University may be back outside of Peking for the 1945-46 session are in the same category!

As to Mr. Li Hui-lin's return to Yenching, the procedure seems to be quite clear. Once he has been invited by the University and has accepted the invitation, and the University authorises this office to make travel arrangements, we will go ahead immediately in doing so. Nothing, however, can be initiated until such authorization comes. Should we learn that he has been invited and wants to accept the invitation, we would be glad to cable for the authorization; but treasury departments are proverbially and universally cautious about committing themselves in the matter of expenditures, and our Treasury Department is no exception to this rule. His travel would then be charged against University funds. You will know, or can find out in due course, whether any official move in the direction of invitation to him has been taken at Chengtu.

We really had a nice time with H.H. Thursday. He spoke in an intimate, personal manner, and some felt that it was even better than his remarks at the Yenching alumni dinner,--which certainly were better than any of the other speeches by him I have heard or seen in print.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

EHB/mcc

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

Nov. 6, 1944

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Enclosed are letters about inviting Dr. Li Hsü-hua to join the Yenching Biology Department as Botanist: (1) Dr. Chang Tsung-fung's letter to me asking for my approval; (2) Dr. Chang's letter to Li Hsü-hua in Chinese (I have a copy, I sent the original to Dr. Li), (3) Dr. Li Hsü-hua's reply to me, saying that he accepts the invitation, but can not leave until April at the earliest.

I do not know whether Dr. Chang's letter to Dr. Li is sufficient authorization for you to arrange for this travel but I presume you need authorization from Pres. Méi to spend the money. The idea that one semester's salary for an Assistant Professor will not cost and have than a year's salary for an Assistant is, but now, since Dr. Li's travel must be paid and in the

future Dr. Li will need a salary for two semesters in each year! However if we are to try & carry out the Ministry of Education's program we need a botanist, and Li Hsu-hu is a very fine person. I knew him when he was working for his M.A. at Yenching.

You had better keep the enclosed letters in the Yenching files. Dr. Chang sent two copies of his letters, one by British Embassy mailbag and one by airmail, but both were much delayed because he used a wrong address "150 Riverside Drive" instead of 150 Fifth Ave. The Embassy Bag copy arrived even later than the airmail one!

So I leave this matter in your hands. I cannot help wondering whether Dr. Van Benschoten, who is so much needed by Yenching Chemistry, could go out at the same time as Li Hsu-hu.

Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

BALLOU

REC'D 11/24

ANS'D 11/30

Nov. 21

Cancer Clinic
Hist. Pathology

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Ballou,

If Harry Price is coming soon is there any chance that he can take those three reading machines for microfilms that Ralph Fosbrooke asked J.D. Wilson to send out to Yenching, or have you already sent them?

If you have not bought them, I think Abmac is trying to find the best and simplest kind to send for the Medical Schools, so they might offer advice.

I suppose you know that Professor Joseph Needham, who has done so much for Science in China, will be in America by the middle of December. Mr. C. D. Lu who lives here in Bard Hall, was his

student and hears from him often. I wonder if he can help to get me out to Chengtu — he has lots of influence. And perhaps if Harry Price can not carry the Film-Reader, Needham will.

I have written Li Hsü-hsu to consider that he is appointed to the Biology Dept. And that the China College Office will arrange his travel, but that you will probably cable to be sure that everything is clearly understood.

As to Hsu Pengcheng, I think he told me that his job at Chicago teaching V12 Chemistry is finished in April. He is anxious to go out to Yenching, but has never been sure he wanted to. And yet letters from Lafayood wondering how soon he will arrive!!

Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

P.S. A letter from Grace Boynton says that the doctor has ordered her to leave in February before another hot season.

November 22, 1944
(dictated November 21)

Miss Alice Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

Inclosed is a copy of what I wrote to Dr. Li, with a brief personal postscript to you added. Miss Cockingham has looked up all the correspondence here with Dr. Hsu, and as nothing very definitive is contained in it, I have written to Y.P. suggesting action at the earliest date possible regarding both these men and that he cable us their decision.

I really think this is sufficient, especially because Stanley Wilson wrote me on October 21 that he was going to write to Chengtu and that the result, he confidently expected, would be a definite request for Hsu's return. As you probably know, Stanley saw Hsu at Chicago on his way back to California in October and feels sure he will be ready to return to Yenching in Free China.

I am sorry that for some reason the telephone was by no means clear yesterday and I had trouble in understanding just what you were saying once or twice. It evidently was some deficiency in the local instrument there with you. I am also sorry you had to drop so many nickels in the slot before our conversation was over! As you suggest, I am keeping the letters you sent on to complete our information regarding Dr. Li.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

i.e., Yenching

Inc.
EHB:mec

November 30, 1944
(dictated November 28)

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

I shall write to Hsu Peng-cheng within the next twenty-four hours confirming the position you and Stanley Wilson have taken as to the high probability of formal invitation coming from Yenching in the near future. I am sure we cannot do more regarding him from this office until that definite word from Chengtu.

We did not know that Professor Needham is headed this way, but are very glad to have the information. It has been in connection with his program that Professor Band has been working this past year. You, by the way, will be interested in the brochure written by him almost ready to come off the press, "Science in the Christian Universities at Chengtu."

I find on inquiry that Mr. Cameron has not gotten anywhere so far regarding the microfilm readers. He made the investigations, which were fruitless, and has been diverted by a multitude of other matters in connection with the departure of Claude Thomson. Now that that departure has taken place, he will continue his efforts. The suggestion that ABMAC may be able to help us is appreciated. Harry Price had already been alerted when I was in Washington week before last, but Dr. Lobenstine told me yesterday that he was still waiting at the end of last week (his brother Frank waited on the alert for 33 days before finally flying away, but Harry's priority is several degrees higher than Frank's). From my conversation with him I did not gain the impression that he would entertain the suggestion of carrying any extra parcels. There is a chance, however, that other facilities may become available before long, and as soon as we have the instruments in sight we will push matters.

You will be interested to know that a cablegram reached UCR only yesterday asking that we be informed that Y.P. is almost certainly coming here next spring as a guest of the State Department, in the same relationship that President Y.G.Chen of Nanking University bears. Furthermore they expect to announce "on anniversary" (December 8?) that the campaign for $10,000,000 has gone "over top." We are not releasing this, however, and will ask that it not be spread about for the present.

Yes, Wynn Fairfield and the American Board has been expecting now for some little time that Grace Boynton will leave Chengtu at the end of the first semester.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

EHB:mee

December 14, 1944

Miss Alice Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

On November 30 I sent Dr. Mei the following cable:

"If University contemplates inviting Li Hui-lin Hsu Peng-cheng please cable authorization thereby permitting us initiate lengthy travel negotiations."

On December 11 we had the following reply:

"Yenching definitely needs Hsu Peng-cheng earliest chance. Please negotiate travel." -- Y.P. Mei

What do you make out of this? It leaves us a bit out on a limb as regards Li Hui-lin. I remember definitely that you showed me a letter he had from Dr. Chang Tsung-ping and that you had a letter from Lapwood also referring to him and wanting him. To these letters I referred myself when I wrote Y.P. on October 25 and November 17. Of course he did not have my letters when he got my cable, but he must have known how Chang and Lapwood felt.

Meanwhile I have had a letter from Dr. Hsu in which he says, "I would like to go back to China about the end of June," (written December 7th, before the cable had come from Y.P.).

What do you think we had better do? Evidently Hsu does not want to start as early as we thought he might, and what about Li? I think I shall wait until hearing from you before I write anybody.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

EHB:mcc

BALLOU
REC'D 12/22
ANS'D 12/26

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

Dec. 19, 1944

Dear Mr. Ballou

I have taken a few days to think about what to do in relation to Han Pengcheng and Li Hui-lin. I tried to phone you this afternoon but you were out. I shall phone again tomorrow in case mails are delayed but I am also sending this letter as perhaps clearer than a phone conversation.

Since you asked me for suggestions I suggest that you send a copy of Pres. Mei's cable to Han Pengcheng and explain to him the urgency for him to start before the end of June: their need of a well-trained chemist, the shortness of faculty for the whole Science College, Jaffwoodi's need to get home to England consequently the importance of their morale of some over from the previous faculty and the apparent impossibility of my getting a participant soon. If he does not

start until so late there is no guarantee of his being there by September first to start the new academic year. He ought to allow three or four months for travel, and it will make all the difference in the world to them to be able to count on him to start the new term. I think Peng-Cheng will react to such an appeal. Somehow these Chinese in America do not seem to realize how long it may take to get to China. They meet there people who have come over in four days! And they probably have not heard of those who waited six months in Foreign Quarters.

As to Li Hsi-lin, do you suppose that Y.P. will cable about him after he gets your letters about the situation? Letters sent Oct. 30 and Nov. 17 ought to be there by Jan. 1. If no authorization comes by Jan. 15, could you cable again? The only reason I can think of for that cable mentioning only Dr. Hsu is that they may hope to get him started immediately in order to be there

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

before Gapwood leaves, hoping to turn the deanship of the College of Natural Sciences over to Hsü. However I am sure Peng-cheng will not leave immediately. He feels that this teaching is important as he has been off on a specialized line of instruction there years in America and his teaching at Qinghua will be "regular" Chemistry, and he needs to know how that is being done in America. I do not know about the "quarters" at Chicago, but I guess one is from Oct-Dec. and one from Jan.-March. So I am hoping that he can leave there at the end of march with considerable teaching experience.

This job of trying to run colleges from the two opposite sides of the earth certainly has its difficulties.

Yours sincerely
Edwin G. Boring

December 26, 1944

Miss Alice Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

Here is a copy of what I wrote to Dr. Hsu last week. It was finished too late to pass it on to you before things closed here for the holiday.

I think your suggestion of cabling to Y.P. again about Dr. Li if we hear nothing before January 15 is a good one. As you will notice from the letter to Dr. Hsu, his work at Chicago does not finish until well into the spring. The reference to April is based on something that Stanley Wilson said in his letter about Dr. Hsu. The most mysterious thing about the silence as to Dr. Li is the amount of correspondence from Dr. Chang and Mr. Lapwood regarding him. Someone here wondered if perhaps travel expenses of recent arrivals from the U.S. had been so high that the University had cooled in its ardor to add a teacher of botany, that being probably a less imperative need than chemistry. It would not seem as if they can be laboring under any false hopes for your early return, in view of the military developments of a month ago. Otherwise one could easily guess they were weighing you two and deciding that if the budget could not cover both they must be sure to get you.

Perhaps something more illuminating may come soon and when it comes give us entirely fresh light.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

EHB:mcc

Miss L.
Cable both
"Jackson what does
author. said."

BALLOU
REC'D 2/1
ANS'D 2/1

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

January 31, 1945

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Dr. C. D. Lu has just come to my room to tell me that she has received a cable from Dr. Joseph Needham from Natal, asking her to make reservations for a place for him to stay. He should be here to-morrow. I have told her to ask him to call up the C.C.C. Office, as you want to get in touch with him. I wonder whether he can take out the Microfilm Readers. Perhaps he will know the best kind to get, if they are not yet purchased.

Meanwhile, having heard that not only the women not being allowed to go to China but that the Y.W.C.A. in China are being told to leave, I have begun looking for another kind of job for next fall. This one in the Medical Center has been all right for this short time, but if I have to stay in

America for one or two more years, I must get back into Zoology in order to be more useful for helping with the rehabilitation of Biology on our old campus in Peking. I have already heard of one very desirable possibility, which if it materializes, must be decided by August 1. Do you consider that tying up to such a job would be unfair to Yenching? Ray Sailer is sure to return next summer if anybody can, and of course it will be much easier for him to get permission. Is there any way in which you can get a direct statement from the Passport Bureau? I think you have never even applied for me.

I do not want to be a quitter, but I cannot afford to be stranded on a sideline in America.

Please drop me a line as to how you look at this matter.

Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

February 1, 1945

Miss Alice Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

Thanks very much for the word about Dr. Needham's approach. We shall hope to hear from Dr. Lu promptly on his arrival, as we are anxious to arrange for him to lunch with the staff.

Now about the report you heard as to Y.W.C.A. people "being told to leave." I think the facts must have been garbled a bit in reaching you, since they tell me at the Y.W. headquarters--and it is a longer story than is worth retelling here--that nothing quite as vigorous as that was given in the way of advice and what might have developed into an emergency a month or so ago seems now to have subsided. They know of no Y.W. secretary who plans to leave because of the "situation."

We talked over your own problem in staff meeting this morning, and the upshot of the discussion was something like this: we see no chance whatever of your getting to Chengtu for the opening of the fall semester; Ran's chances are better than yours but he would not get to first base if he applied for a passport tomorrow; we expect the situation to ease before long and that a few men will probably be able to go out this summer; the uncertainty about women being so much greater, we are inclined to favor your planning to stay here another year, which might be thought of as a refresher period in preparation for work on the Yenching campus. The chief hesitation in giving this to you as advice is fear lest, when Y.P. Mei gets here, he blow us skyhigh for sidetracking you. It is possible that the situation may change quite a little before he gets here, but we are agreed in feeling that, even should the restrictions be lifted, travel is so uncertain that it would probably be many months before you could get out there.

We have little idea when Y.P. will arrive. We have cabled for the date of his expected departure, but it may be a week before we get his reply. A State Department bulletin speaks as if he planned to start in February, which is earlier than we had figured he would want to leave the University. We have not made a direct inquiry for you to the Passport Bureau simply because people who have been continuously in touch with those folks tell us it would do absolutely no good, and useless inquiries are not welcomed by them. People in the Presbyterian Board and the Foreign Missions Conference are in close touch with the situation and will let us know as soon as the situation eases. Did you hear about Dr. Carl White of the Columbia Library? In the middle of November I met him in Dr. Guy's (Mrs. Diuaide's) outer office sitting on the edge of his chair waiting to fly to China as a visiting professor sent by the State Department much as they sent George Cressey in 1943. He expected to leave at any moment, but he hasn't left yet and his whole year is thoroughly upset. If the State Department can do no better than that for its own personal appointments, what chance (just now) do ordinary mortals have?

Stanley Wilson writes that he is feeling very fit, much better than at any time since he got home, and wants to get back as soon as possible, but he won't start next week either!

Sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

[redacted]

February 16, 1945

Dear Miss Boring:

At last a cable has come from Y.P. Mei which reads as follows:

"Regret Yenching cannot provide Li Hui-lin travel but welcome join faculty on arrival. Probably start for America April."

I have written Dr. Li and told him that this is to be considered as final and asked what chance there is of his being able to provide his own travel back. Several mysteries remain unsolved.

No further word has come from Dr. Needham.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

EHB:mec

BALLOU

REC'D 2/19

ANS'D 1945

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Thank you for letting me know about the status of the Li Hsui-fan case. Really they are short-sighted in Chungtu — it looks as though they had not thought about travel! Or perhaps they did not know how much it costs. I do not believe Dr. Li will go — he probably has no such money and will have to raffle for another fellowship to stay in USA.

I wonder how the Hsu Peng-cheng case is proceeding. Is he planning to go this spring, since you have authorization for his travel? If at any time you should a letter to him from me could help in any way, I shall be glad to write — I know him very well.

And so Y.P. Mei is not arriving this month as stated by Shanghai Evening Post.

I suppose I should confess that I am filling wires for a position in

some liberal arts College for next fall. I have several on the string: the chances of getting to Chengtu seem very slim, but if I can stay in USA a year or two longer, I must get back into my main field, teaching zoology — that will make me most useful for anything in the future that I can do for Yenching. Yours, I have an income book that begins to pay in 1948 so if Yenching can pay travel, they will not need to pay any salary after 1948, and I can go out and do anything that is useful even if I have passed age of retirement.

Dr. Needham is still in Washington and Dr. R. D. Lu has gone down there so I have no information about his return to New York. I shall keep you informed. — Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

February 20, 1945

Dear Miss Boring:

A little more light is thrown on the Li Hui-lin situation by a letter just in from Dr. Mei to Mr. Evans, where my cable of November 30 is quoted and their reply. This was the one saying they wanted Dr. Hsu. Then follows a comment which probably Dr. Mei thought would get here in much less time than nine weeks: "Considering the great expenses of travel, etc., we had to limit our request for personnel from America to the very minimum. Therefore we have decided to let the proposition of Mr. Li Hui-lin go for the present."

The letter also authorises us to go ahead with travel for Dr. Hsu charged against University funds. I think Mr. Evans will follow through just as soon as Dr. Hsu is ready to start the involved and long negotiations.

I think you are doing the wise thing in planning on another year here in this country. Jim Hunter brought word from Washington the other day that there may be a relaxation of travel restrictions, but if there is it may be temporary and might very probably apply only to men in any case. The word about your future income is most interesting. It must give you a great sense of security. However, I do not think this prospect should enter into our plans just at present. It might be something to talk over with Y.P. after he gets here.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Miss Alice M. Boring
50 Haven Avenue, N.Y. 32

EHB:mcc

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

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176

SYMBOLS

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

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

FC440 S302CDC DAV INTL

alice

CD CHENGTUCHINA VIA RCA 44 MAR 8 1945

NLT BORING

FIFTY HAVEN AVENUE NEWYORK

LIUCHENGCHAO AVAILABLE YENCHING BIOLOGY FROM SEPTEMBER BUT BUDGET PROVIDES ONE ADDITION ONLY PLEASE DISCOVER WHETHER LIHUILIN INTENDS FINANCE OWN TRIP JOIN YENCHING AND CONSULTING SDWILSON FUTURE POTENTIALITIES CHANGTSUNGPING BORING LIUCHENGCHAO LIHUILIN WUCHINGFU LIJUCHI TELADVISE SUGGESTIONS

CHANG LAPWOOD MEI

153P

Do not return

Academy of Natural Sciences
Philadelphia, Pa.
March 10, 1945.

Dear Miss Boring: (Alice)

After a long wait of almost four months, Dr. Ballaou notified me, about two weeks ago, that he finally received a word from Chengtu stating that they will not provide me travel. This is a reply to his cablegram that he sent about two weeks before. It is certainly regrettable that such a statement that can be secured in one or two ekks actually took almost four months. This unnecessary suspense has caused me great inconveniences.

I do not have the means to finance my trip, which I had told you in my early letters, so my return to China has to be indefinitely suspended. In the course of waiting for a word from Yenching, I had refused Hwa Chung's offer, which would be willing to finance my trip back, because I thought Yenching's appointment was final and they would do the same , as they certainly must know that under the present circumstances, an individual cannot negotiate passage back by himself and the expenses are prohibitive for a student to undertake. Now it is too late for me to arrange my trip back to China this summer through other channels. I hope I will be able to get a chance to continue on research work here in America for another year.

I am very willing to go back to be of some help but I do not know that it will be so difficult to arrange. I do hope that you have better luck in your arrangement for going back to China.

With best regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Hui Lin Li

Academy of Natural Sciences
Philadelphia, Pa.
March 10, 1945.

Dear Miss Boring:

After a long wait of almost four months, Dr. Bellamy notified me, about two weeks ago, that he finally received a word from Chengtu stating that they will not provide me travel. This is a reply to his cablegram that he sent about two weeks before. It is certainly regrettable that such a statement that can be secured in one or two weeks actually took almost four months. This unnecessary suspense has caused me great inconveniences.

I do not have the means to finance my trip, which I had told you in my early letters, so my return to China has to be indefinitely suspended. In the course of waiting for a word from Yenching, I had refused Wu Chung's offer, which would be willing to finance my trip back, because I thought Yenching's appointment was final and they would do the same, as they certainly must know that under the present circumstances, an individual cannot negotiate passage back by himself and the expenses are prohibitive for a student to undertake. Now it is too late for me to arrange my trip back to China this summer through other channels. I hope I will be able to get a chance to continue on research work here in America for another year.

I am very willing to go back to be of some help but I do not know that it will be so difficult to arrange. I do hope that you have better luck in your arrangement for going back to China.

With best regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Bard Hall, Ottawa Ave. New York 32
March 12, 1940.

Dear S.D.,

The enclosed cable from Chengtu arrived Friday and I consulted Mr. Ballou Saturday morning about the problem involved. I meant to write you immediately but have been a bit under the weather over the week-end, so here goes the original with a tentative reply concocted by Ballou and me for your criticism or suggestion, since it involves the future of the Biology department at Yenching.

First let me be sure you know about all the persons involved. Chang Tsungfing is Yenching B.S. Cornell Ph.D. - at present heading up Yenching Biology - is doing good work, students enthusiastic and get on well with Biology in other Chinese colleges. Hsu Chengchao is now head of Biology at West China - was Yenching BS - MS Cornell Ph.D. professor at Soochow - my pupil - went with Soochow, & joined West China when Soochow ordered him back to Shanghai - excellent teacher & research man - person I have always hoped would succeed me as he covers my field of Vertebrate Zoology. Dear knows why he is now available for Yenching, but Ballou says that is the affair for the Field not for us. Li Hsien-yao Soochow BS, Yenching MS & Ohio St. U. of Pa. Ph.D. - at last that is where he now is. He is a botanist. Last fall Chang Tsungfing, who is very anxious to get Biology registered with the government and therefore needs more faculty for his department, wrote the office and we that Li Hsien-yao was available and they had the money for his salary for the half year, because an assistant was leaving and an assistant's whole salary would pay Li's salary for half year. He sent a Chinese invitation through F.E.C. for Li Hsien-yao to join Yenching and urged him to get there by February. This was all very irregular and inconvenienced because there was not time for Li to get there by Feb.; they were not reckoning on the cost of travel, which is probably as great as salary, and also where would the full year's salary come from next year, when each year, now economy must be practiced as inflation goes up. So poor Ballou had to send a series of cables which took till after New Year until he got the statement that the invitation would have to be withdrawn from Li unless he could pay his own travel! You see they just had not counted on travel! Li Hsien-hsiao's last letter to Ballou was very disgruntled, as he has no way to provide travel.

As far as the department is concerned Li Chengchao is much the better man. Li Hsien-hsiao's greatest asset is that he is a botanist and if the Ministry of Education is going to insist on its silly program in the future, we shall have to have a botanist. He knows Li and he get along all right with the group in the department. However it seems to me that is a problem for the future - the whole ministry, and even the government, may be changed by the time we organize in Peking again.

Therefore here is the tentative reply: - "Hsu Cheng-fu changed to medicine - Chang Tsungfing good successor - Boring no likelihood [illegible] - Li Chengchao excellent substitute and ~~future~~ eventual successor - Li Hsien-hsiao

Alice Boring

excellent future chairman. No travel for Liuchiu."

Should we add - "if travel could be found, could Boring's salary for next year be used for Li Hsu-hsu?" The appointment offered Li Hsu-hsu was definitely only for two years at Cheng-tu - so stipulated. Bullock says there was some money which he was just about to try to get for Li's travel when this cable arrived which obviously indicates that they prefer Liu Cheng-hsu. But they are probably still counting on my arrival and I have given up hope and accepted a job at Mt. Holyoke College as Visiting Professor for a year to substitute for someone on leave. Now they may need two more men besides Chang Tsung-fung to meet ministry requirements, and then both Liu Cheng-hsu and Li Hsu-hsu would be desirable at present. You see Lefevre has many times assured me that they were keeping money for my salary.

Please reply by air and return of original cable. I have a copy of our reply. Please also make any suggestions you think desirable.

I suppose you have seen Grace. We are anxiously awaiting her arrival in the east. She is a martyr to the good cause, but probably life and food in Indiana will restore her to health.

My best to Anna and other Geauhyder,

Sincerely

Alva M. Boring

You see I still have no typewriter.

Do not return

635 Berkeley Avenue.
Claremont, California,
March 17, 1945.

Dear Miss Boring: Alice

Your special delivery-airmail letter has just come in after five days on the road. There has been a lot of stormy weather and most planes have been grounded. I wish that I could have more time to think over these matters but the delay has already been too much. So here goes. In general I feel that your tentative reply is correct. First let me make a few comments. I have feeling all the time that C. F. Wu will not go through with the medical program, or that he will not like medicine and that he will want to return to Yenching and that we will not have anybody with nerve enough to tell him NO. Leighton always wanted to keep him, and there will be others of the same mind. In my opinion J. C. Li is the best possible man for the chairman and every move should be taken with this in mind. I should also say that at the present moment they would do best to take Liu Cheng-chao on and to let Liu Hui-lin drop. Liu Hui-lin is evidently not the man for the permanent appointment. If a he makes the trip out there and is appointed for even one year we may find it difficult to terminate the connection. Let's not make any more of these kinds of appointments than we have to. I must say that I feel that if they have Chang and Liu Cheng-chao they will be able to be registered. If it does develop that they must have another man for registration, I feel that one could be found locally and such a man would not have as much claim on us as would the man who had gone out from the States. With two good men in the department it will be easier to pick up a third good man locally. Men will be more anxious to associate themselves with the department if it already has two good men. My advise is, don't suggest that perhaps travel could be found for Liu Hui-lin.

I feel that you have done right in taking the Mount Holyoke position for the year. They are pressing me to remain here for another year. I have not yet accepted but think that I shall do so. Anna feels that I would not withstand the rigors of West China and even Grace is not too certain that I could. There is the difficulty of the passport and the family to be considered.

Grace is certainly an ill person. Be careful not to require too much of her when she arrive in the East. She has been living very near us for the past two weeks, but because of her condition we have not seen very much of her. Augusta Wagner is coming this afternoon and will spend the week end with us. She is making a trip for the State Department to these regions.

Best regards

Stanley D. Wilson.

These are very nice boys and girls but I still wish that I had Yenching students once more

March 18, 1945

My dear Miss Boring.

Thank you very much for your letters. A few days ago I wrote Mr. Ballou of the Yenching office telling him that I accept the invitation of Yenching with great pleasure and gratitude. My present contract with the University of Chicago will end after July 1st. After that, I would like to do a little travelling for a few weeks and then my time will be at the disposal of Yenching. I would like to see Dr. Y.P. Mei when he comes.

It is important for Yenching to carry on, but it is very much more important for Yenching to plan for the post-war era. We shall have a very heavy responsibility to give China the men and women she needs. Somebody must work hard to raise the money and somebody must look around for real good men to do the job — and of course Yenching must be made attractive to hold the men.

I have the opportunity to spend about 1 week with Haven Lon while he was at Chicago. We spent most of the time visiting different laboratories. I profited quite a lot by talking with him. I also met Needham for a short time. He suggested that he may be able to help moving in some books and scientific equipment from India to China over the hump. I wonder if Yenching is interested enough to buy books and equipment now.

I told Haven to consult Y.P. Mei when he comes

I believe that my chief activity when I return will be teaching and paving the way for the future developments of Yenching. The teaching will be mostly blackboard chemistry. Needham seems to think China does not need any teachers now. He seems to think it is better to stay in this country if possible for further training. I wonder if Y.P. Mei will say the same thing. If I do go home, I don't think I can do anything drastic about nutrition. But, I am sure that I will not give up hope. I shall do something.

Dr. Adolph suggested that I make some inquiries about salaries, rank etc. I wrote Dr. S.D. Wilson about this. He seemed to indicate that he is not in a responsible position to say anything definite. I don't think the matter of salary and rank etc is very important because my whatever some ~~family~~ colleagues at Chengtu are getting. I do want to know of about the living expenses after July 1st and the travelling expenses. I wonder if you know whom shall I write to about this matter. I don't know how long I have to wait for the boat. In case I have to wait for the boat for a long time I would like to get some subsidy for living expenses ~~and~~ otherwise I have to find some temporary job to tide me over. I shall write you as soon as I know more. Best regards.

Good effort. Glad him consult you

Hsu Peng Cheng. X

P.S. I have met Wu Wen Tsou. Shall see him again this noon.

BALLOU
REC'D 3/21
ANS'D 3/24

BARD HALL
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
50 HAVEN AVENUE

March 20, 1945

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Enclosed find the original cable from Chengtu about Biology Department and our suggested cable reply, which as you see from S.D. Wilson's reply, he approves. I have had a rather disgusted letter from Dr. Hsi-lin, to which I am replying sympathetically, but explaining that they evidently did not realize the high cost of travel, and also that the constant rise in cost of living in China have probably meant an increased necessity for retrenchment in the budgets of the Chinese Colleges. He says he had a chance to go to Hua Cheung which would have paid his travel, so I am surprised that he takes that up again as they probably have not yet got a man for their place.

Cable for Yenching:

Wuchingfu changed to medicine. Changtsungfing good successor. Boring no likelihood comfort. Liuchengchao excellent substitute and eventual successor. Lijuchi best future chairman. No travel for Lihsilin.

Liuchengchao Lijuchi

Wuchingfu

I suppose the Yenching Office can send this reply. Should it be signed Boring-Wilson-Ballou? That would indicate wide approval.

Sincerely,
Alice M. Boring

1381

BALLOU
REC'D 3/22 wk.
ANS'D 3/24

BARD HALL
50 HAVEN AVENUE
NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

March 21

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Enclosed is a letter from Hsu Pengcheng, the chemist whom Yenching wants for next fall. I have written him to let you know ~~that~~ exactly when he will be ready to board a boat for China and to ask you to give him exact directions as to what steps he must take to get all government and military passes and all inoculations before he sails and how far ahead of sailing date these steps can or must be taken.

I presume that from this time he says he is ready to start, all his living expenses as well as travel per se will be provided by Yenching.

He is a fine fellow and I am very glad he is planning to return.

Sincerely,

Asher M. Barry

March 24, 1945

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

The cablegram has gone as you suggested.

Your letter from Hsu Peng-cheng was in a similar vein to mine. I had answered him very much as you suggest! His date of availability is several months later than we supposed. I had already written him in December, outlining steps necessary to take regarding clearance with the draft board, passport application, etc., but have now turned the correspondence over to Mr. Evans, who will make sure things are started as soon as they ought to be.

Dr. Needham sent me a helpful memorandum about getting scientific books etc. into Chungking and after Y.P. arrives, if Hsu can talk with him, it will be early enough to decide what the latter should take.

As to salary, I suppose no one here would have any idea what any sum in Chengtu really would mean. They are trying, we know, to treat people fairly and to make sure they have something to eat - and I guess that's about all. Y.P. presumably will be able to give him whatever information he needs along that line too.

Ran Sailer wants to start in August. At the moment the prospects of getting men back are a little brighter than they were a month ago. We may hope they continue that way.

Very sincerely yours,

EHB:mec

April 27, 1945

Miss Alice M. Boring
Bard Hall
50 Haven Avenue
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Miss Boring:

I am told that it has usually been the custom to send special invitations to attend our Annual Meetings only to faculty members within this area who have come on furlough during the year - faculty people who have already attended an Annual Meeting and are still in this country have been welcome at succeeding meetings but have not been especially invited. This year we are inviting such people over again! We expect to have a good time together, and we shall have a better time if you can be with us.

Herewith is a schedule of the meetings, both of the Associated Boards and of the different trustee boards which are meeting that week.

Very sincerely yours,

EHB:mee

Yenching University, Peiping, China
Nov. 15, 1946

Christmas Greetings to All:

Here I am back where I belong and am needed. Our Chinese colleagues have given us such a hearty welcome that we are sure we are wanted. We reached Shanghai Aug. 22nd, and after trying in vain to find a boat to take us and our trunks up the coast, we finally flew to Peiping on Sept. 3, leaving all our precious baggage with China Travel Service. To our surprise and joy, it all arrived within a month, completely, intact and free of customs! tax. This brought us to Yenching in plenty of time for registration and all opening activities, and we started classes on Sept. 16. We have 797 students, 518 men, and 279 women. Among the men are 18 Chinese G.I.'s and among the women 5 daughters of the American colonels who are working on these Truce teams.

Superficially the campus and the city of Peiping look the same as before the war, and ther is a blessed lack of Japs on the streets and of rising-sun flags on the street corners. On closer inspection, however, we find many unsightly red brick buildings in various spots of our campus; that were bath-houses and latrines. Those in most conspicuous places have already been torn down. The landscape looks a bit unkempt as there has been no trimming or weeding for more than four years, but the Landscape Committee has now put coolies to work and we are looking tidier, Of course last year major repairs had to come first. In the Chinese faculty houses we miss the beautiful carved redwood furniture and fine porcelain- most ot it has had to be sold to buy food. "Tokyo style" furniture left by the Japanese when they hastily departed, is low and small and cheap-looking. Many of our white bath tubs have been dumped in the backyards and "Tokyo style" wooden tubs substitued for them - these were usually installed in the pantries to be near the kitchen fire!

In our Biology Department, not a microscope was left, and because of American strikes, not a single new one has as yet arrived. Fortunately some of those at the Peking Union Medical College in the city were not looted and we have been able to borrow 35; so with two students looking through one microscope in all our laboratory sections, and a carefully planned schedule, we are carrying our normal freshman and sophomore work. We have only a few juniors and seniors. But an amazing amount of equipment other than optical has come to us;- glassware, stains, and other chemicals, skeletons, demonstration dissection, exhibition cases, charts, models, the Wilder collection of north China Birds, the Gee collection of Chinese sponges, and my Chinese Amphibia. These were found after V-J Day in a government university in Peiping, to which the Japs had moved them. And the gaps where things were lost are gradually being filled in by our old technicians, who are busily making microscope slides, models, and skeletons under the tireless direction of the Chinese Biology faculty, who got back here in October 1945 and found nothing in the bui ding.

Prices sound fantastic, but are not so impossible when translated into American dollars (exchange rate 3500 to 1!) For instance, we are eating a practically normal American diet at US$1.00 a day. With no rent and no income tax on missionary salaries, our other household expenses come to about US$.50 a day, a total of US$45.00 a month, not bad! We get paid US$90.00 a month. Out of that the biggest item will be coal at CNC (Chinese National Currency) $75000 to $100000 per ton (US$25 to $30). Fortunately we Americans have come out well-equipped with clothes and have found most of our household equipment well cared for by various Chinese friends, and servants - furniture, linen, silver, etc. Our food is wonderful;-lots of fruit, delicious tomatoes, and other fresh vegetables, meat every day, a little milk from the Yenching dairy, occasionally butter, and always peanut butter. But for the Chinese, this inflation and these astronomical prices mean real hardship;- the menu in the dormitories is mostly cornbread and cabbage, and some students can scarcely afford to pay for that.

Our real luxury is servants; not as many as previously, but such good ones, like in the Old South. I have~~washed~~ not washed any underwear or pressed a dress since I arrived. On account of the scarcity of coal (railroads torn up by Reds), I am not living in my little house in the Prince's Garden this year, but in a very nice Chinese house with a group of single American women. My old servant came to see me, and will come back next year if I return to my own house. Of course you want to know about the political situation, even though it all may have changed by the time you get this letter. It seems to remain critical. Dr Stuart, whom we still consider our President, on loan for an emergency, has been planning a visit, which has had to be postponed week after week. Our Chinese faculty are getting to be less and less in sympathy with the Reds, Agnes Chen, Ph.D in Politics from Bryn Mawr, says that there are three groups within the party:-1-the older originals who emphasize agrarian reform, led by Chou En-lai; 2-the Moscow-returned group, who are more interested in factory workers and follow Stalin; 3-the Military group, led by Chu Teh, who go right ahead fighting and trying to claim more territory, regardless of orders from Mao Tse-tung (the head of the whole party) or Chou En-lai, who is making negotiations. As they have been entering new territories lately, there has been the same old wholesale slaughter of land-owners, and impressing of the poor into service, that preceded the present peaceful well-organized regime at Yenan, so aluded by Amierican journalists. Within the Kuo Min Tang, of course, there is lots of graft, but not so much gestapo business, as is generally supposed in America. The hope lies in General Chen Cheng. who has replaced General Ho Ying-chin, the grafter, and in a fine group of elder statemmen, called the Political Science group, and in Sun Fo, the son of Sunyatsen and by far the most liberal of the Kuo Min Tang. The Democratic League is not strong enough to lead in a Coalition Government - in fact, it has already split, the Youth Party joining the Kuo Min Tang, and the rest joining the Reds. Now that the Reds have lost so many cities, we hope that they will consent to take part in a coalition Government, Dr. Stuart is still optimistic.

On this campus, we go ahead with ourwork as though no civil war were going on almost at our very gates. The morale here is wonderful. Expenses are high and salaries are low, but our faculty all feel that on this campus there is a freedom, and a friendliness, and a fairness to all that makes them rather stay here than go where they might receive more salary.

Do you wonder that I am glad to be back?

Most sincerely yours,

Alice M. Boring

Yenching University, Peiping
Jan. 27,1947

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that I have already been back at Yenching for one whole semester, and yet on the other hand it seems as though I had been here always. We are having a long Winter Vacation and not starting work again until March 3. This is to save coal, both because we need to save money (coal is CNC$200,000 a ton) and because the Reds keep tearing up the railroad between Peiping and the mines, and therefore coal is scarce.

It has been a fine semester of work, the morale of the faculty and students high. Life has been a bit austere at times, especially when the furnace in the house in which I am living did not get repaired from the damage done by the Japs until two days before Thanksgiving, and the heating pipes in the Science Buildings until almost Christmas. The coldest temperature at which we have worked was 56 F for two weeks before Christmas. We have adopted the Chiese custom of putting on more clothes:-wool combinations, wool knickers and stockings, fur-lined boots, wool dress and sweater for everywhere (including dinner eng gements!) and on top of that my special outfit for the Biology Building is :- stadium boots, fleece-lined windbreaker, wool gloves and a muff. When I need to write on the blackboard of course I take my hands out of the muff!

To counterbalance this temperature, we eat huge quantities of food, and the food we can get as faculty is good, plenty of fruit, vegetables meat and bread, even some milk, butter, cheese, sugar and jam. Unfortunately the students' food is not so good, but that is because of the extremepoverty of many of them due to this bad inflation; they eat chiefly a kind of bread made of cornflour and soybeans, or bowls of millet cereal with a bit of salted vegetable. One of our nutrition experts claims that this is really he best possible for the money, containing most of the necessary vitamins, minerals and proteins, as well as sufficient carbohydrate. The students do not like this diet, because it used to be considered "coolie diet", but actually they would all be sick if they on the white rice or white bread they all long for. The prestige value of white flour and white rice seems to be the same the world over.

In Biology we have been able to give normal freshman and sophomore work, and to take care of a few upper classmen. More equipment than I had dared hope for was rescued from various places in Peiping after V-J Day and restored to our department. And all winter freight has been arriving from America like a perpetual Christmas party. The microscope slides arrived f from Mount Holyoke just as I most needed them.

The political panarama rolls on in the background, but has not affected our work or life on this campus at all. President (or Ambassador) Stuart has made two visits to our campus of about five days each, and left his usual impress in new loyalty to Yenching and faith in the future of China. The present set-up of General Marshall as Secretary of State in Washington and Dr. Stuart as Ambassador in Nanking seems to be the best combination to augur good for China that has ever occurred. The two men have worked together for six months and admire and trust each other. Dr. Stuart has the confidence of the Generalissimo as no diplomat has ever had previously. Chiang Kai Shek voluntarily consultsa, most daily and the CC Clique who control the news and persons who gain access to the Generalissimo have no control over Dr. Stuart. So we are all hopeful for the future.

It is interesting part of thr world stage on which we are playing a very minor part, but the complete goodwill and daily cooperation among this inter-racial faculty is a drop in the bucket of inter national under standing.

With best wishes for 1947,

Sincerely,

Alice M. Boring

Dear Mrs. Stinter

Thank you for your very pretty Christmas card and nice note. I am glad that Martha and Dorothy are good friends. I was sure that the girls would like Dorothy. I am trying to send another one of my students to that department this fall but since Stepson may not want too many from one country. I hear that the second Chinese girl did not arrive this year.

We are looking for our microscopes soon. they are in Tientsin but need some documents to clear them of taxes and then some trucks for transportation, but they should be here soon and also a projector lantern which is a great aid in teaching.

Thank you for all your help in the Office are doing for us the journals are now coming regularly.

Most sincerely

Alice Boring

CONFIDENTIAL 21 SEPTEMBER 1949

"FORTNIGHTLY LETTER" FROM YENCHING WOMEN'S COLLEGE

DATED 26 AUGUST 1949

NOTE: This letter comes with the request that it reach the regular mailing list of former "Fortnightly Letters" Dean Louise Sailer of the Women's College has the following to say about the writer:

"I think it would not be amiss for me to tell you a little about the writer. She is Mrs. Martyn Hughes, wife of an Anglican priest who is in Yenching as a representative of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, familiarly known as the "SPG." Mr. Hughes is the son of a former Congregational missionary in south China, though he himself was sent home to England at the age of about seven, for schooling, and so never had a chance to become acquainted with China till he came out after completing his training. He is a young priest, and teaches in our School of Religion and looks after the Anglican students in the University. Mrs. Hughes has had training and experience in the teaching of English and is considered one of the best teachers of literature. She is teaching full-time in our English Department. The Hughes are excellent with students, and their home is always open to their student friends. They are young and gay, and understand youth. They are also excellent actors, and active in our faculty dramatic club, which reads plays every fortnight during term time, the audience consisting of all who wish to come. Mrs. Hughes is an Oxford graduate, with a very marked English accent!"

"Dear Friends,

"It is with great pleasure though some natural shyness that I start to write in this series of 'Fortnightly Letters.' I am shy because I have never seen or met any of you who will read this, but I am pleased at the prospect of so many new acquaintances.

"I noticed as I looked through the files of the 'Fortnightly Letters' that the last one was written at the end of April. The long gap is due not to laziness on our part but to the fact that we are now reduced to an old-fashioned system of communication and reply on the services of the courteous traveller to get letters out of the country.

"Although communication with the outside world has been so greatly curtailed, the last few months have seen the different parts of China, hitherto separated by fighting fronts, become far more accessible to each other, which is one reason why I am writing now, in the middle of the summer vacation, from an almost deserted campus. There are a handful of engineering students taking a vacation course, and a few whose homes are still inaccessible, but at one time there were only fourteen women in the dormitories and these were acting as meal-time hostesses for the men students in the women's dining hall!

"For a little while some University buildings were occupied by a group of 'The Southward Bound Corps' (a group of young people recruited from the Middle Schools and Universitie to follow the armies and assist in the reorganisation of cities and countryside after 'liberation'). Many of these people were Yenching students who had left us during the winter, and it was amusing to try to recognise old acquaintances in the drab khaki uniform. They were in the last stages of their training, and in spite of the terribly wet weather were happy to rest a little in the country after four months hard work in the city, before they undertook the long journey south where they would certainly face more hard work under harder conditions.

"While we at Yenching were entertaining these people and others who came and went in various conferences, our own students had scattered, some to their homes but the majority to various 'camps' organised by the Government for teaching the people new ideas and principles that now govern the greater part of China. These 'study conferences' were really a remarkable phenomenon and the Government deserves credit for having organised a scheme under which all 'intellectuals' from middle school children to University teachers were 'educated' for at least a month in lecture courses and study groups under the leadership of government officials. Perhaps the most interesting of these camps was one at Tsing Hua University (our next door neighbor) where 2,000 University graduates from the Peiping and Tientsin area lived and worked for a month. Many of our students went there with great misgivings, fearing that they would find it difficult to resist the pressure of propaganda. Christians, particularly, were anxious. Our friends came back in their free time on Saturdays and Sundays during the month and we waited anxiously to see what effect the study was having on them.

"Most of our students while they disagreed with some of the things they were told--and they were not afraid to voice their disagreement in their discussion groups--felt that the camp had been beneficial in two ways. In the first place, they now understood the purposes and to some extent the plans of the new government, and knew what fields of service for the people were open to them. Secondly, they were able to meet and to appreciate the point of view and needs of other Chinese students who had had fewer of the material and intellectual advantages which Yenching offers.

"The Christians felt that the Communist criticism of religion was often based on inadequate and false information. One Christian girl from Yenching, on being questioned about her faith, recommended that her questioners should study Christianity more thoroughly. On the other hand many thought that the 'faith' in the principles of the revolution and its leaders on the part of non-Christian young people, and their devotion to the service of their fellow-men were a challenge to Christians to clarify their own beliefs, and to criticise their own way of living. Throughout the month's camp the Christians, in response to this challenge, got up every morning before 5:30 to meet for prayer and meditation.

"One satisfactory result was that after his 'graduation' from the camp every student was offered a job in the civil service or in government-controlled industry. These jobs could be refused, and some preferred to find work privately, but at least no student was faced, as in former years, with the prospect of unemployment. Some people with no particular taste or bent were assigned to general administrative work in various areas, but a real effort was made to fit square pegs into square holes and some girls got very interesting jobs; one music graduate, for instance, is going to select and arrange the music for movies; another's secret, but, she feared, unfulfillable, desire for librarianship was satisfied.

"The fact that all the graduates were going on to camp made our own Commencement ceremonies seem less final than usual. In accordance with the new fashion of austerity and simplicity much of the academic pageantry was banished this year. We in the Women's College, however, felt very proud of our girls, neat in their plain blue dresses; and we thought that, in spite of the absence of caps and gowns, they looked much more academic than their brothers who only achieved a motley array of open-necked shirts and slacks.

"Commencement came as the conclusion of what had seemed a very long semester, especially to a person like myself used to the short terms of England. It was, in fact, the first semester since I came here two years ago that we worked through steadily with a minimum of holidays and no strikes. The atmosphere was peaceful without any of the seething unrest and discontent of the past years, and the majority of the students settled down to regular work. They were encouraged by the government to put their greatest effort into study--the proper business of the student--leaving politics to those whose schooling is over.

"A few active 'politicians' among the students, however, were not idle and every day from six A. M. till breakfast time the campus was dotted with little groups meeting under their leadership to read the newspapers, discuss important political prouncements, or sometimes, if the grass was wet or hearts were particularly light, to play games or to dance! As the term drew on towards examinations these occupations changed and one would hear the same leaders earnestly instructing two or three companions in the mysteri of phonetics or the subtleties of a frog's physiology, for the politically-minded students--members of the New Democratic Youth Corps--are expected to be leaders in every field of University life.

"Besides these regular early morning meetings there were a host of other meetings which everyone in the University found himself or herself called upon to attend. We no longer met to protest in anger and impotence against this or that action of police or government, instead we tried, in small groups and committees composed both of students and faculty members, to work out plans and programmes for study and life in the coming year. Students were frank in their criticisms and suggestions and a great deal of interesting and fruitful work was done. In future teachers will always be able to reply to criticism of course content or teaching method, 'But this is what you asked for yourselves!' After which no doubt there will be further meetings for mutual criticism and self-improvement!

"During the earlier part of the semester the quieter corners of the campus were often disturbed by the laughter and song of students carrying gardening tools on their way to the plots, where, with much enthusiasm, they planted beans, cabbages and tomatoes. Alas! An unexpectedly dry spring and increasing pressure of work as the semester progressed cooled their ardour and the crops harvested did not fulfill the high hopes with which they were planted. The work was not wasted, however, for it gave boys and girls, fretting a little over book work while their contemporaries were actively engaged side by side with peasant and worker in building a new China, a chance to feel that they too shared in the manual work of the masses, and were not incapable because they used their brains of using their hands also. Many, too, discovered that even digging must be done in the right way, and it was good to see a group of young intellectuals actually paying the respect so often talked of to the farmer class in the person of a village lad called from his work of cutting the grass to show them how to handle a hoe and prepare the soil for seed.

"This letter is, I'm afraid, very 'scrappy'--a semester seen from the distance of the summer vacation. To-day, in Peiping, next year's freshmen are taking the entrance examinations and we stand on the brink of the new year. I think, personally, that next semester will continue in the same way as the latter half of last semester, its principal work being the gradual adjusting and settling down under the new regime of both the institution and the individuals in it. The first excitement, the slogan-shouting, singing and dancing that greeted the 'liberation' are over--now thework of Yenching and her students is to find out how best to help all that is good in the new order to establish itself and flourish.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ M. D. Hughes"

FOR FRIENDS OF YENCHING WOMEN'S COLLEGE 7 DECEMBER 1949

"FORTNIGHTLY LETTER" FROM YENCHING WOMEN'S COLLEGE

DATED 2 OCTOBER 1949

Dear Friends of the Women's College,

Yenching has started another year under most favorable circumstances. Last year came the turnover from the old rotten Kuomintang to the "New Democracy". This took place unbelievably peacefully, without any looting or loss of life. This will be our first complete year under the new regime. We may not agree with all their principles, but no one can live here without being impressed by the honesty of the officials and the hard work they are willing to put into their jobs; also by the new spirit of hope among our students, and among many older persons. For instance, there is my best Chinese friend, Frederika Li; a year ago, she was wishing that she had not brought three boys into such a corrupt world, where everything seemed to be going from bad to worse, and one hated to think about the future. Now her boys are enthusiastic about the new government and she is proud to think of them as taking part in the regeneration of Chinese society. Of course some of us have lived through another new hope back in 1927 with the advent of the Kuomintang and Chiang Kai Shek, but that revolution did not go deep enough. Chiang never cut loose from corrupt officials, never really improved the livelihood of the people, never profited by much good advice given him by Dr. Stuart.

The People's Republic of China was formally inaugurated yesterday October 1, in the great square in front of Tien An men, the magnificent gate of the old "Forbidden City" where the emperors used to live and hold court. On that day Peiping became Peking again, that is, it is again the capital. The students had one whole day in which to prepare banners and lanterns and songs for the great celebration. The new flag is a red ground with five stars of gold, one large one for the Republic of China, and four small ones for the four groups - the peasants, the workmen, the petty bourgeoisie (which includes the intellectuals), and the national capitalists. From now on the Chinese Independence Day will be October 1 instead of October 10 as previously.

Classwork began last Monday, so we had barely gotten started when this grand event interrupted work, but we have confidence that after this there will be no more interruptions. This government expects students to attend to their studies, and in general there is good discipline. There will be no more student strikes, for most strikes previously were against the government in one form or another, and now few persons are against the government.

Yenching has been accepted by the new government as making a distinct contribution to Chinese education in several fields. This has been accomplished largely by the intelligence and good sense of our Chancellor, Dr. C. W. Luh, who has known how to distinguish the essentials for which we must stand, from the non-essentials. We have the essentials of academic and religious freedom. Lectures in dialectic materialism and new democracy have been substituted for those on the People's Three Principles required by the Kuomintang. These are for all students. Students in Public Affairs have a few other requirements, but Science has so far been let alone. We biologists are waiting to see about Genetics, but we are pinning our faith on the independence of Chinese intellectuals. The Christian Fellowship is, many well-informed people feel, as strong, or stronger than ever, and some of the leading Christian students are leaders in general student activities.

The special fields encouraged by the government are Industrial Training (practical engineering), Pre-medicine, International Relations, and English Language. Other departments carry on, but the students have crowded into those special fields. The Science College is conducting laboratory classes in the evening, and the English

Language Department has drafted almost every foreigner on campus to teach Freshman English.

Registration took place a week ago and classes began on Sept. 26. More than 800 students are already registered, and there are about 100 more around trying to arrange for scholarships or loans so as to pay their fees. Everybody is hard up financially. It has been a poor crop year; too dry for spring wheat and too wet for summer corn. And some families who were confortably fixed have suffered in the levelling process of of this new society. But as Frederika says, no one minds eating plain food and wearing plain clothes when everyone is doing it, and when there is hope of better things to come.

You will be interested in how the new society idea is being applied at Yenching. Precessional Conference was open to all staff, workmen and students as well as faculty, on the first day, to hear reports on finances, organization, curriculum, welfare, housing, etc. On the later days, which were for discussion, all faculty were invited to attend, and 15 delegates from each of the other groups. The students made very intelligent suggestions, but the workmen for the most part seemed interested especially in trying to get more privileges for themselves. All spring we have had a dormitory janitor, a powerhouse workman, a library charger, and a clerk attending Academic Council, as well as two students. The janitor and the workman used to sit on the back seats and listen attentatively to all financial reports, and then slip out quietly when curriculum matters appeared on the agenda. Council has now been reduced to 21 members to make it a more efficient working body. It includes the Chancellor, 5 Deans, the Controller, 6 "elected" professors, 1 lecturer, 1 assistant, 2 staff members, 1 workman, and 3 students. It will be more like the old Faculty Executive Committee. The ordinary professor will no longer have any say about academic policy. It is this general method of organization that has given the name "democratic dictatorship" to the new government, and we are simply following suit. Of course we have completely scrapped our old constitution and made a new one to fit the times.

At the Precessional Conference, Dr. C. W. Luh outdid himself in his report on the "state of the university". He talked from 9:00 to 12:30 and again from 2:00 to 4:00 p. m. He paid splendid tribute to Dr. Stuart and to Stephen Tsai for all they have done to make Yenching what it is. In spite of all the anti-White-Paper progaganda being slung around, we were told that the government is glad to have all of us foreigners at Yenching and would like to have more, and hopes that we understand that all these maledictions do not apply to any of us as individuals! This sounds a bit naive, but I really believe they mean it, and all this slander is surface talk, perhaps instigated from outside. So please do not you in America take it too seriously, but please do everything you can to encourage the American government to recognize the People's Republic of China as soon as possible. We expect that a lot of nonsense will cease when that is accomplished. And then maybe mail will flow freely again. I have had a few business letters this past week and one Sunday Edition of the New York Times for May 1!. Do help us to get back to normal international relations.

We very much miss the Porters and Wilsons, the latest departures. Many old pillars have left in the past year, but some very fine new young foreign couples have joined us since Yenching re-opened after the war:- the Crothers (Presbyterians), Stowes (American Board), Hughes (Anglicans), Lee-Woolfs (London Mission). Several professors who have been away for refreshers since V-J Day have returned recently:- Ralph Lapwood, Tony Liao, Chao Ch'eng-Hsin, Cheng Lin-chuang, Kuan Jui-wu, David Fang, Hou Jen-chih, Ch'en I. We have no Director of Studies; it does not seem possible to find any one to take Lin Chia-tung's place. Bliss Giant is acting as controller, and Mr. Kuo P'ei Tien is making an excellent bursar. Ralph Lapwood is trying to live up to S. D. Wilson's reputation as Dean of Natural Sciences. Louise Sailer is still chairman of

a committee which is acting in place of a Dean of Women but expects to turn over her duties to a Chinese woman just as soon as there is opportunity for an election by the Women's College.

You will be interested to know that the houses in the Korean Garden are being repaired and made into two-room units to house staff families. There has been great pressure to house all members of the Yenching community, not only the professors. We have also been buying up as many houses in the neighborhood as possible. There are no longer any complaints about salaries, for we do not want to have salaries higher than in the government universities. It is really a help to know that the top officials are not millionaires! So presumably we are using our income economically. We have been officially inspected and complimented on the efficiency of our organization and finances.

We are looking forward to a good year, and hope you are also. Greetings to all, come and see me in Cambridge where I shall probably be after the fall of 1950.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Alice M. Boring