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COLLEGE FILES  
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Yenching  
Corres  
Cowles, Ben T. 1940-1942  
Cowling, W.C. 1931-1937

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Cowles, Ben T.  
1940-1942

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BEN T. COWLES  
600 WEST 122ND STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

May 10th, 1940  
A.K. 5/23/40

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

My dear Mr. Garside:

You very generously offered to write several letters of introduction to key people in our Christian Colleges in China as soon as our plans were made definite. Our plans have been worked out, and we have been able to draw up a description of our 'Youth Mission' together with our proposed itinerary (I am enclosing several copies of this sheet).

Our passage across the Pacific has given us no end of concern. There is no American or British ship with accommodations for us before the second week in June. Also, even that ship can offer us no better fare than \$255.00 (San Francisco to Yokohama). We have been able to secure, through the generous help of Mr. Toru Matsumoto--a Japanese pastor here in the City, a student rate of \$76.00 in their 'Special Third Class' on the O.S.K. liner "Argentine Maru", sailing from Los Angeles on May 28th. We hesitated very seriously to make this crossing on a Japanese ship; but from both the angle of time and our very limited budget, we have no other alternative.

We know that you will have very many valuable pieces of advice to offer us on the details of the itinerary, the message we should convey, things we should observe, preparatory study we should make, and so on. Could Becker and I call on you in your office on Tuesday next week? (Our phone is MOnument 2-5285)

We surely appreciate your interest and help in this Mission,

Cordially,

*Ben T. Cowles*  
Ben T. Cowles

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BEST COPY  
FOR ALL INFORMATION  
NEW YORK 1940

MAY 10 1940  
10:00 AM

Mr. ...  
New York, N.Y.

Very respectfully,  
[Faint signature]

Our primary concern is the health and safety of all  
persons. It is the policy of the University to  
maintain a high standard of health and safety for  
all persons on its campus. We have been  
informed that there is a possibility of a  
health hazard on the campus. We are  
convinced that the health and safety of all  
persons is our primary concern. We have  
taken steps to ensure that the health and  
safety of all persons is maintained. We  
will continue to monitor the situation and  
take any necessary steps to ensure the  
health and safety of all persons.

We know that you will have very many valuable  
ideas to offer us on the health and safety of the  
campus. We would be glad to receive your  
suggestions. We will be glad to discuss  
any suggestions you may have. We will  
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may have. We will be glad to discuss  
any suggestions you may have.

We appreciate your interest and assistance.

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YOUTH MISSION TO FAR EAST--Summer 1940

How it began: In the face of the growing urgency for Americans to have a better understanding of the problems facing the young people of countries under the stress of war, and particularly those in the Far East, several of us pledged ourselves to express our concern in a very concrete way. Our conviction was strengthened by the experience of attending the 1939 World Mission of Christianity Conference at Toronto. This matter was discussed with a number of the leaders of youth, heads of international organizations, and certain Chinese and Japanese students. As a result we were able to draft the plan of sending several American students on a fellowship mission to Japan and China.

Purpose of this mission: --essentially to carry greetings and goodwill to the youth of the Far East from the youth of America. We hope that this will take the form of: (1) sharing in the fellowship of summer conferences, offering to these and similar groups whatever contribution their leaders may feel to be valuable; and (2) visiting centers of characteristic pieces of work for young people; and, (3) sharing the rich experience of this mission with the sponsoring bodies and their groups upon returning. Also, we believe that we should study some special problem. Therefore we will try to focus our thought upon the problems confronting the youth of Japan and China, studying both the methods they have developed in meeting their needs, as well as the work for young people being done by the various missions.

Itinerary and mailing addresses:

May 28th -sail from Los Angeles

June 10th -arrive Yokohama

-arrive Tokyo (% Tsunegoro Nara; 2 I' Cohome; Nishikanda,  
-visit Kyoto, Kobe, and Osaka (Kanda; Tokyo)

19th -arrive Tientsin

20th -arrive Peiping (% R.C.Sailer, Yenching Univ., Peiping)

26th -depart by train for Shanghai, via Tsinan, Nanking, Sochow

30th -arrive Shanghai (% Lyman Hoover, P.O. Box 924, Shanghai)

July 6th -sail for Hongkong

9th -arrive Hongkong (%Victoria Mission Home, Kowloon--)

10th -sail for Haifong

15th -arrive Kunming (% Roger Arnold, Y.M.C.A., Kunming)

24th -depart Kunming for Kweiyang

30th -arrive Chungking(% Y.M.C.A. Headquarters, Chungking)

Aug. 7th -depart for Chengtu

15th -try to leave for Yen-an

25th -return to Chungking

Sept. 10th - return to Hongkong, sail for States via Shanghai

Sponsorship: These national organizations have endorsed this mission --the National Intercollegiate Christian Council, the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, the International Council of the YMCA, and the American Youth Congress. The financial support of this trip is being carried, with the generous help of several interested friends, by each of the fellows.

Personalities: Both Ernest Becker and Ben Cowles are 25 years of age and in their second year at Union Seminary in New York City. Becker, a native of Connecticut, graduated from Amherst College '36, and had two years of business experience before going to Union in 1938. Cowles, born in Kentucky and brought up in Swatow, China, graduated from Haverford College '36, and served for two years as a Y.M.C.A. Secretary in Philadelphia before entering Union.

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May 23, 1940

ACK 6/8/40

Mr. Ben T. Cowles  
Care of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha Steamship Lines  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Cowles,

Sorry I was swamped by a flood of meetings last week, and did not have a chance to see you before you left New York. I have called the Union Theological Seminary once or twice this week, in the hope of catching you before you got away, but was not successful.

I hope that you and Mr. Becker have gotten off to a good start on your Youth Mission to the Far East, and that it will prove to be a very profitable and successful undertaking. It seems to me that the plans which you outline in your letter of May 10 and the accompanying mimeographed sheet are along sound lines, and I trust that you will encounter no serious difficulties in carrying them through.

I do not know just how extensively you have written ahead to the various places you are planning to visit. Undoubtedly you have already been in touch with one or more leaders in each of these cities, and probably have written to many of the Presidents and other administrators of our Colleges. I am, however, taking the liberty of sending brief letters, accompanied by copies of your mimeographed outline, to a number of our China Colleges people in the various cities. I enclose copies of these letters for your information.

If before you sail you think of anything else we can do to assist, please write me and we will be happy to cooperate.

I trust that upon your return we may have the privilege of meeting you again, and may learn from you of the results of your mission.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MS

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Y. Y. M. C. A.  
Chungking, China

On board M.S. Argentina Maru  
Saturday, June 8th, 1940

Mr. G. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.  
U.S.A.

F

Dear Mr. Garside:

It was very fine of you to write those generous letters of introduction for Ernie Becker and me. We appreciate very much your doing this for us.

Even though I am still not altogether clear as to just how it was all managed, I did manage to get away from New York City on the evening of May 20th. One of the items that slipped by the boards without being attended to was giving you a final call. So I am anxious to apologize for causing you the trouble of having to call me up out at Union Seminary. And I do want to thank you for sending your letter out to wait for us in Los Angeles.

Our trip across the Continent, though hurried, was most enjoyable. Three of us from Union drove a new Plymouth sedan out to the Coast for a friend of ours---we came through Iowa, Nebraska, northern Kansas, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and into the southern tip of California. Aside from being truly impressed with the richness and immensity of our fair country, we were able to make the acquaintance of half-a-dozen characteristic American youth: a fine young woman who was a social worker in Detroit, a rather vain debutant of Chicago, an Iowa State dental student, a solid Kansas-plains farmer boy, a cow-puncher in Wyoming, an enthusiastic young Mormon who was a gas-station attendant in the heart of Utah, and several others in Los Angeles.

On ship-board, from the very first minute, we have been having a very interesting experience. Even though there were several minor peculiarities--such as the distinctive odor, rather short bunks, and so on--which we had to accustom ourselves, our accommodations have been quite acceptable. Having had only two or three days of rough weather, we have been bothered very little with the sea. But we have noticed the cold, since we came more prepared for the hot plains of the interior than for the winds that come from the Aleutian Islands.

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We are quite proud of ourselves for learning a little bit of the language of the people who own this ship; we have learned to count, and enough other words to understand a few of the intricate formalities of every salutation. We have also tried to do some studying. But most of our interest has been in our company. There is only one American among them--an older man who is a printer of Pennsylvania dutch origin, Mr. Messemer. The three other white passengers include Mr. Messemer's wife, and two Padres bound for Manila from Buenos Aires (these two speak Spanish, Latin and German, but no English). Our knowledge of religious matters has been sharpened both by these Padres and by following the distinctive matrimonial career of Mr. Messemer (his first wife, now divorced, was a Roman Catholic; he now is married to a Russian-jewish; and he claims to have had a Buddhist concubine in the interim). However, our chief stand-bys have been a number of very cordial Japanese who speak English. Among these there are two families of young people who are American citizens, a fine young fellow who was doing work on his doctorate in the department of Philosophy at University of Southern California, and another American-born young fellow who is doing work at the University of California at Berkeley.

We are looking forward to a very worth while summer. And I am going to be looking ahead to the time when I can share with you the hospitality these people have shown us.

With best wishes to you for a good summer,

Sincerely yours,

*Ben T. Cowles*

Ben T. Cowles

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## Christmas 1940

On Christmas Day long ago a newborn babe came into an unfriendly world. Still the world is a grim forbidding place, unreceptive to His presence and His Gospel; but millions today have been reached by His message touched by His spirit, aroused to new hopes by His faith, bound into a community of His disciples that reaches around the earth.

Surrounded by the tinsel and commercialism of the season we must not let "Merry Christmas" take the place of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." We can not forget the millions on battle-fronts and in bomb-scarred cities for whom this day will express the deepest hope of their lives, the hope for a just and peaceful world. May this day express the same hope for us in America! May we make Christmas a holy day, and not just a holiday! (Adapted from December Bulletin W.A.F.C.)



Dear Mr. Garside,

With your permission let me risk committing a travesty on the Christmas spirit. Allow me to list a few of the experiences that have come to me on the first of each month in 1940.

-January 1st: (Oronto, Canada to New York) -The New Year's Eve ringing of the bells in Hart House Tower was still in our ears when we went into the final gathering of the Conference. Shortly afternoon five of us--a Chinese, a gentleman from India, a Canadian, and two Americans--started back to New York. Passing numerous small evidences from the "States", we crossed the border at Niagra Falls scarcely believing those friendly people were actually at war. We stopped for the night at the village of Pavilion. There in the quietness of a snow-banked Tourist Home the thought of the Conference on the World Mission of Christianity we had just left came to us, and we agreed: "Ours is a single mission--bringing the life abundant to all people, in all its phases. We must attempt to break down those divisions which separate society. Each one of us has a very real and vivid responsibility to put the Christian mission to work immediately in our own particular community."

-February 1st: (New York City, Manhattan and Bronx) -With the semester one day from its end this day was hectic, like the ones just before it. There were too many back papers to be done! But too many of the numbered minutes were spent lamenting my failure to take full advantage of the stimulating line-up of courses. -Life became very simple: four to five hours sleep per night, eating, reading, and writing and thinking--occasionally. This evening the grind had to be broken to carry out responsibilities out in the Bronx at our "Y" community center for boys. The diversion was provided by 56 irrepressible boys (ages 11 to 16), club meetings, gym periods, interviews, committee meetings. -From another angle, it was an encouraging day: news came from home that Dad, who had been seriously ill with pneumonia for weeks, had gotten up for the first time.

-March 1st: (Manhattan) -Still in an intellectual slump from the rush of Mid-Semesters, I managed to get back into extra-curricular groups, to play more basketball and indoor tennis, and to enjoy several Broadway productions and Symphonies. Reports to our Boys Work Committee were a little longer, and the Worship Services for groups out at Stamford were better prepared. On the side I took time to plan a Summer in the Far East: clarifying motives, arranging itineraries, getting the most recent travel news, and so on.



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-April 1st: (Stamford, Connecticut) -All that morning the print from the books I was studying struck my eyes but penetrated no further. The weight and inspiration of the Sunday-after-Easter was still with me: to start with there had been an eighty minute drive in my blue '31 Ford, "Shasta", from New York; an 8:00 A.M. Communion Breakfast for the Men's Class, Sunday School and the Church Service before noon; two committee meetings in the afternoon; final touch-up on the Easter Play, and the production at the evening Service; and then a quiet hour talking in the Manse with the Marions. -Not that this was an unusual Sunday, but rather that this Monday was characteristically blue, dead! But, after lunching with the Marions and making several parish calls in the afternoon, I was in a more helpful mood to Chair the meeting of the Sunday School Board that evening. As I drove back to the City I kept thinking of these people--how genuine and understanding they are; how generous of them to look to me for spiritual leadership when they were really leading me!



Merry Christmas!!

-May 1st: (New York) There was a full schedule of classes and a swelling list of undone studies brought on by the approach of final exams. Also there were Spring extra-curricular activities. At the same time plans for the Summer took much preparing: trying to enlist partners, getting a passport from the State Department, interpreting plans to several committees, writing letters, and gathering information and resources. (-this was the beginning of the zero hour; the only certain item in all the plans was my will to go.)

-June 1st: (In mid-ocean, 5000 miles from New York) -As our ship pounded a heavy swell, disturbing the limitless blue of the Pacific but for a moment with a white wake, there was ample time to catch up: examinations and papers at Seminary and the program and business of two jobs had been completed before I tore off from New York on the 20th; a grand day-visit at Detroit; to Chicago in a new Plymouth (being taken for a party on the coast); across Illinois, Iowa, into Nebraska and Kansas; through Wyoming; down Utah to the Boulder Dam and to Los Angeles; getting my passport only 20 hours before sailing on the 28th! -But I couldn't look too long out over the immensity of that Ocean; it always shrivelled me to a mere point. To forget my smallness I tried games and other past-times. Best of all was the opportunity to get acquainted with the Japanese passengers whose real nature was so little different from ours that I found the fact of our common humanity inescapable.

-July 1st: (Nanking to Shanghai) -We were dreaming about our starlight ride in a horse-carriage the night before when our Hotel man got us up, hurried us to breakfast, and out into a scramble for rickshas. After a precarious ride, inspection of baggage and passports and waiting several minutes while soldiers boarded the train before us carrying the ashes of fallen comrades, we finally made the "Shanghai Express". Long after getting used to the sight of soldiers 100 yards on both sides of the track putting up electrified fences amid rich green rice-fields, we tried to sort out the thousands of novel experiences of the past month: ten days in Japan, subject Korea, unmatched Peking, slow and crowded south-bound trains, Tsinan, Hsuehchow, Pukow, the Yangtze River, Nanking! -Only a few hours later our train passed the jagged ruins of countless homes and factories in the northern section of Shanghai. Passing through carbolic acid spray (plague-prevention) and inspectors, we were met by Paul Moritz and taken to the "Y" headquarters. Showered with warm greetings we started off: first to a staff meeting, then a trip out to Shanghai College through forbidden Hongkew (to attend an F.O.R. retreat), a swim, back for dinner with our loyal friends the Wilburs, attending after dinner a gathering of the Shanghai Student Union, a walk back through Frenchtown past one refugee-filled apartment after another, and finally hearing for 25 minutes all about a year in China from Paul Moritz.

-August 1st: (Kunming, SW. China) -Having just returned from four days out on the Lake at the Student Conference I had many details of travel to arrange: passports, registering, making reservations on buses, trucks, and planes. After lunching with Mr. Arnold, my most generous host, I went for a long ride on his bicycle: out the East Gate, the airport, American aviators training pilots, north on the outer highway, being covered with dust by passing trucks coming in from the Burma Road, a short pilgrimage to Mr. Munson's resting place, visiting students in the mud and mat-shed dormitories of Southwestern University, in the North gate, down through pilos in the city and to the alley along the edge of "Stinking Water Creek" and back to the house. In the evening the movie "Going Places" vied



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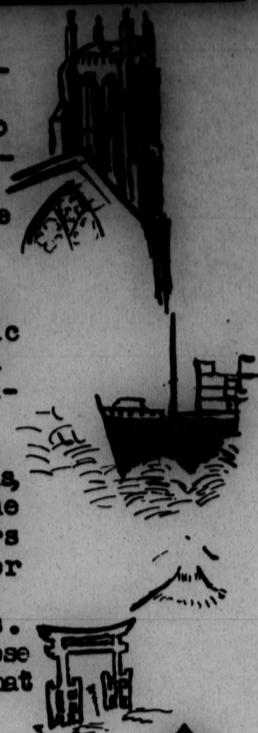
-September 1st: (Lanchow, NW. China) After a flight to Chungking, 14 days in the war-torn capital with 9 air-raids, a flight to Chengtu and into the Northwest to the beginning of Tibet, the quietness of Lanchow was most welcome. Back in Pittsburgh, 13,000 miles away, my younger brother Macon was getting ready for his wedding the next day.

-October 1st: (Honolulu, Hawaii) -A harbor of impeccable blue, the strangeness of American civilization, a ride around the Island--- tropical foliage, volcanic rocks, Waikiki, race problems, the Navy!

-November 1st: (New York City - since October 14th) -Starting in at Seminary, Classes, Election, Conscriptio, starting Bronx Project.

-December 1st: (Philadelphia) -Visiting friends and Church, speaking to Young People's groups; What is America's responsibility?

-Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Best wishes, Ben



Ben Cowles

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0559

February 14, 1941

Mr. Ben Cowles  
Union Theological Seminary  
Broadway at 120 Street  
New York City

My dear Mr. Cowles:

We have been asked by the President of Yenching University to propose names to him of persons who might consider an appointment of approximately three years at the University for religious work among the students. Your name has been suggested to us. You are probably, from your residence in China and your recent trip, somewhat familiar with Yenching University and its situation.

I am writing this letter simply for the purpose of asking whether or not you would be interested in having your name proposed to Dr. Stuart as one of those who might be considered for the position. If so, we will be glad to present your name, together with any detailed information you may wish to furnish us, and will then await further word from Dr. Stuart. I do not wish to take this step, however, without learning from you whether you are interested in such an appointment.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

JIP:VW

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BEN I. COWLES

600 WEST 122ND STREET

NEW YORK

February 16, 1941-

ack.  
2-18-41  
JSP

Mr. Joseph I. Parker  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Parker:

It is for me a real honor to have word from you that my name has been suggested for the position that will be left vacant by Brank Fulton.

I am anxious to have my name proposed. I am enclosing a copy of the "description" of the trip to the Orient which I had the privilege of making during the Summer of 1940. Our Registrar will send you a transcript of my scholastic record. For further references may I suggest: Mr. Stephen Ts'ai; Mr. Yung Ching Wei, 600 West 122nd Street New York, N.Y.; Dean David Roberts, Broadway at 120th Street; and Dr. H. P. Van Dusen, of the same address.

Would it be convenient to have me call on you in your Fifth Avenue office?

Sincerely yours,

Ben I. Cowles

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February 18, 1942

Mr. Ben T. Guleser  
600 West 111th Street  
New York City

Dear Mr. Guleser:

Thank you very much for your reply to my letter of February 12 about the opening at Yeshiva University.

I will be glad indeed to talk with you at any time that is convenient for you to drop in during office hours at our office at 120 Fifth Avenue, Room 502. It might be well, when you plan to come, to check by telephone to make sure that I am not tied up in a committee meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

JIP:W

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BEN T. COWLES

600 WEST 122ND STREET  
February 20, 1941

NEW YORK

Mr. Joseph I. Parker  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

*Feb 21*

Dear Mr. Parker:

Would it be convenient for you to have me call at  
your office about 3:00 P.M. on Friday, February  
21st?

If for any reason this is not convenient, would  
you please call me at MO-2-5285. (In case I am  
out when you call, our office will be glad to take  
any message you may want to leave.)

I am looking forward to meeting you and to having  
a talk with you.

Sincerely yours,

Ben Cowles

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ACK - 3-24-41 DJC - 7

March 22nd, 1941

My dear Oliver,

I have just written Miss Carryl, of the Easton YWCA, accepting her invitation to speak to their Conference on March 29th.

You will notice in her letter, which I am enclosing, that she wants me to bring movies on China. Could you possibly get hold of an appropriate film?

Thanks very much,

My best,

*Ben*

Ben T. Cowles

600 West 122nd Street  
New York, N.Y.

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March 28th, 1941

My dear Oliver,

I have just written Miss Carvill of the Labor WDA, accepting her invitation to speak to their conference on March 30th.

You will notice in her letter, which I am enclosing, that she wants me to bring movies on China. Could you possibly get hold of an appropriate film?

Thanks very much,

My best,

*Ben*  
E. Cowles

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300 West 123rd St  
New York, N.Y.

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March 26, 1961

Mr. Sam Coslow  
600 West 122nd Street  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sam:

I am glad that you are going to speak to the group in Boston. From my limited knowledge of the town, I believe you will have a very interesting experience.

In connection with your inquiry concerning motion pictures, I am sending you the list of the films we now have available. If you are curious about any of them, I would suggest that you come to this office for a showing. I believe that they will all be available for your use on Saturday.

Why don't you come down sometime this week and have lunch with me? We would be able to check on the most appropriate film at that time.

With best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

OJP:P  
Enclosures

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June 19, 1941

<sup>u</sup>  
Mr. Ben Coles  
Union Theological Seminary  
122nd Street & Broadway  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Coles:

Word has been received from Yenching University concerning the plans for the McRuer Foundation appointment about which we talked sometime ago.

The situation in Peking is now such that they would prefer, if possible, to avoid bringing anyone from America under the present conditions. They have, therefore, made a special arrangement for this coming year with Mr. James Fyke to take care of this work. Mr. Fyke is already in Peking.

Permit me to thank you for allowing us to consider you in connection with this part of the Yenching program.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

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CHEVY CHASE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHEVY CHASE CIRCLE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JOSEPH HILLMAN HOLLISTER, MINISTER  
MRS. GEORGE R. DAVIS, CHURCH SECRETARY

CHARLES E. STEBBINS, JR., MINISTER OF MUSIC  
BEN T. COWLES, MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

June 27, 1941

Mr. Joseph I. Parker  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Parker:

It was many months ago that I had the privilege of talking with you in your office in New York about the McBrier Foundation appointment in Yenching. As I told you at the time, the possible opening there was very attractive to me. However, since talking with you, as you may well understand, a number of other opportunities came up. Late in April I was called down here to Chevy Chase and began work here early in June.

Let me thank you very much for considering my name for the Yenching appointment. I am very delighted that our friend, Jim Pyke, is in a position to handle that very important work. He is a great boy, with a sound Chinese background, and a good education. I know he will make a very fine contribution to the students on the campus there.

A number of our young people here have been very eager to correspond with several Yenching students. Could you please advise me as to (1) whether letters from American students would in any way put our Chinese friends in an awkward light with the prevailing authorities; and (2) since the postage is such an item for our Chinese friends, could we send you money which could be in turn remitted to the students to pay for letters they return. Also, since my list of acquaintances at Yenching is limited to two or three, could your office send us a list of both girls and fellows with whom our young people could correspond.

I am very eager to have a long talk with you about recent developments at Yenching, and I hope I may have this opportunity some time soon.

My family asked me to send their best regards the next time I wrote.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Ben Cowles

Ack.  
6/30/41  
JSP

Wrote  
Stuart  
6/30/41  
JSP

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*[Faint, mostly illegible text and markings on a document page]*

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June 30, 1941

Mr. Ben Cowles  
Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church  
Chevy Chase Circle  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cowles:

Your letter of June 27 has just reached me, and I am interested in your suggestions about corresponding with the students at Yenching.

In answer to your first question, I might say that there should be no embarrassing difficulties in the matter of exchange of letters, providing subjects of political nature are avoided. Your second question is a little bit more difficult to answer in that the question will have to be sent on to Yenching. I think perhaps the best thing for us to do is to write to Dr. Stuart, who will probably pass the matter on to Mr. Fyke for implementation. I will ask them to suggest how best to handle the payment of postage expended by the Chinese students and to suggest a list of men and women students with whom your young people might correspond.

I am starting off on vacation tomorrow, but since it will take a little time to get a reply back from Yenching, I hope we may be able to deal further with this matter early this fall.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

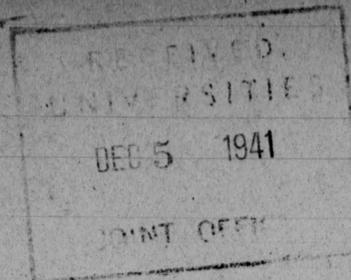
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December 3, 1941

Mr. Ben Cowles  
Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church  
Chevy Chase Circle  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cowles:

I have finally had a letter from Mr. James Pyke concerning possible correspondence with Yenching students which you suggested in your letter of June 27. I am enclosing a copy of the letter from him which explains the plans in Peking. I would suggest that any letters which may be written should be addressed to a "Yenching Student" in care of Mr. Pyke at the University, and the replies will then make the final contact of the personalities involved.

We hope that you will be able to work out a satisfactory plan for making helpful contacts between your young people and some of the students at the University.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

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January 28, 1942

Mr. Ben Cowles  
Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church  
Chevy Chase Circle  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cowles:

Early in December we wrote concerning the reply received from Yenching University regarding correspondence with students there. Shortly after our letter was written, the events took place which we now know definitely closed the University. It will, therefore, be impossible to carry out the plan which had been suggested of conducting correspondence with the students at Peking.

We hope that the time will not be too far distant when the University can reopen, and plans which are now being held in abeyance may again be put into effect.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

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CHEVY CHASE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHEVY CHASE CIRCLE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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MRS. GEORGE H. DAVIS, CHURCH SECRETARY

CHARLES E. STEBBINS, JR., MINISTER OF MUSIC  
BEN T. COWLES, MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

February 13, 1942

*Handwritten initials: JH, GHD, CS, BT*

Mr. Joseph J. Parker  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York  
N. Y.

My dear Mr. Parker:

Let me thank you very much for making the contact with the appropriate teachers in Yenching. Of course we realize that with the war condition it will be impossible to follow out our plan of corresponding with students out in Peiping. However, we are looking forward to re-establishing lines of communication as well as those of a deeper friendship.

With my very best regards to you and your colleagues,

Very sincerely yours,

*Ben Cowles*

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Wm. Cowling

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0583

April 29, 1931

Mr. W. C. Cowling  
Ford Motor Company  
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Mr. Cowling:

There seems to have been some confusion again regarding your efforts to get together. I had a long distance telephone call from our office telling me that the trip to Detroit had been cancelled for this week and that I must be sure to be in this city yesterday or today in order to arrange with you regarding further plans. Apparently something has interfered with your intentions to come here at this time.

I am writing now to express the hope that you will be able to arrange for Mr. Fugh to have the conference with Mr. Henry Ford and his son, in the near future, in order that he may be able to go back to China with a sense of having made some progress at least in the chief errand which has brought him here. It is rather hard from his oriental point of view to understand this long delay in view of the nature of his mission and the position of the men on whose behalf he is acting. I have done my best to explain to him the difficulties, which of course, I can readily appreciate myself, but the Chinese mind is apt to feel a slight, or to speculate as to some subtle factors in the situation which have not been previously apprehended. He is beginning to feel that the whole mission has been a failure and that either Mr. Ford is not really interested in doing something for China, or that he prefers to work through some other process than the group Mr. Fugh represents.

I know you well enough to write this frankly to you and shall continue to cooperate in whatever ways I can. My own appointments are being held open until the Detroit visit can be arranged, as I want to be of any service I can in connection with this important project. As to any possible chance to interest Mr. Ford in Yenching University, let me say again, that this feature need not be dealt with at all, at least until the major issue has been sufficiently cleared. I would not for the world, prejudice the more important business in which we are all interested, by injecting my personal problem, however pressing that may be upon me.

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Mr. Cowling....#2

April 29, 1931

I am sailing from Seattle on May 30th. Mr. Fugh would have liked to get away earlier, and will, if necessary, stay longer, but would otherwise prefer to return with me. He also wants to have a week or two on the Pacific Coast before sailing, which is a further element in his present uneasiness of mind.

Very sincerely yours,

JLS:KK

0585

Yenching University  
New York City

May 13, 1931

Memorandum to Dr. Stuart:

*Rentscher  
a Princeton  
man.*

Mr. Cowling returned to the office for a second conversation at one o'clock today. He said he had talked with Mr. James H. Townsend in the office of Mr. Gordon Rentscher, impressing upon him that he very much desired Mr. Rentscher to meet you and Philip and talk with you about your important mission in America. He seems to feel a good deal of confidence that Mr. Townsend will pass on to Mr. Rentscher what he said to him, and that the interview will be well worth holding. He said he was anxious that you and Philip should see Mr. Rentscher, if possible, before you see Cowling in Detroit, since he wishes to know what Rentscher's reaction is. He said Townsend assured him that he would give you and Philip introductions to the officers in the Far Eastern Division of Rentscher's bank.

I told Cowling of your plans, including the trustees' meeting forenoon of Monday, and other engagements, and told him that if it was at all possible you would endeavor to see Townsend and Rentscher before leaving for Detroit. Since it is very doubtful whether you will find this possible, I want him to be prepared to say that you had not been able to meet the engagement.

Mr. Cowling seems to me to have a very positive desire to have the Fords do something substantial in China. He expressed much regret that Philip had returned to America at this time instead of coming after Ford's China representatives should have returned from there. He said the manager of the Shanghai office had been called home and would arrive here about June 10th. I asked whether he thought it advisable that Philip should postpone his return until he could have interviews after the return of this Shanghai manager. Mr. Cowling replied that he did not think this would be justified. In his second conversation with me, he expressed his misgiving at the seriousness of the present threat against the growing unification in China. He seems to feel that it is likely to be a very serious matter. I told him that I thought we should know within two weeks or a month whether it really would be serious, but that I had confidence that President Chiang would be able to maintain the dominant position for the Nanking regime. I told him that one of the important reasons why all of us are anxious to see American industrial cooperation in China is because we are confident that all the present unrest, turbulence and factional struggle, is due, in large measure, to the serious economic distress of the masses of the people and that a stable government could most surely be developed through improvement of the general economic condition. Mr. Cowling stated emphatically that he agreed with this point of view. He said he liked the people whom he had met in China, very much, and certainly wished them well, and that he would be greatly distressed if the present threat should seriously disturb the existing stable situation.

Mr. Cowling left a letter of introduction for you and Philip addressed to Mr. Goodhue of the International Acceptance Bank. He said that Goodhue is a very important personality, that he knows him well, although he has not seen him since Cowling returned from China. I felt sure that Mr. Goodhue would be worth interviewing and might be most helpful.

Cowling expects to reach Detroit Tuesday morning. If Philip goes in advance of you, Cowling will be glad to see him. I did not think to mention this one possibility in my second conversation with him, so I am writing him a note regarding it.

O.D.W.

0586

May 13, 1931

Mr. W. C. Cowling  
Ford Motor Company  
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Mr. Cowling:

In my second conversation with you I neglected to mention one item. President Stuart stated in our telephone conversation that Mr. Fugh might go from Richmond to Cleveland and thence to Chicago, and might remain in Chicago instead of returning to New York for Sunday and Monday, since there would be no reason for his coming back here. In that case, Mr. Fugh might come to Detroit Monday morning to wait for Dr. Stuart's arrival on Tuesday morning. If Mr. Fugh does arrive on Monday, you will understand that he is only awaiting Dr. Stuart. I shall personally greatly appreciate any courtesies you may show him, and I know President Stuart will likewise.

I much fear that it will be physically impossible for Dr. Stuart and Mr. Fugh to make the calls on Mr. Townsend, Mr. Rentscher, and Mr. Goodhue before coming to Detroit, even if Mr. Fugh returns to the city Sunday, since Dr. Stuart has unescapable engagements from 9:30 Monday morning until some time in the afternoon. He will do the best practicable. Thanks for your energetic efforts in his behalf.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

GDW:KK

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FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Reuge Plant  
Dearborn, Michigan  
November 17, 1932.

Mrs. Eula B. Lee  
Board of Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

You have probably wondered why you have not been in more frequent contact with me since the negotiations for my joining the Board of Trustees at Yenching University. The fact is that I have had many things to iron out with our Company. Heretofore, I have been unable to join any Boards outside of our own business on account of Company policy. I expect a decision within the next day or so and hope it will be favorable, at which time I shall advise you.

On account of our interest in Yenching University, as well as my friendship for Dr. Stuart, I have every inclination to become a member of the Board, but if I do become a member I would want to be of distinct service to that Board.

Will you please accept my apology for not writing you sooner, and explain to anyone who inquires that it was not lack of interest, but for the reasons as explained above.

Thanking you for your previous letters, I am,

Yours very truly,

/s/ W. C. COWLING

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W. C. Cowling

November 21, 1952.

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart,  
Yenching University  
Peiping, China

My dear Dr. Stuart:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 27th.

Invitation to Mr. W. C. Cowling. The first topic you mention is that of the proposed invitation by the American Board to Mr. W. C. Cowling, to serve as one of their representatives on the Yenching Board. The American Board has been pursuing this matter quite actively for some months. Mr. Cowling has expressed his sincere interest in Yenching and his willingness to serve on the Board of Trustees if he finds this meets with the approval of Mr. Ford. He has been unable to give any definite decision, however, until he is able to ascertain Mr. Ford's attitude in the matter. You will be interested in the letter Mr. Cowling wrote Mrs. Lee a few days ago on this topic. I am attaching a copy herewith.

Request from Mr. Farley. A meeting of the Finance Committee is being held tomorrow, and at that time the matter of Mr. Farley's request will be given consideration. I will pass on your comment to the Committee.

The Christmas spirit will be in the air by the time this arrives in China. We hope that the holiday season will be a very pleasant one indeed on the Yenching campus.

Very cordially yours,



BAG:PW  
Enc.

CC: Promotional Office

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0589

C o p y

April 5, 1933. TO: Dr. Goodsell  
IN RE: MR. W. C. COWLING.

FROM: Mrs. L. O. Lee

Dr. Stuart of Yenching first got into touch with Mr. W. C. Cowling when he was at home a year ago. He suggested to us that we try to secure Mr. Cowling who is a member of the North Woodward Congregational Church, Detroit, as one of the American Board representatives on the Yenching Board of Trustees and we wrote him. We had a courteous reply to the effect that Mr. Cowling was interested in Yenching but that it was a rule of the Ford Company that no member of the Company should accept outside responsibilities without Mr. Ford's approval. He therefore asked us to hold the matter in abeyance until he could confer with Mr. Ford. We have since then written to Mr. Cowling at least twice, asking whether he ~~was~~ is as yet ready to give us a definite answer, but he has held us off. He once telegraphed saying that he hoped soon to be able to reply. Under all the circumstances it did not seem to Wynn or me that we could without a further word from Mr. Cowling himself, take the action which Mr. Warner suggests.

You may know that Dr. Stuart is again in this country. He was hoping to have an interview with Mr. Cowling (and perhaps with Mr. Ford also) while in Detroit on his way east. He is due to reach New York on April 14. I think that by that time he may have been able to secure a definite reply from Mr. Cowling.

The Prudential Committee yesterday authorizes the Cabinet to make the appointment in case Mr. Cowling's assent is secured so that he may if possible be present at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 20. Mr. Warner evidently did not know just where the matter stood.

EBL:dsk

On May 10, 1933 Mrs. Lee wrote  
Mr. C. inviting him to attend  
the tea for JHS in Boston on  
May 12th. No letter showing  
there was a reply

0590

Pittsburgh  
April 9 1933

Dear Bayard -

Mr W C Cowling of the Ford Motor Co will be in New York Wednesday and Thursday of this week. He expects to phone the Purchasing Office to arrange a date on which Dr Stuart can run out to Detroit to confer with the Fords. Dr Stuart is anxious to have Mr Cowling consult you on this matter. I am asking Miss McCoy to be sure to transfer such a phone call to you wherever you may be. Please keep ~~in~~ closely in touch with her these two days. It is highly important that we bring about a meeting with the Fords if possible.

Inasmuch as Dr Stuart feels that he must marry his Chinese friends in Chicago <sup>Saturday</sup> April 22nd <sup>or Sunday</sup> April 23rd as most desirable dates for another visit to Detroit?

As Ever

Erman

PS - Perhaps you might better anticipate Mr Cowling's call by phoning to him at the Ford Headquarters in N.Y.

0591

**AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**

INCORPORATED 1912

14 BEACON STREET - BOSTON, MASS.

OFFICE OF  
FRED FIELD GOODSSELL, D.D.  
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

April 12, 1933.

Mr. Franklin Warner,  
Lejano Rancho,  
Claremont,  
California.

Dear Mr. Warner:

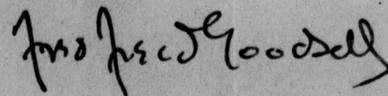
In answer to your letter of March 26th I want to give you the facts concerning the delay in Prudential Committee's action regarding appointment of Mr. W. C. Cowling as a Trustee of Yenching University.

Upon Dr. Stuart's suggestion that we try to secure Mr. Cowling as one of the American Board representatives on the Yenching Board of Trustees, we wrote him - about a year ago - and had a reply to the effect that he was interested in Yenching but that it was a rule of the Ford Company that no member of the Company should accept outside responsibilities without Mr. Ford's approval. He therefore asked us to hold the matter in abeyance until he might confer with Mr. Ford. We have written him several times since receiving that letter, asking whether he could give us a definite answer, but to date nothing of that nature has been received. Some time ago he telegraphed saying that he hoped soon to be able to reply. Until we receive definite word from Mr. Cowling we do not feel that we can go farther towards making the appointment. We understand that Dr. Stuart is again in America and it is his intention to have an interview with Mr. Cowling - and perhaps with Mr. Ford - while in Detroit. He expects to reach New York on April 14th and it is possible that he will be able to give us Mr. Cowling's decision at that time.

The Prudential Committee at its meeting on April 4th authorized the Cabinet to make the appointment in case Mr. Cowling's assent were secured, so that he might be present at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Yenching University on April 20th. You will see from the foregoing that we have gone as far as circumstances would permit in this matter.

I am looking forward to seeing you when you come East in June,

Yours sincerely,



FFG/MCD

0592

Respond after.  
date with President  
Roosevelt is settled

# Ford Motor Company

ROUGE PLANT  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

April 24 1933

Dr J Leighton Stuart  
c/o Yenching University  
150 5th Avenue  
New York N Y

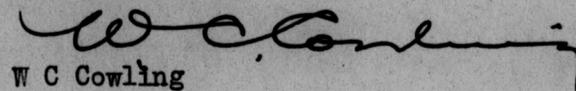
Dear Doctor Stuart:

Since I saw you I spent last week in Washington and do not know just where I shall be this week. I find today that Mr Ford will be out of the city for a few days and up to the moment I have not found out just where he is, but presume I shall have this information later in the day.

As soon as he gets back I shall try to lay some plans so that you will get to Detroit again. I find things very interesting at the Washington end and I look for much activity in the coming months. These may be troublesome times, but at least they are interesting.

I will either phone you or write you as soon as I get my bearings.

Yours very truly,

  
W C Cowling

WCC:R

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# Ford Motor Company

ROUGE PLANT

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN    October 31 1935

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart,  
C/o Ford Motor Company,  
Seattle, Wash.

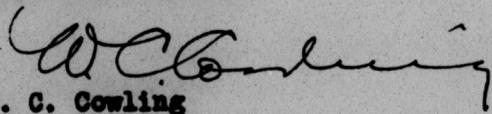
Dear Dr. Stuart:

I was agreeably surprised and delighted to receive your letter saying you were on your way to America. Up until November 23d I shall be busy attending automobile shows, the last show being from November 16th to November 23d at Chicago.

If you will advise me just what your own plans are, I shall be glad to do anything I can to make your stay profitable. So far as I am personally concerned, outside of these automobile shows, I can see you any time.

Trusting that all is moving well with you, and that you are enjoying good health, I am with best regards

Very truly yours,

  
W. C. Cowling

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November 19, 1935

Mr. W. J. Holm  
Ford Motor Company  
Seattle, Washington

My dear Mr. Holm

Since arriving in the east this has been my first opportunity to write any letters and I am dictating the first one on my list to you.

I want to assure you again how much I appreciated not only the time you took to assist me while in Seattle but the whole spirit with which you rendered this extremely valuable service.

Before reaching Chicago I had a telegram which required me to go to Boston without stopping on the way. I explained, therefore, to the Ford representative who met me in the station that I could not take advantage of this further courtesy. I shall try to write Mr. Cowling this morning regarding the best time for visiting him.

Please give my regards to Mr. Wilcox and also to Mr. Bayles. Hoping to meet you again one of these days, I am

Very sincerely yours,

JLS:MP

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*Cowling*

*Ford Motor Company*

ROUGE PLANT  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

November 26 1935

Dr J Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York N Y

Dear Doctor Stuart:

I find your letter of the 19th on my desk upon my return to the city.

Regarding the best time to come to Detroit. At the present time both Mr Fords are out of the city and I do not know when they will be back. It will hardly pay to make a special trip to Detroit immediately after Thanksgiving Day, because nothing would be gained by doing this. I think it would be well to wait until after December 9th when I will know more about the status of affairs and then get in touch with you. I am looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to seeing you again.

With my kindest regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

*W C Cowling*  
W C Cowling

WCC:R

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# Ford Motor Company

ROUGE PLANT  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

January 2 1936

Dr J Leighton Stuart President  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York N Y

Dear Dr Stuart:

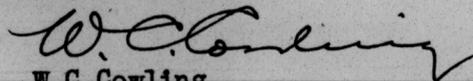
Your letter of the 31st received this morning.

I did not call you during the Holidays because I felt that you would probably be engaged elsewhere. There is no question but that we can see the Messrs Ford, but personally I have seen very little of them lately myself, this being somewhat of a difficult time. However, within the next day or so I shall try and make a definite appointment.

Next week I am due in Oklahoma but only for a few days so that it is possible I shall not be able to do much until my return about the 18th of this month. At any rate, I know that both Mr Ford's will be glad to see you and will be interested in anything you have to say about China.

Trusting that you enjoyed the Holiday period and that all is moving well with you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
W C Cowling

WCC:R

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# Ford Motor Company

ROUGE PLANT  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

February 5 1936

Dr J Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York N Y

Dear Dr Stuart:

I have been counting each day on my ability to wire you a definite date for your Detroit visit.

Confidentially, I have been up against a situation that has been somewhat different from heretofore. The fact is, Mr Henry Ford has been confined to his home with illness for over three weeks and has made no appointments; in fact, he has not even been to the office. During the same time Mr Edsel Ford has been out of the city a great deal on account of pressure of business and I have therefore been unable to fix a definite time. I am sure that we can arrange a date for your visit later on, and sufficiently in advance of your sailing so that you will be well repaid for your visit here. At the moment, until I can find out what the plans of either of the Messrs. Fords are, I am unable to fix a date.

In the meantime, I hope to run across you somewhere because I would not feel right if I were not to sit down with you while you were in this country.

Trusting that you find things to your satisfaction on this trip, and with the best regards of both Mrs Cowling and myself, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*W C Cowling*  
W C Cowling

WCC:R

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# Ford Motor Company

ROUGE PLANT

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

May 12 1936

Mr George C Aydelott  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York N Y

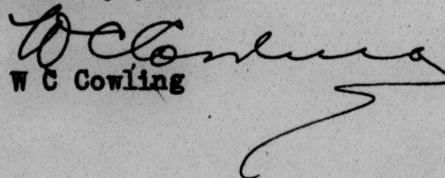
Dear Mr Aydelott:

Thank you for your letter of April 30th regarding your recent trip to Detroit. I was indeed very sorry that I could not spend more time with you while you were here but I have been traveling so much since the first of the year that when I am in the city it has been all I could do to take care of routine matters.

I regret so much having missed Doctor Stuart while he was here and I was not aware that he had left the country until long after his return. I hope that on his next trip I shall surely be in contact with him.

Please give him my best regards and tell him that one of these days I shall write him.

Sincerely yours,

  
W C Cowling

WCC:R

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June 20, 1936

Dear Mr. Cowling:

It is very kind of you to write me as you did on May 12th.

In a letter just received from Dr. Stuart, is the following quotation, which will be of interest to you: "I am happy to assure you that despite the uncertainties of the political situation, internal conditions within the institution have never been more full of promise than at the present."

While present disturbances in China annoy us yet we have no great concern about the ultimate outcome of the work at Yenching. Since the entire country seems to be involved in the present difficulties, it seems very unlikely that Japan will adopt any measures which will bring her into difficulties with these American established schools. We are going steadily forward, knowing that in the long run China will continue to be a dominating factor in the Far East. In the meantime, she needs our friendship and support.

According to my present schedule I shall be in Detroit perhaps the last two weeks in July, working in behalf of Yenching. Since this comes at a time when ordinarily I should be taking a short vacation, I should welcome any suggestions you may have regarding possible places near Detroit where I might slip out on a couple of weekends for at least a bit of open air and recreation. I shall have Mrs. Aydelott with me and we will not have a car so anything I plan would have to be done either by bus or train. I do feel the need of a little relaxation after a long and strenuous year but the pressing obligations in connection with the university makes it necessary that I stick pretty close to the job.

Don't give yourself any undue concern about this but your wide knowledge of that country puts you in possession of many facts which I might never know. I shall 'phone you when I reach Detroit and perhaps we may have at least a few minutes together.

Thanking you sincerely, I am,  
Yours very truly,

Mr. W. C. Cowling  
Ford Motor Company  
Dearborn, Michigan

George C. Aydelott

0600

*you*

August 28, 1956

Mr. W. C. Cowling  
Ford Motor Company  
Dearborn, Michigan

My dear Mr. Cowling:

Although you were out of the city at the time I visited Detroit recently, I take this first opportunity on my return to the office this morning to express my appreciation of the fine cordiality extended to me - also to Mrs. Aydelott and two guests who were with me on the day we visited the plant. Your secretary, Mr. Roberts, took splendid care of us, and both he and you have my lasting gratitude.

The purpose of my visit to Detroit this time was to do the ground work for a proposed conference in Detroit some time during the coming winter, which will include eleven of the outstanding Christian Colleges in China which function under what is known as the Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China. Yenching, of course, is the largest and most important of these schools, but there are ten others which are supported by various Church Boards and denominations in America which occupy fields of great influence in various sections of China.

This central board of the Christian Colleges in China has had a more or less tentative existence for some time, but since the first of July it has taken on a new aspect of importance because it will attempt to give guidance and oversight to a unified educational program for the entire country, thus avoiding expensive overlapping and duplication of effort. This, we believe, will be gladly received by American business men as well as church leaders who have had a growing feeling that a more closely knit policy should pertain with respect to procedure along these lines in China.

In this new arrangement no college or university sacrifices its entity, but attempts through this coordinating agency to effect a more intelligent solution to the baffling problems of the Orient.

The dates for the Detroit conference have not yet been definitely set, but they will probably be in late November or early December, at which time prominent Chinese educators will address large gatherings of people in Detroit and confer with church leaders over a period of approximately three days. I shall be there at that time and hope I may have the privilege of seeing you.

0601

Mr. W. G. Cowling

-2-

August 28, 1958

Word from Dr. Stuart at Yenching is most reassuring with respect to the outlook of the school. Under separate cover I am forwarding a copy of the Annual Report of the Associated Boards, also an account of the celebration of Dr. Stuart's sixtieth birthday, which I am sure will interest you.

In grateful appreciation of your continued kindness, I am

Yours sincerely,

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*you*

August 31, 1936

Mr. John Roberts,  
Secretary to Mr. W. G. Cowling  
Ford Motor Company  
Dearborn, Michigan

My dear Mr. Roberts:

Opportunity is available today for the first time since re-  
turning to New York to forward this word of appreciation for the generous  
consideration you gave me and my guests on the occasion of our recent  
visit to your plant.

We had a most delightful time, and you have my personal  
thanks for all that you did to make it a day of very pleasant memories.

With personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

GCA:BC

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# Ford Motor Company

ROUGE PLANT  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

September 21 1936

Mr George C Aydelott  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City  
N Y

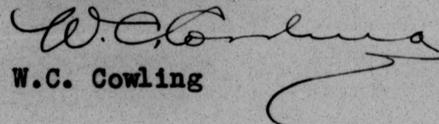
Dear Mr. Aydelott:

In going over correspondence which has accumulated during my frequent absence from the office I note your letter of June 20th and subsequent correspondence in which you stated you planned to be in Detroit.

I am sorry I was away when you called at the office, as I would have enjoyed seeing you. Quite naturally I am always interested in anything pertaining to Dr. Stuart and the Yenching University.

Should you come to Detroit at any time you may be assured that I shall be glad to talk with you.

Sincerely yours,

  
W.C. Cowling

WCC:s

0604

*Cowling*

*Ford Motor Company*

ROUGE PLANT  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

December 28, 1936

Mr George C Aydelott  
The Wardell  
15 Kirby East  
Detroit Mich

Dear Mr. Aydelott:

I have your letter of the 21st.

Frankly with both Mr. Fords away part of the time and with the problem of strikes and other annoying things I have not had any opportunity at all to sound them out. It is difficult to make opportunities of this kind and I shall have to wait until the time seems right.

I am not especially hopeful that they would be interested in the proposition at the moment with all of the things which are happening in China, but at least I shall present the proposition to them when I can.

Trusting you will appreciate the situation,  
I am

Sincerely yours,

*W C Cowling*  
W C Cowling

WCC:s

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also  
J. G. D. Barber  
letter June 3, 1937

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

June 9, 1937

Mr. W. C. Cowling  
Sales Manager  
Ford Motor Company  
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Mr. Cowling:

You are so familiar with the work of Yenching University in China that it is unnecessary for me to emphasize its importance. The very frank purpose of this letter is to ask whether or not you may be able to make a gift between now and June 30, close of the fiscal year.

This has been one of the most successful years, from the standpoint of enrollment, that we have ever had - eight hundred twenty-six students - but the problem of keeping the financial program on a par is one that greatly distresses us. The support from China is now approximately forty per cent, but it will be some years before they can take the entire responsibility. Meanwhile we do not propose to let them down.

In your important position, I recognize that you might feel the necessity of forwarding a substantial contribution, but I assure you that we shall appreciate any amount, even though it may be small in your sight. Dr. Stuart is facing some real financial problems and we hope to be able to wire him, by the end of this month, encouraging news from his American friends.

Yours very sincerely,

George C. Aydelott.

GCA/B  
KHC

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