

327 5005

UBCHEA ARCHIVES  
COLLEGE FILES  
RG 11

Yenching  
Corres.  
French, Edward + Mary  
1923-1943

0237

Refer to H35.  
for further  
reference in  
company

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

TELEPHONE CONGRESS 5186

March 5, 1923 S

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart, President  
Peking University  
Care Dr. James L. Barton  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

RECEIVED  
AT PEKING UNIV. HDQ.  
4/24/23.  
ANSWERED  
.....By.....

Dear Dr. Stuart: PEKING UNIVERSITY

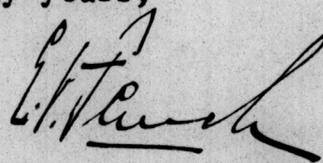
I want to thank you and to whomever else I may be indebted for the lunch Friday. I was very glad of the opportunity to meet you for we have had a deep interest in the University through the presence of the children in Peking. I was, of course, most pleased at the good things you said about them.

I hoped for a chance of a few further words with you after the meeting but could not well wait longer and appreciated that it was mainly a question of getting the effective machinery of the Congregational and Methodist churches at work so that you could present the case most effectively. It seemed to me that all was working satisfactorily in this direction.

My early days were in the Congregational Church, in fact in the old First Church at Lynn, almost, if not actually, the oldest Congregational Church in America. I have a high regard for the excellent work which the Congregational Church is doing. Mrs. French and I have, however, been connected for many years with the Episcopal Church. We do not, however, approve a tendency sometimes seen of aloofness and inability for the Episcopal Church to work in some causes with other Christian bodies in a close way. This is improving but it will take sometime to change all conditions and too much haste might do more harm than good.

If it was desirable and possible for the Episcopal Church to take part definitely in the work of Peking University there is at least a possibility that I could obtain a thoughtful consideration of the matter through Bishop Lawrence of Massachusetts who is a strong man of large influence in the whole church and of broad spirit. If there seems promise of something useful in this direction I should be glad to see what could be done.

Sincerely yours,



0238

20 SCHOOL STREET  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS  
1. 12. '25.

James H. Lewis  
Exec. Secy Peking University  
150 Fifth Ave. N. Y. C.

My dear Sir:

Surely I have not forgotten  
my pledge to Peking University.  
We have been so busy - financially -  
getting Mr. Li through Tech - - we  
have been rather glad to wait  
as long as we could for the  
Building Fund. But never  
with a thought of wishing to ignore  
it - you may be sure.

I have now taken steps  
to get at two small sums of

0239

money which were a legacy  
to me when I was a child.

It will take a little time  
to do this — but it will come.

I had had the money transferred  
years ago — for safe-keeping — at  
a time when I was being partic-  
ularly "jostled" — into the care of  
a very valued family friend —  
a bank man — who has since  
died — and his son, the executor  
must be satisfied of the "justness"  
of the transfer back into my name.  
I anticipate no difficulty.

I would like this gift to be  
from my very own money if  
possible. Mr. French is largely  
"responsible" for "Richard Lee".

3.

The understanding on my part with Pres. Stuart was - that this helping Mr. Li through M. I. J. was to be the beginning of a Student Loan Fund for Peking University. And Mr. Li was the first student to be helped through the fund. Mr. Li will have to pay it back to the University after he gets out into the world - and begins to make good. Then, some other student can avail himself of it - and we think he understands that the sooner he does his part - the sooner some

0241

one else can avail him-  
self of the opportunity.

20 SCHOOL STREET

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. Lucien H. Warner - Colum-  
bia - who taught Mr. Li at  
the University - has helped  
on this fund, too, and I  
think - his wife - Mrs. Warner -  
as they became very much  
interested in Mr. Li - during  
their stay at the University.

Mr. Lucien Warner has  
probably taken this matter  
up with you - or at least - he  
intended to. Perhaps I need  
not have gone into it so  
thoroughly. [It was to be recorded in some way.]

We like Mr. Li very much - we  
believe he is working very hard -

5  
20 SCHOOL STREET  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

and will be a credit to Peking University. He is doing what he can to help himself financially. It is better so.

As he is only one of several students whom Mr. Lanch has been partly helping through College — it has been necessary to plan for it all because it will be a long time before any of them can be in a position to return any of it. But we believe it is worthwhile work.  
I am glad you wrote

0243

me, and I will do all  
in my power to expedite  
matters. You shall not be  
at a loss - if the running  
means that.  
by Jan. 1. '25 - I will be  
responsible for the interest.

Very sincerely yours,

Mary A. W. French.  
(Mrs. Edward S. French.)

20 SCHOOL STREET

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

Nov. 20. '25.

Jas. H. Lewis  
Exec. Sec. Peking University  
Office - 150 Fifth Ave., New York City

My dear Mr. Lewis:

It has troubled me greatly  
to have had to keep you waiting  
so long for my promised gift to  
Peking University.

I wrote you how my "very own"  
money was tied up - and that  
it would take time to get it out  
of "Chancery".

At last - here it is - and  
my check for \$45.83 - interest @  
7%

0245

five percent - since Jan. 1,  
1925 - when original pledge  
became due.

It gives me great hap-  
piness to do this for Peking  
University - as I greatly believe  
in what the University is doing  
for the young men & women  
of China.

You may or may not know  
that Mr. Lee is trying to help  
Mr. Richard Lee - Si Szu Mien  
through Lee - M. J. T. - here  
in Boston - & that he is a Credit  
to himself - his Alma Mater in  
Peking - & to Lee - and  
too. to the faith & trust we all

Mr. J. H. Lewis.

3

have in his determination to  
make good in the pursuit of  
his Education - in the making  
of his fine Character - and  
in his avowed intention of  
going back to his Country  
to really serve it.

With every good wish for  
the progress of Deaking University  
that you are all making so  
very splendidly to further -  
I am very truly yours.

Mary M. French  
(Mrs. Edward V. French.)



December 29, 1925

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

Dear Mrs. French:

What a generous person you are in sending not only your pledge for \$1,000 but also a check for the interest on it. You doubtless received our lion a few weeks ago. The answer was delayed because of the holidays. We never apply the interest on the principle until after the principle is received. Therefore, we are applying your interest check of \$45.83 toward our Mechanical Equipment and Expense Budget (lion Fund). It is a very great anxiety to us to provide the very large sums necessary for the power plant and heating requirements. You see our campus includes practically 110 acres and the group of buildings themselves is so large that we have more than a mile of heating mains, water pipes, electric light conduits, sewerage system and so forth.

We have just received cabled word from Dr. Stuart stating that we need have no anxiety over our personnel or our property. We were especially anxious for this word because of the present trouble there.

It is a delight to hear of the progress of Richard Lee and your personal interest and help with him. My own judgment is that the biggest help you will give him will be not so much whatever money you may lay out for him but in the personal association. This will mean a great deal to him not only now but in the future.

Very sincerely yours

0249

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2  
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August 1, 1927

President J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking West, China

Dear Leighton:

In going over our files here, we have come across some letters relating to gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. French. It is possible you will recall the matter because apparently it arose in March of 1923 when you were in Boston on the campaign.

In the letter dated March 1, 1923, Mr. French wrote a cordial letter saying he had been glad to attend the luncheon and to meet you because they had had "a deep interest in the University through the presence of the children in Peking", and adds, "I was, of course, most pleased at the good things you said about them." He speaks of being connected with the Congregational Church in his earlier days but they are connected now for some years with the Episcopal Church. He does not entirely like their aloofness in cooperating with other Christian bodies. This was probably one reason why he gave to Yenching. He also expressed the desire, if there was any way of uniting the Episcopal Church as such with the Yenching work, he would be glad to take it up with Bishop Lawrence. From the correspondence, I judge that he has been the one that has been helping one of our students, Li Su Mien (also known as Richard Lee) through Tech (M.I.T.).

Mrs. French at that time ~~was~~ a little later promised to give \$1000 and wanted to do it out of her "own money" from an old legacy. It took her some time to accomplish this and she did not pay it until December 29, 1925 (including \$45.83 for interest). In a letter of December 29, 1925, this contribution is acknowledged by Mr. Jim Lewis and he sent her a "Lion." From that date there seems to be no record of any correspondence whatever.

I am writing to you now to ask how you think this matter can be handled looking toward a future gift. We would need, of course, to know something about this student and what happened to him. It was implied that Mr. French's supporting him in the M.I.T. was a loan which you said was the beginning of a "Loan Fund" to be developed at Yenching. It is possible you might have kept up some connection with him that we do not know of at the office but, in any case, please let us know what you think the next step should be.

Sincerely yours,

H. W. L.

P.S. Mr. E.V. French's business address is 185 Franklin Street, Boston, Mass., and Mrs. French wrote from 20 School Street, Andover, Mass.

0250

French, Mr. and Mrs. Edward V.

20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

June 28, 1928

Pledge \$100.00 for 1928 Campaign-Undesignated. Payable

"not later than Jan. 1, 1929"

Gift received	6-28-28
Receipt clip #	_____
Entered on campaign record	✓
" " attached	✓
" " correct	✓
Serial No. on card	218 ✓
Pledge signed attached	✓
X file cards	_____
Letter ack. sent	7-2-28 ✓
Checked for C. L.	_____
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

0251

3  
2  
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5

July 10, 1928

My dear Mr. and Mrs. French:

It occurs to us that you might like to have for your personal record a copy of the pledge which you recently sent to Yenching University. This copy is enclosed herewith.

We are sure you will be glad to know that the response to Mr. Warner's recent letter has been extremely gratifying and that we have received through this means cash and pledges aggregating \$24,277.00. This does not, of course, bring us to the goal required to secure Mr. and Mrs. Boyd's splendid gift of \$90,000, but these friends have been so impressed by the interest manifested that they have extended the time limit to July 15th.

We do not expect those who have already contributed to the campaign to add to their gifts, but we should appreciate it greatly if you who have given could interest one or more of your friends in our behalf. For this reason we enclose a blank pledge leaflet and another copy of our letter of June 26th.

With sincere gratitude for your generous interest in the work of the University, we are

Cordially yours,

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

Campaign Office Secretary

Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. French,  
20 School Street,  
Andover, Mass.

0252

October 3, 1928

My dear Mrs. French:

I came back to New York today carrying in my mind pleasant memories of the call I had with you. You received me in such a gracious manner that it cheered my work all the week.

I know now where I can get \$500 to match the gift you propose to make for the furnishings of the Practice House in connection with the Women's College as a memorial to Dr. Stuart's mother and wife. I know this will please him very much and it was so so fine of you to think of it.

When you send in your subscription I wish you would send with it a note saying that you wish it used for this purpose. Indeed, it would help me very much in securing another \$500 for this purpose if I had a note from you saying that you wish your contribution to constitute half of the \$1,000 necessary for the purpose mentioned. It is always easier to get persons to complete what has already been given than to give to something entirely new. Do you mind sending me such a note with permission to use it?

Trusting I may have the pleasure of seeing you again sometime in the future, I am

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

GEJ:EB

0253

November 14, 1928

*La on 28*

My dear Mrs. French:

I would not for the world have you think I am unduly pressing you in the matter of Yenching University, but I have succeeded in securing the \$500 to furnish the Practice House to meet the \$500 you thought you might be able to give. Would you not let us know about this now? We need \$53,000 to complete this campaign by January 1st and every bit we get helps us just so much. The whole thing is rather urgent with us right now. You can take your own time in paying this pledge and suit your own convenience in the matter.

Remembering with pleasure the delightful hour I spent with you in your home some weeks ago, I am

Most sincerely,

Mrs. E. V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

GEJ:BB

*Where is this  
other 500?*

0254



20 SCHOOL STREET.  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

December 22, 1928

Mr. Chester E. Jenney  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Sir:

Your telegram of December 17th to Mrs. French was received but she has been so much away and so necessarily tied up with other matters that it was impossible for her to give a prompt answer.

It has been her desire ever since she was in China to do something for this work in memory of Dr. Stuart's mother and wife whom she knew so pleasantly and respected so much and this in addition to the high regard in which she holds Dr. Stuart.

Mrs. French will, therefore, make a pledge of \$500.00 to be paid over a period of five years if necessary though very likely will find it possible to take care of this sooner.

We do appreciate the work which this University is doing and wish it all further success and regret that with many other demands it is not feasible to do more at this time.

Yours very truly,

*E. French*

*Paid in full  
1-25-29*

0256

*Handwritten scribbles and illegible text at the top of the page.*

*Faint, mostly illegible text in the upper middle section of the document.*

**French, Mrs. Edward V.**  
**\$500**

*pd. in full*

*Faint, mostly illegible text in the lower middle section of the document.*

*Faint text at the bottom left, possibly a signature or address.*

*Small, faint text at the bottom center of the page.*

December 28, 1928

My dear Mr. French:

We are all very grateful to you and Mrs. French for the generous pledge of \$500. It is a very welcome addition to the amount we have secured in this strenuous campaign and will be of great service to the University.

I am writing you during the absence of Dr. Jenney from this office. If he were here it might not be necessary to trouble you with this inquiry. I have before me the copy of a note Dr. Jenney wrote Mrs. French on November 14th which seems to imply that Mrs. French wishes her contribution to go toward the furnishing of the Practice House for the construction of which we secured \$5,000 in the campaign. If that was the express desire of Mrs. French, we wish to record the pledge in that way and so inform the finance committee of the Trustees. If, however, it is just as agreeable to Mrs. French to have this pledge recorded, as a very large part of all the money secured during the campaign has been recorded, -"undesignated"- this renders somewhat easier the work of the finance committee in issuing authorization to the staff in Peking, from time to time as money comes in from the many different pledges, to proceed with the urgently needed construction work on the campus. In other words, the finance committee in correspondence with President Stuart may feel that the erection of a residence or one unit of a dormitory or certain work required on the campus is more pressing than some other item of our campaign objectives and may, therefore, draw from the undesignated funds which have come in the necessary amount for that particular urgent need. Other things would be taken care of in order as other payments came in from pledges.

I am taking the liberty of delaying the final recording of your pledge until I hear from you just what Mrs. French desires in the matter, whereupon we shall make out our usual form of pledge card in accordance with Mrs. French's desire and send you a duplicate form for your own files.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Mr. E. V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

ODW:BB

0258

C O P Y

JLS

20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.  
Dec. 29, 1928

Office of Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, New York

My dear Mr. Wannamaker:

Your communication with reference to the particular use which would be my preference in "designating" the recent pledge of \$500.00 to the use of Peking University, has just been received and in answering, I would say that I had indicated to Dr. Jenney my desire to have the money used as part of the Equipment for the Girls' Practical Arts Department - But - if that thing has been already accomplished - my real desire would be to have Dr. Stuart have this sum to do with as he sees fit absolutely unhampered - so - that it shall be used as a memorial to "Mother Stuart" and to Dr. Stuart's wife - Mrs. Aline Stuart - whose kindly, courteous, Christian living - expressed in every deed of their lives as I knew them during my stay in their own house - has left a precious memory to me which speaks constantly in the language of Our Lord and Master - Our Great Teacher and Friend - "Go thou" - be and "do likewise."

As time goes on - I hope to be able to do two other things. The gifts must be small - for I have no private income of my own - which would warrant such "memorials" - even in memory of two among the living who have faithfully served - as such deeds if done by me - must be done through small savings from time. - But some day - when I can see my way clear to honestly do this - I want to make a small gift "in memory of" Mrs. Frame, former President of Girls' College, friend of a very dear friend of mine, The other - in "memory of" Mrs. Zwemer - Mrs. "Aline's" closest friend. I believe in Peking, and one whose friendship also meant much to me.

I must in all probabilities discharge or fulfil the present pledge - before I can undertake the latter.

Wishing you every right success in the upbuilding of Yenching University - and God's blessing upon Work and Workers, believe me to be

Faithfully yours,

Mary O. W. French (Mrs. Edward V. F. )

0259

French, Mrs. Edward V.

20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

Jan. 2, 1929

**Pledge \$500 to 1928 Campaign-Undesignated**

Gift received	<del>12-22-28</del> 1-2-29
Receipt slip #	---
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contr. list	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	617 ✓
Pledge signal attached	✓
X file cards	
Letter ack. sent	1-3-29
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

Payable "over a period of five years"

*However she paid this in full 1-25-29*

Pledge letter of Mr. French 12-22-28 and of Mrs. French 12-29-28 are in safe

Mrs. French wrote her real desire was to have Dr. Stuart have this sum to do with as he sees fit. ODW instructed to put this pledge in the Camp.-Undesignated and he would advise the Finance Committee that JLS might call for the \$500 later or would change the designation.

*See letter to JLS 1-3-29*

CH  
January 3, 1928

Memorandum to Dr. Stuart

Having the impression that Mrs. E.V. French of Andover, Massachusetts made her pledge to Dr. Jenney for \$500 on the understanding that it was to be added to another sum to make up the amount necessary for furnishing the Practice House, I wrote to ask about this framing my inquiry in such a way as to secure, if possible, Mrs. French's approval to list her pledge as "undesigned". Please note enclosed copy of her reply and of my response to this reply. No doubt you will wish to write her a personal note and will also instruct the office here if you desire some very special use to be made of this \$500. Our little surplus now beyond the \$500,000 for the campaign objectives is sufficient to make it possible to shift this \$500 without violating the conditions of the Boyd pledge.

O. D. Wammaker

ODW:BB

0261

*EV French*

January 3, 1928<sup>9</sup>

Dear Mrs. French:

We are sending to Dr. Stuart a copy of your letter of December 29th regarding the use to be made of the money generously pledged by you. Dr. Stuart's devotion to his mother and wife was so profound that I know he will feel a special joy in having your gift associated in some special way with their names. He will write us here his suggestion as to the use of this money and will either instruct us what to report to you or write you himself in person.

We are happy to know that you look forward to the possibility of some special recognition of the splendid service done by Mrs. Frame in the development of the University. It so happens that Mrs. Frame and my wife's oldest sister, Elizabeth Hume, were very intimate friends at Hartford Seminary and Mrs. Frame was held in great admiration by Elizabeth. My wife's sister went to India, her husband succeeding my father-in-law in his work of thirty years at Bombay. I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Frame here recently for the first time and can well understand that she must have accomplished a splendid task at Peking. I have never had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Swemer but I feel sure that anyone who was Mrs. Stuart's intimate friend must have been an unusual personality.

In grateful appreciation and with every wish for a happy year, I remain

Cordially,

Assistant to the President

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

ODW:BB

0262

20 SCHOOL STREET.  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

January 23, 1929

Mr. Olin D. Wannamaker  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Mr. Wannamaker:

I received your good letter of the 3rd and was much interested in the comments therein.

In further reference to our correspondence, and my pledge, I am very glad to find it possible to make this payment at once and I am, therefore, enclosing check for \$500.00 drawn to the order of Yenching University, thus contributing the entire amount at this time, rather than spreading it over a 5-year period, as at first proposed.

With every good wish for the future, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Wang O. French.*

Enc. check \$500.

0263

TELEPHONE, LIBERTY 7491

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

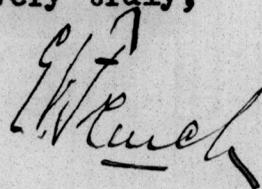
January 23, 1929

Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing herewith check for \$100  
covering pledge made in June of last year, to  
Mr. Franklin H. Warner, - as a contribution toward  
the splendid work you are doing.

Yours very truly,



Enc. check

0264

French, Mrs Edward V.

20 School St.,  
Andover, Mass.

Jan. 24, 1929

\$100 toward pledge #218 toward 1928 Campaign-Undesignated

Gift received	1-24-29
Receipt slip #	2331
Index slip (control record)	✓
" " " card	✓
" " " card	✓
Serial Record book card	218 ✓
Photo original attached	✓
X file cards	
Letter a.k. sent	1-24-29
Checked for O. L.	
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

In full payment of pledge  
made June 26, 1928

(Mrs. French also has a pledge  
of \$500 may Dec. 29, 1928, to  
be paid over a period of five  
years)

0265

January 26, 1929

My dear Mrs. French:

Just after dictating a letter to inform all our friends that our campaign was ended successfully and the \$90,000 provisional pledge of Mr. and Mrs. Boyd fully confirmed, I have before me your letter of January 23rd which was accompanied by a check for \$500 in full payment of your pledge to be paid over a five-year period.

I wish I could say to you how grateful we are for this prompt payment. With all our happiness over the success of our campaign - and we are all certainly enthusiastic over the way our friends rallied to our support - we do feel a little discouraged when a detailed study of the dates of payments on many pledges over a period of three years shows us how little actual cash we shall obtain during 1929 for some of the things most needed.

Your spirit tempts me to write to some of our friends and see whether we can get payment a little earlier so that dormitories may be erected and other construction work begun.

With grateful thanks, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

ODW:LP

0266

French, Mrs. E. V.

20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

Jan. 25, 1929

\$500 in payment of pledge #617 to Camp.-Undesig.

Gift received	1-25029
Receipt slip #	2333
Entered on general record	✓
" " class card	✓
" " card	✓
Serial No. and card	617 ✓
Pledge slip attached	_____
X file card	
Letter a.s. sent	1-25-29 ✓
Checked in O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

(See letter to JLS 1-3-29)

0267

French

February 1, 1929

Memo to Mr. Garside

Please note the following with reference to the pledge of Mrs. E. V. French.

She pledged toward the campaign \$500 to be paid over a period of five years. We listed this under "undesignated". Certain correspondence with Mrs. French, however, indicates that in her conversation with Dr. Jenney about this matter she had indicated clearly that she wished this gift of hers to be used for "a part of the equipment for the girls' practical arts department." My correspondence with her gave her the impression that the \$5,000 had already been secured for the Practice House for Home Economics. In view of that fact, she wrote that, if this had already been accomplished, she would like Dr. Stuart to have her contribution to do with as he sees fit, absolutely unhampered, to use it as a memorial for his mother and wife.

Now that I realize that the \$5,000 for a Practice House belongs to the Department of Education and not to the Department of Home Economics and that no money was secured for the Home Economics House, I feel that I should hand you this information which might seem to indicate that the \$500 just paid by Mrs. French should be credited to the Practice House for Home Economics. Please note, however, that before I discovered that Mr. Post's contribution did not meet the Home Economics problem, I had given Mrs. French the impression that that had been covered and I have since sent Dr. Stuart a copy of her letter expressing the desire that he should have that \$500 absolutely unhampered. I am now sending him a copy of this memorandum.

One way out of the little perplexity would be to have Dr. Stuart indicate his desire that this contribution should be credited toward the Practice House for Home Economics. I think I must leave the matter, however, to be settled between you, him, and the finance committee.

O. D. Waznasaker

ODW:BB.

0268

Copy to Mr. Wannamaker

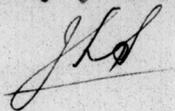
February 9, 1929.

Mrs. Edward V. French,  
20 School Street,  
Andover, Mass.

Dear Mrs. French:

It was a very delightful surprise to learn through Mr. Wannamaker of your contribution of five hundred dollars for something that would be a memorial to my mother and wife. This remembrance touches me almost more than your generosity to Yenching University. I have been thinking with pleasurable indecision as to what would most gratify my loved ones and would seem to you a fitting use of your gift. The suggestion I am making is for your approval and if you think something else would be preferable do not hesitate to let me know. Some friends of mine in Philadelphia contributed money for my house and this has been planned so as to be in addition a faculty social centre and to provide rooms for university guests. The furnishing of these reception rooms especially has been something of a problem, and I know of nothing that would preserve for me the atmosphere of the home in which my mother and wife entertained their friends and those of the University more than the furnishing of these rooms especially with Chinese features the beauty of which my wife so much enjoyed. If this is acceptable to you it will be of direct practical help to the University in the social life which is one of the most effective forms through which we accomplish our purpose, and will assist me to maintain this as those whose memory you are thus honoring used to do in the happy days when they and you were here together.

Very gratefully yours,



0269

Mrs. E. V. French

March 14, 1929

My dear Mrs. French:

Dr. Stuart has sent me a copy of his letter to you expressing the very special pleasure he would feel in using your generous contribution for the furnishing of the President's home. To use your gift in that way will mean that from time to time it will be of service to every member of the Yenching faculty and, one might almost say, to every single student passing through the University. It gives me great pleasure to think that a gift made by you in memory of Dr. Stuart's wife and mother should in a certain sense help to fill their places in the President's home.

If this suggestion meets with your approval, I shall be glad to hear from you so that we may make our records accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Mrs. E. V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

CEWLEB

0270

July 18, 1929

MEMO TO MR. GARRISON:

I do not find that the Promotional Office has transferred to you a copy of the attached letter from Dr. Stuart to Mrs. E. V. French with regard to the allocation of her gift of \$500 made on Jan. 25, 1929.

The last note to you was dated Feb. 1, 1929, and Mr. Wannamaker at that time said he was leaving to you, Dr. Stuart, and the Finance Committee the decision as to whether this money should be changed from the designation "1928 Campaign - Undesignated" to the use of the designation "Home Economics Practice House." However, in view of Dr. Stuart's letter to Mrs. French, it would seem that the gift should be allocated to "1928 Campaign-Residences (furnishings for Dr. Stuart's house). We have tentatively marked our record card in this way, awaiting the decision of the Finance Committee which we presume should officially make the change.

I am also enclosing a copy of Mr. Wannamaker's letter to Mrs. French of March 14th, telling her of his understanding that her gift was to apply to the furnishings of Dr. Stuart's residence, and awaiting her approval. We have heard nothing from her and suppose she feels that her letter of Dec. 29, 1928 to JLS is sufficient, as it gives him permission to use the money in any way he sees fit.

Will you please let the Promotional Office know when the matter has been officially decided?

L. McCoy

*KJL*  
*Approved change as per letter*

0271



**HOTEL BELLEVUE**

BEACON STREET - BEACON HILL  
BOSTON

CHARLES A. WOOD  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE HAYmkt 2981  
CABLE ADDRESS 'BELLEVUE' BOSTON

Jan 28, 1930.

Dr J. L. Stuart  
150 - 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
New York City

Dear Dr. Stuart:

While talking today with Mrs. E. V. French, she stated that she would be very grateful to you if you would get in touch with Richard Lee, a former yearling student, whom the French's have helped to educate.

He is with Maddell-Hardesty, 150 Broadway, NYC. If you cannot see him, she asked that you please telephone him if possible. His home phone is Audobon 3160, Apartment 602.

You, of course, will use your own judgment about this.

0272



## HOTEL BELLEVUE

BEACON STREET - BEACON HILL  
BOSTON

CHARLES A. WOOD  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE HAYmkt 2981  
CABLE ADDRESS 'BELLEVUE' BOSTON

Mr & Mrs French are considering a gift of \$5000<sup>00</sup> to Yenching. I will see them the latter part of this week.

Have unearthed a few thousand more in prospect and feel that Boston and vicinity will make a fine showing for Yenching.

I wish you could have remained here for a week or so, as it is doubly hard to secure gifts without you.

Please accept my best wishes for your success in California.

Cordially yours

George S. Conant

0273

French

January 30, 1930

Dear Mrs. French:

I have just received a letter from Mr. Conant, who gave me your message regarding Richard Lee. I am happy to report to you that I have already had one little visit with him and hope to see him again when back in New York. I am leaving day after tomorrow to be gone for about six weeks in the West, after which time I hope to spend about ten days in Boston and vicinity, and the remaining few weeks before returning to China in or near New York. Richard seems to be doing well, although I did not have the opportunity for the more intimate personal talk with him which I am hoping to have later.

It is very pleasant to renew in this way the very happy associations with Mr. French and yourself. The recent visit to Boston was so occupied with immediate duties that I could not even attempt to look up any of my friends. I am back there in March, however, and trust that the opportunity will come for a visit with you.

With most cordial regards and pleasant anticipations of seeing you soon.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. E. V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

JLS:KK

0274

20 SCHOOL STREET.  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

March 25, 1930

Dr. J. L. Stuart  
% Mr. George S. Conant  
Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass.

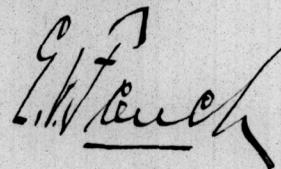
Dear Dr. Stuart:

Enclosed is a pledge for Mrs. French and myself and we only wish that it seemed wise to make it larger as we know the very earnest efforts you are making and the splendid work which has been accomplished.

If you should later have some special need we would be glad to see if it would then be possible to do anything further to help you meet it.

You have our very best wishes for the continued success of the work which you are doing.

Sincerely yours,



Enc.

0275

March 28, 1930

My dear Mr. French:

I brought your letters back with me and am taking the first opportunity to acknowledge them. First of all, let me thank you very heartily for the generous pledge which Mrs. French and yourself have given to our University. I appreciate more than these words can express, not only your willingness to assist us to this extent, but the whole spirit with which both of you have made this decision.

I am also glad to have your further word on the distressing subject of Helen and Lucien. I quite understood your point of view in the remarks you made Sunday evening, but your letter still further clarifies the whole subject. May I be allowed to say not only that I sympathize deeply with all you have been involved in this unfortunate outcome of what began so happily, but also of the way in which you have treated the episode and the attitude and spirit you now have seem to me most admirable. It is very much to the credit of the parents of both sides, as well as to the young people themselves, that friendships have been maintained and no one's spirits seem to have been embittered. I trust that somehow good may come out of ill, as so often happens.

Meanwhile, I am very happy to have renewed the friendship with both Mrs. French and yourself.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. E. V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

JLS:KK

*pledge \$3,0*

*over her  
would  
sent*

0276

French, Mr. & Mrs. E. V.

20 School St.,  
Andover, Mass.

Mar. 29, 1930

Pledge \$3000 - 1930 Camp. - Gen'l Endow.

Payable in 5 annual payments  
beginning July 1st, 1930.

Gift received	3-29-30
Receipt slip #	----
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contr. list	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	9031
Pledge slip attached	✓
X-file cards	
Letter ack. sent	by J.R.S.
checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " church Renewal	✓

Comant

To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY of Peking, China, in carrying forward its Christian educational activity and in consideration of the securing, by representatives of this University, of gifts from others for this purpose, I am sending herewith a cash gift in the amount of \$..... (or) (and) I hereby pledge the sum of Three thousand dollars (\$ 3000.-), to be paid by me in accordance with the plan checked below:

In five annual payments beginning July 1st, 1930. (date)

In..... semi-annual payments beginning..... (date)

In..... quarterly payments beginning..... (date)

At my convenience, on or before..... (date)

Signed Mr. + Mrs. Edward V. French  
Street 20 School St.  
City and State Andover, Mass.  
Date March 25, 1930.

Full name of my local church:  
Christ Church  
Andover, Mass.

Please remit to the order of E. M. McBrier, Treasurer, Yenching University, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

NOTE: I shall expect to be reminded previous to due dates..... (yes or no)

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20 SCHOOL STREET.  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

June 26, 1930

E. M. McBrier, Treas.  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with pledge made by  
Mrs. French and myself last March, we now enclose  
check for six hundred dollars covering the amount  
promised July 1, 1930.

Yours very truly,

*Edward U French,*

Enc. check

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TELEPHONE, LIBERTY 7491

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

June 26, 1931

Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

E. M. McBrier, Treas.

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing herewith check for  
\$600.00 covering the amount due July 1st on pledge  
made sometime ago by Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. French  
toward the work of Yenching University.

Yours very truly,

*Charlotte Stewart*

Secretary to Mr. French

Enc. check

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Mr. & Mrs. Edward V. French

20 School St.,  
Andover, Mass.

June 28, 1930

\$600<sup>00</sup> - 1930 Camp - - General Endow.  
(1<sup>ST</sup> <sup>annual</sup> payment on pledge #903)

Gift received	6-28-30
Receipt slip #	2803
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contr. list	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	903 ✓
Pledge signal attached	✓
X-file cards	
Letter ack. sent	6-28-30
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	renewal ✓

0280

French, Mr. & Mrs. E. V.

~~23~~ 185 Franklin St.

Boston, Mass.

Home - Andover, Mass.

June 29, 1931

B600 - 1929-30 Camp. - Gen'l Endow.

Gift received	6-29-31
Receipt slip #	3020
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contr. list	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	903 ✓
Pledge signal attached	✓
X-file cards	
Letter ack. sent	6-29-31
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	MLJ
" " stencil	Renewal ✓

2<sup>nd</sup> ann. payment  
on pledge

0281

Type # 5  
Mural group

*[Handwritten initials]*

May 5, 1932

Dear Mr. and Mrs. French:

The attached mimeographed statement explains the most serious crisis Yenching University has faced for a number of years. It came to us recently as a great shock when the Rockefeller Foundation, for reasons which may be surmised but which we do not know precisely, informed us that even though we are prepared to report \$175,000 toward the \$250,000 required to meet the condition set by the Foundation for obtaining an endowment of \$250,000 for natural sciences, nevertheless that offer would be cancelled unless we could obtain the remaining \$75,000 before June 30th. Not only this, but we shall lose also an annual appropriation of \$12,500 from the Foundation. We presume the current income of the Foundation is perhaps greatly diminished. Perhaps its policy with reference to grants in China has undergone a change. Whatever the reason, the positive and emphatic statement given to us is that we must meet the condition in full or forfeit both the capital grant and current income.

Regrettable as this inflexible decision is, we are forced simply to accept it. We must do everything humanly possible to avoid such a crippling blow to the University. Our problem is two-fold. We must get between now and June 30th \$75,000 more than we are now able to report. But a great portion of the total must be in cash rather than in pledges. Indeed the latest statement of the condition is that all must be in cash. We can only hope that the Foundation will be a little flexible if we have the major part of the fund in cash.

During this distressing emergency in our own country we had no intention to bring pressure to bear upon our friends for Yenching. Very reluctantly do we feel ourselves compelled to do so. We are appealing to everyone who has helped the University to come to its rescue in this crisis. Those who have given in the past, we are asking for a new gift. Those who have unpaid balances on pledges, we are asking whether they can pay in full before June 30th.

Can you help us, ~~submit~~ by extending your pledge of \$600 a year beyond the limit originally intended? You pledged \$3000 in March 1930 and paid \$600 in June of that year and \$600 in June 1931. The unpaid balance would be \$1800 payable in 1932, 1933, and 1934. Is it entirely out of order to inquire whether you might offer some annual payment for two or three years beyond that date? Can you pay all or a large portion of the balance of the present pledge before June 30th?

Whatever your answer may be, please do not imagine that

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To Mr. and Mrs. French.....5-5-32.

2.

we are deficient in gratitude to you for your sacrificial giving to the University and that we shall understand entirely if you are forced to give a negative answer to both these questions.

Gratefully yours,

Assistant to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

Encl. "The Crisis in Christian Education"

ODW:LM

0283

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TELEPHONE, LIBERTY 7491

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

June 4, 1932

Yenching University  
Mr. Olin D. Wanamaker, Asst. to President  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

*cc to JLS.*

Dear Mr. Wanamaker:

Your letter of May 5th was received and should have had a prompt answer but I have been extremely busy and there were some points in the situation which I did not clearly understand and desired to look up further to see if there was anything in my files as to the original agreements.

Mrs. French and I have the highest regard for Dr. Stuart and wish to do everything possible for us to do in the splendid work which he has been doing. My recollection is that when Dr. Stuart presented this matter to us at our home in Andover and we agreed to contribute \$3,000 to be paid in five annual installments, there was every reason to believe that the situation would be so handled that the gift from the Rockefeller Foundation would be secured without question.

I also have a fairly distinct recollection that the pledge of \$3,000 was larger than we would have felt it wise to make had it not been possible to spread the payment over a period of years and we did want to do all that it seemed best for us to do for the cause. Further, I am quite clear that the understanding then was that spreading the payment over five years would be entirely satisfactory and would fit all the conditions and the plan under which the University was working in an entirely satisfactory way.

It is not clear to us from your letter why the Rockefeller Foundation has taken the action which you state or why there should be any difficulty in obtaining from them a clear explanation of the reason for their course. The suggestion somewhat naturally occurs that the Foundation may feel that the backers of the University have not handled this matter as effectively as they feel should have been the case so that they are now proposing to take a rather stiff attitude.

*June 1932* It was our intention to make our third contribution of \$600 at the regular time but with the many very urgent calls which we are all compelled to meet at this time and with some reduction in income as practically everyone is meeting, it would not seem best for us to attempt to complete our original pledge in cash at this time, or reasonable to ask us to do so. *16,800*

The real fact is that my enthusiasm to continue with our pledge will be somewhat affected by the way the whole matter is being handled and by any developments changing the conditions under which the pledge was originally made. I should, therefore, appreciate a brief statement of the situation but do not wish to ask you to take the time or trouble - for

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Yenching University - 2  
Mr. O. D. Wanamaker, Asst. to President

6-4-32

you must be exceedingly busy - to do more than give me the simple facts.

I have written with considerable frankness but again will say that we should want to do everything within reason to give Dr. Stuart every support in the work which he is doing and which, we assume, it will be expected he will carry on for some years to come.

Yours very truly,

*E. W. French*

0285

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June 6, 1952

Dear Mr. French:

Thank you for writing me so candidly in regard to our present emergency effort. I think I can answer your question regarding the reason for the rather inflexible attitude of the Rockefeller Foundation.

In my letter to you I expressed a surmise that the current income of the Foundation might be greatly diminished, and the second surmise that its policy with reference to grants in China might have undergone a change. Both these theoretical explanations of the unyielding attitude in this particular case, I still believe, may have affected the policy of the Foundation. I can see no reason, from any conversation we have had with the representatives of the Foundation, for believing that they think Yenching has been at all remiss in its effort to raise this fund. In talking with another division some time ago - that of the social sciences - I was told quite candidly that these executives could not possibly expect us to succeed under present conditions in raising large amounts of money. Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. recently met Dr. James Henry, Provost of Lingnan University, in which Mr. Rockefeller has personally been keenly interested. He quite spontaneously remarked to Dr. Henry that we must be having at the present time very great difficulty in raising any money for the colleges in China. The executives of the Foundation are well aware of the fact that many colleges in our own country have been under a terrible strain, and some of them have had to cut their budgets almost ruinously. These gentlemen might naturally feel, therefore, that if Yenching fails to meet the conditions of this large gift and were very much hampered and hindered for several years because of the heavy loss of income, that would be just one of the misfortunes of the depression which we should have to accept as part of the general lot. I am confident that if we meet the conditions, the Foundation will be as deeply interested in Yenching as ever and will continue to help us generously.

Please do not hesitate to ask any further question which might arise in your mind. You and Mrs. French have been so generous to the University that we owe it to you to give a good account of our stewardship.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. E. V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

Assistant to the President

*c to JHS*

0286

TELEPHONE, LIBERTY 7491

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

June 21, 1932

Mr. Olin D. Wannamaker  
Assistant to the President  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

copy to J28-

Dear Mr. Wannamaker:

I thank you for your letter of the 6th but regret that it does not seem to me to answer the inquiries made. I cannot really see the reason for surmises when I should suppose the relations between yourselves and the Rockefeller Foundation would be such that a definite understanding of the situation would be available. It is not satisfactory from a business standpoint to have such uncertainties in a matter of this kind.

There are three principal points:

1. The Rockefeller Foundation agreed to give Yenching \$250,000 if the University raised an equal amount. Was not a definite time limit made in the beginning? If so, why was there surprise now if the Foundation withdraws its offer because Yenching is unable to do its part?
2. Were not definite terms made as to the pledges or cash so that there was every reason to know what the Rockefeller would require on this point?
3. What were the conditions through which the Foundation made an annual appropriation of \$12,500 and why do they now propose to withdraw it?

It is my intention to continue our pledge if able to do so providing conditions are as I had reason to assume them when making the pledge.

If you are very busy endeavoring to carry this matter through, do not attempt to answer this letter until later as I intend to be wholly reasonable.

I am sorry to be critical but I am sure the information which has recently been presented would lead most any one to these feelings and it may be helpful in the end to have them brought out frankly now.

Yours very truly,



0287

CU -

22 June 1932

My dear Mr. French:

I am sorry that my letter of June 6 did not completely clarify our situation in relationship to the Rockefeller Foundation. I am glad to send you herewith copies of communications received by us from the Foundation on May 24, 1929, and on October 20, 1930, the first of these communications quoting the resolution which originally appropriated \$250,000 to Yenching upon certain conditions, and the second quoting a resolution voted in 1930 which modified the terms of the first resolution. After you have read these two communications from the Foundation, I think the following statement will clarify the whole matter.

The Foundation has been interested for years in the Natural Sciences in Yenching University because Yenching prepares most of the students taking pre-medical courses and enrolling later in the Peiping Union Medical College which, as you know, was established by Mr. Rockefeller and endowed by him. It is for this reason the Foundation voted the resolution on May 22, 1929, appropriating \$250,000 for the endowment of the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The reason why the Foundation attached a condition to this appropriation was that it always attaches some condition intended to stimulate the institutions it is helping to obtain funds from other sources. You will note, however, that in the first resolution there was no time limit set, but payments on the appropriation were to be made by the Board "pro rata with collections made by the University and only after the University shall have secured cash and/or legal or valid pledges for the supplementary sum of \$250,000 for the same purpose".

When this first resolution was voted, the University was receiving from the Foundation an annual grant of \$12,500 toward the budget of the Natural Sciences. This grant was due to expire on June 30, 1930. Both the University and the Foundation had good reason to hope that the capital grant of \$250,000 might be obtained before the expiration of that annual grant. Such did not prove to be the case. The crash in the stock market of October, 1929, and the subsequent deepening depression rendered it almost impossible for Yenching to raise any large amounts toward meeting the conditions of the Foundation. At one point in the spring of 1930 we thought these conditions had been met by an extremely generous offer from a Chinese friend of the University. When the precise conditions attaching to

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Mr. French

- 2 -

22 June 1932

the offer of the Chinese friend were communicated to us in detail and by us communicated to the Rockefeller Foundation, the Chinese offer proved unacceptable. After the failure to meet the Foundation offer through this Chinese proposal, the Foundation modified the conditions of the offer by the resolution voted on October 10, 1930, of which I am sending you a copy. You will note that in the modified form of the resolution the time limit was stated June 30, 1932. At the same time, the annual appropriation of \$12,500, which we had been receiving but which was due to expire on June 30, 1930, was extended for two years longer.

There was, however, still another modification in that the second resolution required that all funds reported by us to match the grant of the Foundation must be in cash.

At the beginning of April of this year we reported to the Foundation that funds secured for the specific purpose mentioned, and other funds secured by the Universities and allocated by the trustees to this specific purpose, would aggregate about \$175,000. We informed the Foundation that the general financial situation of the country was so abnormal as to render the securing of additional funds extremely difficult and costly. We doubted the wisdom of using high pressure methods under existing conditions in the effort to complete the \$250,000 funds required to match the Rockefeller offer. We confidently expected that the Foundation would agree with us that it would not be wise to use high pressure methods at present in the endeavor to raise an additional \$75,000 before June 30 and would approve our policy during the past six months or more of a reduction of overhead and only such publicity and promotional work as must be kept up continuously to avoid losing contact with friends of the University. To our surprise, the reply we had from the executives of the Foundation was that no extension of time could be granted and that the conditional appropriation of \$250,000 would be automatically cancelled and also the annual grant of \$12,500 unless we should meet in full the conditions set forth in the resolution voted on October 10, 1930.

Since I wrote you on June 6, I have had two conferences with Dr. Max Mason, the executive handling this matter for the Rockefeller Foundation. In the first conference Mr. Garside, secretary and assistant treasurer of Yenching University, was also present. Dr. Mason is evidently most friendly to Yenching University. There was no indication whatever in either of these conferences of any loss of interest in the University or any feeling of criticism regarding what we have done or failed to do. Nevertheless, Dr. Mason told me quite frankly that he was surprised that we had made such a strenuous effort in the last two and a half months to meet the conditions of the Foundation's offer and that the effort we had put forth really

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constituted a certain embarrassment for him - that he would be profoundly sorry if after such an effort, we should fail to meet our objective and, on the other hand, it would be very difficult to secure any modification whatever of the terms under which the offer of the Foundation had been made. He referred particularly to the requirement that all our funds be in cash.

I have also had a conference with Dean Donham of the Harvard School of Business Administration within the last few days. He is acting chairman of the trustees of Harvard Yenching Institute. I explained our situation in relationship to the Rockefeller Foundation in this matter about which Dean Donham had already been informed in a general way. I expressed my perplexity at the rigid attitude now taken by the Foundation. Dean Donham told me that he interpreted it as being due simply to the fact that the Foundation has lost very heavily in its income and has been drawing on its capital funds, and that the executives are therefore reluctant to draw further on capital funds and would be relieved if a perfectly legitimate reason should exist for cancelling the offer to Yenching. He informed me, confidentially, that the Foundation had recently declined to extend for one more year a grant of \$30,000 it had made for five years to the Harvard School of Business Administration, and Dean Donham considered that the sole reason for this refusal was the same I have just mentioned.

As a result of our application to the Harvard Yenching Institute for help, the trustees at the Institute have just voted in exactly the form that I requested a grant of any amount up to \$25,000 to help us in this emergency, provided that help should enable us to secure the entire \$250,000 conditionally appropriated by the Rockefeller Foundation. Certain other pledges we have recently secured have also been made with the same condition attached. Certain funds allocated by the University to this particular purpose have been allocated on the same condition. In other words, we are using every legitimate pressure upon the Rockefeller Foundation to avoid either the cancellation of the entire appropriation on the ground that much of our money is not in cash but in pledges, or else the reduction of the Rockefeller appropriation to some smaller amount. The Foundation might take this latter action on the ground that it was not obligated to make any payment because we had failed to meet the conditions, but that it would assist the University by giving us as much as we had secured in cash.

The effort we have made during the last two and a half months has tremendously improved our situation. If the Foundation will accept perfectly good bona fide pledges in lieu of cash, we are

Mr. French

- 4 -

22 June 1932

confident that we now lack only about \$13,500 of having the total amount required to match their appropriation. We realize, however, that the more cash we have, the stronger our position will be. Moreover, we are not relaxing our effort but are both personally and through the mail doing everything we can possibly think of to get in hand all possible additional pledges and additional cash before the close of office hours on June 30.

I appreciate your giving me the opportunity to answer your questions. I shall be glad to elucidate further any detail that is not clear. Please do not feel that this letter - unfortunately, but unavoidably lengthy - has interfered with my work. I shall be able to work more effectively if I feel I have stated our situation to you intelligently and satisfactorily.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Mr. Edward V. French  
185 Franklin Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

ODW:JMB  
Enclosure

cc to JLS

0291

TELEPHONE, LIBERTY 7491

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

June 27, 1932

Mr. Olin D. Wannamaker  
Assistance to the President  
Yenching University  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

*cc to JRS.*

Dear Mr. Wannamaker:

I thank you for your letter of the 22nd which makes the situation much clearer but I am sorry to have put you to so much trouble.

My pledge was made in March, 1930 and, consequently, before the action of October, 1930, by the Foundation. It was not, however, until your letter of May 5th, 1932, that we had any notice of the changed conditions.

The practice of the Rockefeller Foundation in these matters had, I should suppose, been well established and it has been my impression that they have been quite rigid in adhering to the terms of their agreement so that beneficiaries lost grants unless the terms were met exactly.

If I am correct in this, it would seem as if the University should have worked on this basis after October, 1930, and that those who had made pledges spreading over a period of years with the distinct understanding that such an arrangement was satisfactory, should have been notified and given time to pay earlier if possible.

Our pledge was influenced by the fact that the friends of the University had an opportunity to obtain a substantial sum from the Foundation if they would through earnest effort, raise an equivalent sum. I do not now like to find that the terms have been changed and this puts a quite different complexion on the whole matter.

.....

If the Foundation finds itself cramped for funds for the present, the straightforward course would seem to be to present the matter frankly to the University, explain that conditions have most unexpectedly changed and then either ask to be relieved or make a modified arrangement with the University for a lesser sum. The friends of the University on being notified of this situation could then accommodate themselves to the change.

There seems to be something indirect if not actually held back in the matter, which from a straight business standpoint I do not like as a frank course recognizing present-day conditions, would be generally appreciated and most people would be ready to conform to it.

It is a question in my mind whether it was really fair

0292

6-27-32

to push the Foundation to the ultimate limit at this time. However, it is their place to ask for relief and propose a compromise. This would seem to me a much truer position than to hope the University would fail so they could get out of the whole obligation.

.....

Despite these feelings we want to do everything possible for the University and our position is as follows:

1. If the situation is worked out in some satisfactory way so that the University will continue to have some help from the Foundation, we will pay our third installment of \$600 now due at once if it will help to secure such an arrangement.
2. If the situation is going to be somewhat involved and without a satisfactory plan we would like to withhold this third installment until the best way to help the university is made clear to us.
3. If the payment now of the balance of the pledge which would be \$1,800, would result in connection with other similar cash payments in obtaining the full \$250,000 from the University, we will send you this whole amount before June 30th.

Unless this result would be actually accomplished or some satisfactory equivalent secured, it would be much wiser for us to distribute the further payments promised originally or any payments that we might agree to make under some new plan, over the next few years other than to use funds now which better be reserved in this very difficult period, for unexpected conditions which may develop any time in the next six to twelve months.

.....

This will show our attitude and I hope you will not think that I have been unduly critical. We will act promptly on hearing from you.

Yours very truly,



E. V. French  
P. 2

CSA

June 28, 1932

Dear Mr. French:

I thank you sincerely for your letter, the spirit of which is as fine as anyone could possibly ask. For fear I may possibly have given you an unfair impression of the attitude and action of the Rockefeller Foundation, I think I ought to emphasize the fact that when the Foundation changed the condition stipulated in the original resolution voting the original appropriation, this change which made the condition more difficult to the University was accompanied by another change greatly to our advantage. Perhaps this was not perfectly clear in my letter. In other words, in the second resolution the Foundation introduced the condition requiring that all funds we should report to match their grant should be in cash, but, at the same time, the Foundation extended for two years longer a current grant of \$12,500 equivalent to interest at six per cent on the amount they were offering. By extending this current grant for two years longer the officers of the Foundation may have felt, very naturally, that they were helping the University with this continued assistance to its budget in such a way that it would be reasonable to ask the University to have a fund in cash by June 30, 1932. I presume that no one at the time that second resolution was voted could possibly have realized how tremendous would be the difficulties even up to the present time in raising funds for a university in China.

Now referring to the very generous alternate offers you make on the second page of your letter, permit me to thank you heartily in the name of the Trustees. As I have stated in previous letters, the amount of cash we have available has an extremely important bearing upon the final decision of the Foundation. In spite, however, of the utmost effort we have been able to make, and of the great generosity of many friends of the University, we cannot report more than a relatively large fraction of the total fund in cash - so far as I can now see, somewhat less than \$125,000 in cash and securities at the present market value. We feel, from recent conferences, much encouraged to believe that the Foundation will relax in the one element of its demand - that for cash. We are strengthened in this view because we have had several offers to which the condition has been attached that these offers hold good only if the Foundation confirms its entire appropriation. Such is the case with the Harvard-Yenching offer of \$25,000. Since the Foundation is, unquestionably, interested in Yenching University, we hardly believe that it will cause us to lose considerable sums offered

0294

Mr. E.V. French

-2-

June 28, 1952

us now by adhering too rigidly to the demand for all cash.

I scarcely feel, therefore, that I ought to ask you to send the entire balance of your pledge, since that much in cash would not seriously affect the situation. As soon as the final decision of the Foundation is rendered we shall let you know what the decision is. Should the payment of your pledge then seem to have some bearing upon the matter, we shall take advantage of your generous willingness to help us. Otherwise, we shall be grateful for the payment at the times you originally intended.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

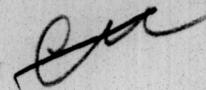
Mr. E. V. French  
185 Franklin Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

ODW:KK

c c to JKS.

0295

Edw. V. French



July 26, 1932

Mr. Edward V. French  
185 Franklin Street  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. French:

In the absence of Mr. Wannamaker, it is my privilege to continue the correspondence he had with you in June in regard to our efforts to match the conditions of the Rockefeller grant for the endowment of Natural Science, and the relationship of your pledge to these efforts.

The friends of Yenching University are all rejoicing at the action taken by the Rockefeller Foundation a few days ago accepting our report of work accomplished as substantially meeting the conditions of their grant. The Foundation has agreed to pay over their gift of \$250,000, modifying the original conditions so as to give us in cash an amount equal to what we have already collected, and paying us from time to time during the next three years amounts equal to the collections we are able to report of pledges outstanding June 30, 1932, until the entire total of \$250,000 has been paid over.

We are now making a report to the Rockefeller Foundation showing about \$142,000 in hand, which we are asking them to match with a remittance for the same amount. We are informing the donors of all outstanding pledges of the action taken by the Foundation, so that they may plan their payments accordingly. Obviously, it is greatly to the advantage of the University to secure payments on pledges as promptly as possible, in order that collections can be made from the Rockefeller Foundation and the entire amount invested in sound securities so as to provide income for carrying on the work in Natural Science. We are hoping that many of our donors will find

0296

Mr. Edward V. French

-2-

7/26/32

it possible to make payment on pledges before the dates when they are actually due, though we realize that practically all our friends are affected to a greater or less extent by the present economic depression, and that we must not press them too urgently for the payment of pledges which represent very sacrificial giving.

I have thus described at some length the general background of the situation, so that you may more easily determine the procedure you wish to follow in paying the last \$1800 of your pledge. <sup>\$900</sup> \$900 of this amount is due at the present time and the remaining \$1200 is due in two equal installments in July, 1933, and July 1934. If you prefer to make three payments on the dates due, each of these payments can be used to collect equivalent amounts from the Rockefeller Foundation. Should your other obligations permit you to advance somewhat the date of the last two payments, our work in Natural Science at Yenching would profit to the extent of the interest on your payments plus interest on the same amount from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Very sincerely yours,

B.A.G.

Secretary, Assistant Treasurer

c c J Z S -

BAG/RC

0297

TELEPHONE, LIBERTY 7481

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
185 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

*copy to JAS'*

August 5, 1932

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

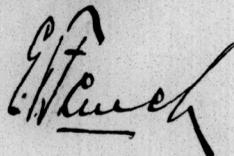
Dear Mr. Garside:

I received your letter of July 26th and the outcome in this matter is quite satisfactory and better than I feared would be possible in view of the conditions described in previous letters from the University.

Check for \$600 covering the amount now due is enclosed. I think it not wise to make further payments at this time but will keep the situation in mind and do what seems best as conditions permit.

The results accomplished should be encouraging to Dr. Stuart. With best wishes for success in carrying this whole thing to completion and obtaining the funds needed for carrying on the work at the University effectively,

Sincerely yours,



Enc. check \$600.

0298

Mrs. & Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School St.  
Andover, Mass.

Gift received, Aug. 8, 1932 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 600 - 3<sup>rd</sup> ann. payment on  
Pledge \$ ————— pledge # 903  
Designation 1930 Camp. Seal End.  
Received through —————  
Entered on control record ✓  
Serial number 903 ✓  
Entered on record card ✓  
Pledge signal attached ✓  
Cross file card made —————  
Receipt number 3782  
Acknowledgment sent 8-8-32  
Entered on renewal sheet ✓  
Checked for office list ✓  
Checked for mailing list ✓  
Contributed previously? July sheet

July 31, 1933

French, Mr. and Mrs. E. V.

20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

Gift received..... July 31, 1933..... (date)

Cash Gift \$ 600.00 - fourth annual instalment on pledge

Pledge \$ 3000

Basis of payment

Designation 1930 Campaign- General Endowment

Received through --

Control record serial number 903 ✓

Entered on record card ✓

Pledge signal attached ✓

Receipt number 3906

Acknowledgment sent 7-31-33

Entered on renewal sheet ----

Checked for office list

Checked for mailing list

Last renewal card entrance (month and year) ----

on CL

0300

January 15, 1934.

Mr. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Mass.

Dear Mr. French:

I had the pleasure yesterday afternoon of a long chat with Mr. Richard S. M. Li, who spoke very pleasantly of his acquaintance with you and Mrs. French and he urged me to be sure to see you the next time I happened to be in Andover.

Mr. Li told me that you seemed to be somewhat uneasy about the situation in Yenching at the present time on account of the Japanese occupation of Manchuria.

I am sure you will be glad to learn that things at Yenching are even more prosperous than they have been in the past. The Japanese have withdrawn from the region near Peking and girls, even, are coming in larger numbers than ever before, so there is no fear of trouble there at the present time from the Japanese. Our enrolment for this past year is 815, when we usually have a normal enrolment of 800 or a little less. The number of new students applying this fall has been very large and we have been able to accept only a portion of them. I think therefore that you may fear no trouble whatever at Yenching and may be assured that your splendid gifts to us are being used to the very best advantage.

I am enclosing with this a recent letter received from Yenching which will help to give you some idea of existing conditions.

At present our greatest difficulty is the fact that due to depressed conditions in America our contributions are quite small and the added fact that the rate of exchange for the American dollar in China has dropped from over 4½ silver dollars to one American dollar to less than \$3.00. Since our income is largely from our endowment at the present time, you can see how seriously this will affect us.

Looking forward with much pleasure to knowing you and Mrs. French personally, I am,

Very sincerely,

HGG.A  
Enc.

H. Gist Gee,  
Vice-President

0301

20 SCHOOL STREET.  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

July 9, 1934

Yenching University  
Mr. N. Gist Gee, Vice President  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

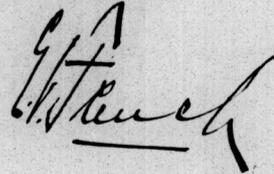
Dear Mr. Gee:

I am enclosing check for \$600.00 covering payment now due on my pledge. This completes payment of the amount which I promised and I am glad to have been able to do this, and am confident that the University has been doing useful work and shall trust it can continue to be an increasing influence for good in its field.

I thank you for your recent letter and Mrs. French and I both desire to again express our confidence in Dr. Stuart.

With all best wishes for the future,

Sincerely yours,



Enc. check

0302

Mr. & Mrs. E. V. French  
20 School Street,  
Andover, Mass.

Gift received..... July 12, 1934 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 600.00 - 5th payment on pledge #903 (final)

Pledge \$ 5000

Basis of payment --

Designation 1930 Camp. - Gen. End.

Received through

Control record serial number 903

Entered on record card

Pledge signal attached

Receipt number 4037

Acknowledgment sent July 12, 1934

Entered on renewal sheet

Checked for office list ✓

Checked for mailing list ✓

Last renewal card entrance (month and year)

Entered on cultivation list Yes

0303

EDWARD V. FRENCH  
20 SCHOOL STREET  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

December 13, 1935

Dear Dr. Stuart:

Mrs. French and I talked over matters again last night, and we would like to do what we can at this time to aid the work you are doing, which we believe is so fine and broadly helpful.

I am, therefore, enclosing a modest check for Yenching University, which we wish could be larger. Our preference would be to have this applied to the permanent endowment fund, but we would be quite willing to have it used in any way which in your judgment would best fit the present conditions and needs.

Very sincerely yours,

*Edward V. French*

(Enclose check)

Dr. John Leighton Stuart  
Hotel Bellevue  
Boston, Massachusetts.

0304

December 19, 1935

Dear Mr. and Mrs. French:

This morning I was pleasantly surprised to have your letter, with its generous enclosure. Under what I know to be the circumstances, this means much more than so much of an addition to our endowment fund, because it expresses your sympathy and endorsement. In view of all that is happening in North China, I feel especially grateful.

I did thoroughly enjoy talking with each of you. My next two days before leaving for the South are very full, but after the holidays I am going to try to see Helen and her husband and Richard Li.

With best wishes for the season and for a New Year happier than any of the recent ones have been.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Amherst, Massachusetts

0305

January 24, 1939

My dear Mrs. French:

Your very generous pledge of \$100.00, payable at your convenience on or before January 1, 1940, has been received. We shall be very glad to transmit this gift to Dr. Stuart as soon as it is received from you, and know that he will be very grateful to you for making this amount available for his personal use. He has of course many ways during these difficult times in which special funds can be used to great advantage in his work at Yenching.

With many thanks for your assistance, I am

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

EVS

Note: Mr. Caldwell said later that he had secured this gift for "emergency purposes" and not as a special gift for Dr. Stuart's use. Dr. Stuart was not informed that it had been considered "special" for Yenching, and the gift was counted in as "emergency".

EVS

0306

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FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
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HUA CHUNG COLLEGE  
HWA NAN COLLEGE  
LINGNAN UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
UNIVERSITY OF SHANGHAI  
SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY  
WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

TEL. WATKINS 9-8703  
CABLE: ABCHICOL

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for  
Christian Colleges in China



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March 18, 1940

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. French:

I have often remembered with pleasure our conversation of last year in Boston. It had been my intention to call on you this year, but my work has been of such a nature as to make it impossible for me to visit Massachusetts.

It was my impression that you wanted us to remind you of your pledge of \$100 to Dr. Stuart's work at Yenching University. We will be happy to receive your check at your convenience, and will forward it direct to Peking. At the present rate of exchange, \$100 United States currency can do a great deal in China.

With best wishes for a happy Easter season,

Very sincerely yours,

*Oliver J. Caldwell*

Oliver J. Caldwell

*ack 3/27/40  
OJC*

*My dear Mr. Caldwell, -*

*This has been on my mind and in my conscience - a long time - but I have just not been able to compass it since seeing you - it seemed so little then! But now - quite a bit of time before you wrote me - and I'm ashamed that you had to - I've been really planning how to meet the privileged obligation. I will send you one-half of the promise NOW!*

*(over)*

0307



March 27, 1940

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. French:

We greatly appreciate receiving your check for \$50.00 for Dr. Stuart's work at Yenching. Any arrangements which may be convenient for you concerning the remaining \$50.00 of your pledge are, of course, agreeable to us.

We have been receiving very encouraging news from Yenching. In spite of all the suffering and discouragement growing out of war-time conditions, the University continues to be an oasis of peace in a nation at war. We are very proud of Dr. Stuart and his colleagues.

I am hoping that it may be possible for me to see you, and thank you in person for your continued interest.

Very sincerely yours,

Oliver J. Caldwell

OJC:cs  
Enc.

0309

20 SCHOOL STREET  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

Secretary Oct. 2, 1943.

ack'd  
10/13/43

To The Assoc. Boards  
For the Christian Colleges in China  
150, Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Enclosed, please find a long  
delayed payment of \$50.00, as balance  
of sum solicited by "Mr. Oliver" - ?  
for Dr. Leighton Sturte's work in  
"Fenching", China. I would like  
"Mr. Oliver" to know I had completed  
this <sup>promise</sup> in his soliciting, and  
- for he was most kind, in help-  
ing me to locate my car that day.  
at Bellevue Hotel - Boston!

Prayer, and every good wish  
for Dr. Sturte's work, and appreci-

ation and remembrance of the  
kindness - like none other - recd  
from his family in Feking, at  
their home at the University.

Dr. Stuart was away in Amer-  
ica at the time. But "Mother  
Stuart", and his wife - now  
both of "blessed memory" - have  
never been forgotten - in the  
twenty long years since!

Please? Any news which  
may be given me as to  
Dr. Stuart's - safety, and return  
to Yenching - will be gratefully  
received. even if not all that we  
could wish. - We must keep on

13.

20 SCHOOL STREET  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

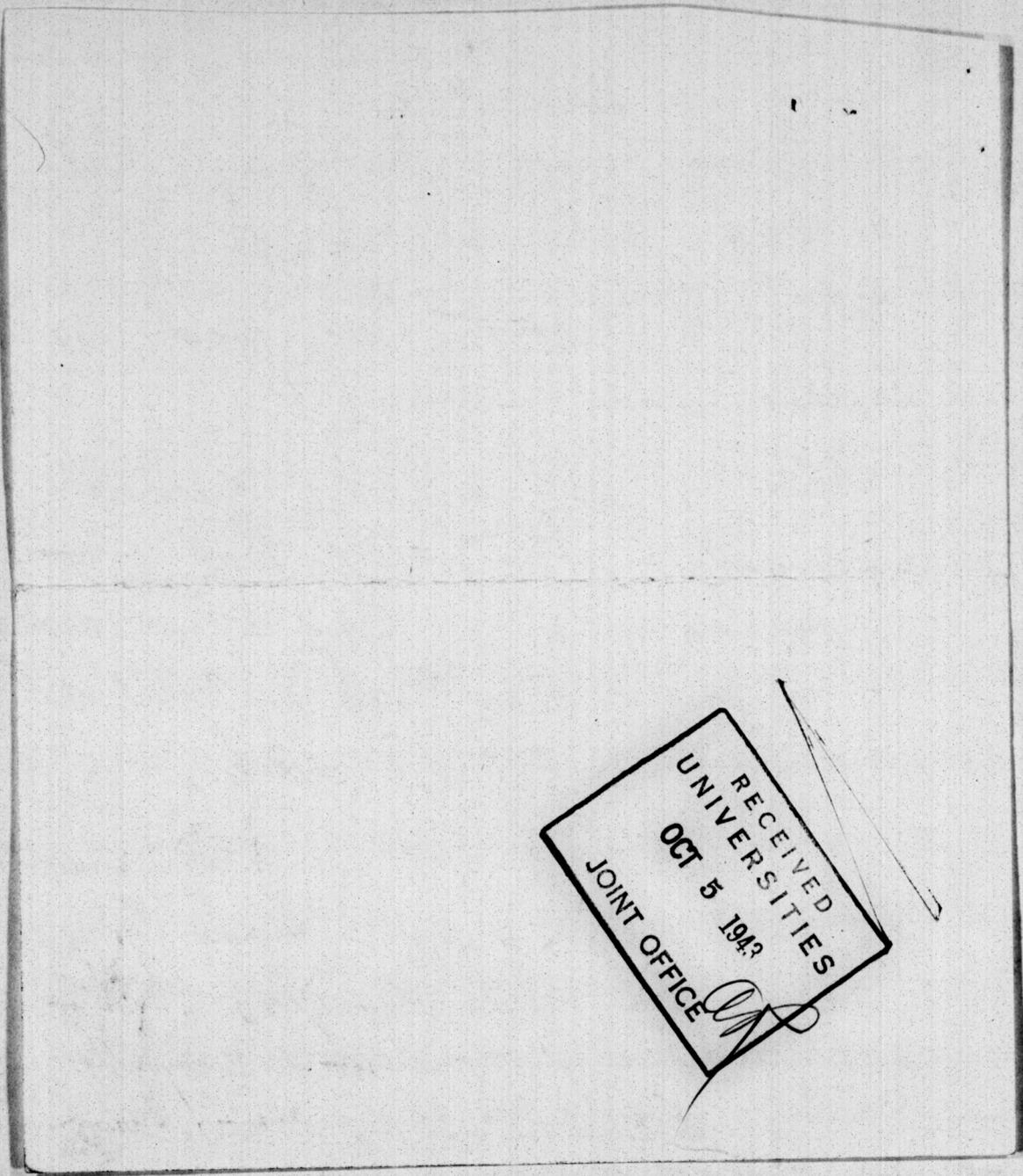
Suchrest. my check. Mary O. French. (Mrs. Edward French.)

Working and praying that  
a way will be found to  
release him - in God's own  
time and way!

This is not a very business-  
like letter - I'm sorry. But am  
recovering from a long illness, and  
just returning to my long neglected, and  
(and) "accumulated" desk.

The "Yankee News", Miss Grace  
Brynton's letter - and "China College"  
1942 - and this May 1943 - are  
most gratefully read and earnestly  
read - and "piled on"! Thank  
you!

21 E 0



RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
OCT 5 1942  
JOINT OFFICE

*[Signature]*

0313

3275005

October 15, 1943

Mrs. Edward V. French  
20 School Street  
Andover, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. French:

Your letter of October 2nd arrived on the 5th and I was requested to write you immediately. Preparation for a solid week of meetings next week and keeping abreast of investigators from the F. B. I. who are looking into the past history for repatriates from China, simply swamped our office and we are working shorthanded as well.

I wish to thank you, however, for the \$50.00 in payment of the pledge toward the current needs of Yenching University. Mr. Oliver Caldwell is the one who made your acquaintance and he is now in the Armed Forces of the United States in preparation for Military Government service. I certainly will let him know when writing again to him that this remittance has been received and will convey your message to him.

Dr. Stuart is still held incommunicado by the Japanese in Peking. He also has two associates, Dr. Houghton and Dr. Bowen of the P. U. M. C. with him. It is our understanding that from messages received through Free China that he is in good health, although the rations have been considerably cut. We were praying earnestly for his repatriation, but that is not to be at the present time, and I have very little faith that there will be another exchange after the Portuguese have turned over the Azores to the British.

With many, many thanks to you and with continued best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B  
ENC.

0314