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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
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Yenching
Corres.
McCormick family
1920-1931

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M. A. M. M. M.

675 RUSH STREET,
CHICAGO.

*Lucas
file*

May 8, 1920

My dear Friend

I am grateful to you for the
finely conceived ground plan of Peking
University. It is a masterly conception,
the attainment of which is easier
because of the orderly arrangement of
its units.

This great enterprise seems to
commend itself to the American people,
- and ^{to} this country the Chinese will look
for material support, in its beginning.

You ask me what I think of the matter, and

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I am glad to reply that I think the University
will live and grow; but I notice that
in the ^{initial} life of all Institutions great sacrifice
must fall on those who love it most.

One sows and another reaps.

I am doing something for Princeton, ^(and many others) but
those who die most for her gave the best
part of their life for her.

You have not requested anything of me
for Pekin; at this time I could not properly
contribute to its support, even if you had.

I am writing to Elizabeth, by next mail.

Always having your children in mind,

I am ever your friend

Nancy F. McCormick

(Mrs. Cyrus McCormick Sr.)

(died July 6, 1923)

Having attended to many
things here that need
care I am returning to
Lake Forest where the air is
better for me, to the house in the woods

Charge to the account of Peking University

\$

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Receiver's No.

Check

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Send the following message, subject to the terms
on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

July 6th, 1925.

Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Luce,
Care E. L. Macwithey,
Glenburnie, Lake George, N. Y.

Our Mother died this morning after a short illness

Anita Blain Cyrus and Harold McCormick

Forwarded —

0804

SS. "President Jackson"
Approaching Victoria,
May 8th, 1924.

Mrs. Emmons Blaine,
101 East Erie St.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Anita:

Since 1905 every time we have left for China our final departure and last stop was from the home of your beloved mother, and it was more than interesting to me when it occurred to my heart that my last leave-taking was from your home. I have had a long hard trip that took me as far South as San Diego, spending most of my nights in a sleeping car. Dr. Stuart joined me at Seattle and now we are actually headed for China and Peking. Dr. Stuart and I, for the first time, have had leisure to talk over carefully about all the fine development of Peking University and the present very hopeful status.

✓ As we talked over the whole situation in greatest detail, again and again our eyes were fastened on that main Recitation Hall, which, as you know, I hope may be McCormick Hall in memory of your beloved mother and my beloved friend. When I spoke to you last I was thinking of it as something that would crown all her gifts to China and also would in a way architecturally crown all the gifts to the University, as it is the only building but the absolutely necessary building to make possible the first real and entire architectural unit. Until this building goes up (as you can see by reference to the plan) we really have no full architectural unit, but if it does go up we have something very complete and really magnificent. Dr. Stuart now tells me that the building is urgently needed to carry on the pressing class room work.

It looks now as if we would have the dedication of such buildings as are up, in September of 1926. For a week or ten days there will be special ceremonies and it is more than likely that quite a large group from the United States will plan to visit Peking at that particular time. We have already begun to plan for it and special announcements will be made early next fall. What a joy it would be to us if Elisabeth and I could welcome you to Peking at that time.

If, as I hope, you and Cyrus and Harold come to a favorable decision, I should be most happy if you would let us know

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(care Peking University, Peking, China), so that we could take immediate steps to make sure that the building would be completed - the building which is so central and essential to the whole group.

I am hoping to reach Tsinen, Shantung, May 31st, and have a day with Emmavail and then fourteen hours farther North to Peking by June 1st. Rejoicing that I am

Ever your friend,

October 6, 1925

Mrs. Emmons Blaine
101 E. Erie Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blaine:

I do not know whether Dr. Luce has written you within the last month, but his physicians' reports indicate that it will be necessary for him to "go slow" for a long time to come if he is to avoid an operation. My own judgment is that he will get over his difficulty, and surely we all hope and pray that he will because he is so naturally selfsacrificing and is such a power in the work of building the University.

Will you pardon me if I speak very personally about Dr. Luce? His health condition, his family conditions and the kind of work he can best do with the University during the coming ten years are going to make it necessary for him to reside in America henceforth, though he will make occasional trips to Peking in order to see at firsthand the work in which he has given and is continuing to give his life and strength. The thing which strikes close to my feelings is that, with all of his life unselfishly spent in China "without thought of what he should wear, or what he should put on", that he now is in his fifty-sixth year and though the Board will allow him twenty-five or thirty dollars a month for rental, this will not pay for a home or an apartment where he can live with Mrs. Luce, and it certainly comes a long distance from supplying that dearest of all dreams - one's own home.

If Dr. Luce knew that I was taking the liberty to write you this note, I know it would not only astound him but probably anger him. He has never in his life asked for a thing for himself - least of all from his friends. Frankly, what I wish is that in some way there might be found ten or fifteen thousand dollars to buy a small house with a little yard around it and a little garden, where Dr. and Mrs. Luce might call home and where they might spend the rest of their lives undisturbed. It would seem to me that if anyone cared to give such a gift, it might be the property of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions but that until Dr. Luce's death it should be their home.

Dr. and Mrs. Luce will spend the winter doubtless in Southern California, where he will do quiet work all along the Coast for the University. I wish the way might be found to provide a home for him either there or in one of the little suburbs outside of New York, beginning about next fall.

I hope that you will pardon the frankness of this letter but this matter has been on my mind very heavily and I am writing this letter to you without talking with anyone about it.

Very sincerely yours

0807

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PEKING, CHINA



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Copy
File under "McCormick"

Mrs. Emmons Blaine
Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick
Mr. Harold F. McCormick

Dear Friends:

As I think you know, there is now in process of building a great University on American foundations at the Capital of China. I know of no finer single objective in all the world than this.

Ever since the plans were first laid out by the architects, I have hoped and dreamed that the Science Hall, which is to be part of the central quadrangle, should be known as McCormick Hall, in honor, and now in memory, of your beloved mother. She is represented in a building each at Canton Christian College and Nanking and Shantung Universities. I know China in its nation-wide aspects and can say that each of these "investments" are of first importance.

I believe, however, it would be a crowning achievement if the line stretching from Canton through Nanking and Shantung could be completed in this McCormick Science Hall for Peking University, at the great Capital and educational center of China.

In this University, we have united all the Christian higher educational work in North China into one institution with fifty foreign and thirty Chinese professors. The four Mission Boards at work in that vast territory appoint four representatives each; these co-operate with eight others at large, and the twenty-four are regularly incorporated under the laws of New York, forming the Board of Trustees of Peking University.

One of the greatest blessings and happiest memories of my life I find in your beloved mother; through the years I have felt the friendly interest of each one of you. Wholly apart from the very practical value of such a Hall to the University and to China, it would be a matter of almost unlimited joy to me, to see rise up in the midst of the University such a worthy memorial to your sainted mother and my beloved friend.

with I hope that as you consult together, you may be able to plan in due time to raise up at Peking University this Science Hall (\$65000) ~~and, possibly its equipment (\$10000).~~ In the whole range of possibilities for such a gift, I can think of nothing finer.

Sincerely your friend

HW Luce

HWL

I shall be in Chicago Dec 22-25th at
the Hamilton Club, ^(185 Dearborn St.) and would gladly confer
with you should you desire further
information.

Chicago
Blaine

101 EAST ERIE STREET
CHICAGO

27 July 1926.

Dear Dr. Luce:

My brother, Cyrus, and I talked again just before his leaving for Europe, about your question of our giving the building in the Peking University as a memorial to Mother.

We did not find that we could make any decision on this question now - in which there are many elements. We could not, in any case, decide this question while my brother, Harold, is away. So the question must stay suspended, at least until we are together again.

I am sending you this word out of our conference quickly, just to get it to you at once.

There is so much more that I want to say to you and to hear from you.

Yours
Marta Blaine

Dr. H. W. Luce,
Peking University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Emmons
(Mrs. Blaine)
sister of
Cyrus McCormick

November 1, 1926.

Mrs. Emmons Blaine,
101 East Erie Avenue,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Blaine:

Our architect has just returned from Peking. He had planned to stay two weeks in Peking, but he was so delighted with what was developing there that he stayed five weeks, in order to put his best into the final lay out and details. You will be interested in looking over some of the results, which I send you under another cover, including a copy of the opening page of his report to our Trustees.

The ground plan will give you a sense of the scope of the work which I think nothing before has been adequate to convey.

The new Birds-Eye (not as yet quite fully complete) and the pictures will, I feel sure, give you no little pleasure and will indicate to you more clearly than has been possible heretofore the very great beauty of what seems to me to be a very beautiful memorial, which I am suggesting you erect for your mother. There are several items I would like to talk over with you sometime at your early convenience. Would you drop me a line telling me where I could see you?

I hope you got the announcement of "Childe Elisabeth's" marriage. I had to be father, mother and minister all in a week. Her fiance (a fine man) had to go suddenly for a ten month's business trip to Italy, hence the haste.

Elizabeth, the elder, is sailing from Shanghai on November 25th and I hope to join her on the Pacific Coast for Christmas.

Hoping to see you before long,

Ever in the best of bonds,

HWL:FP

April 11, 1928

Dear Mr. McCormick:

I should very much appreciate it if you could let me have a brief conference with you at some time in the near future. The special reason for this is a suggestion that Mrs. Blaine made to me when I saw her recently in Chicago and concerning which she wished me to see you and after doing so have a further conference with herself. I am returning to China within the next three or four weeks and am keenly interested in reaching a conclusion on the matter which Mrs. Blaine has in mind. You will recall that I consulted with you several years ago regarding a fitting memorial to your mother in connection with our University and that Dr. Luce especially has had in mind a building on our campus which would accomplish this purpose. Mrs. Blaine has another suggestion which to her mind would accomplish this more satisfactorily.

Representing the united effort of three denominations - the Presbyterians, the Methodists, and the Congregationalists - Yenching University has made remarkable progress toward an efficient and adequate financial structure within a brief period of years. It has won the unqualified endorsement of a large number of eminent American educators who have visited China within recent years. As a result of the confidence it has established, the University now has a plant valued at approximately \$2,100,000 and a total endowment of approximately \$2,000,000. In close association with the University, there has been established a unique institution in which Harvard University and Yenching have joined hands. This is the Harvard-Yenching Institute of Chinese Studies, established on an adequate foundation given by the Hall Estate for the purpose of developing research in all aspects of Chinese culture and training experts, both Chinese and foreign, to carry out such research. This Institute will make a remarkable contribution to the understanding of Chinese culture on the part of the West and will help to cement friendship between America and China.

The University itself has a faculty of slightly more than one hundred members, carefully chosen men and women, two-thirds Chinese, and one-third Western, mostly American. These teachers are men and women

08 12

4/11/28

chosen with reference to the spiritual background and motive which has led to the creation of the University but also with emphasis upon thorough qualification in scholarship and teaching ability.

The student body of the institution comes from every province in China, the second largest enrolment from any one province during 1927 coming from the extreme South. The influence of the institution is distinctly national. The University now stands in such favor with the Chinese that we were forced last year to reject more than one hundred thoroughly qualified applicants because of lack of physical accommodation. There is no difficulty whatever in selecting the very finest type of young men and young women from every point of view - character, preparation, and general fitness.

The religious influence of the institution is positive but exceedingly liberal. There is no compulsory teaching of religion. On the contrary, every thing possible is done to create a Christian atmosphere and through all elements in the University life to render Christianity appealing and convincing to thoughtful young men and women. We confidently expect satisfying results from this policy on the basis of our experience up to the present.

The present disturbed conditions in China give a peculiar opportunity to Christian education. Chinese governmental and private institutions are having great difficulty in keeping their doors open. Yenching, having met all the reasonable requirements of the Nationalist regime, long before these requirements were formulated, now represents to the Chinese an outstanding example of good will and effective cooperation. After the recent examinations of students of various institutions in the North by the Ministry of Education, that branch of the government published broadcast a report showing that Yenching students had made a far more creditable showing than the students of any Government institution.

We are, however, still unable to take full advantage of this unique situation. We need a relatively small amount of money to complete the necessary buildings, to put our grounds in order, to add certain endowment and equipment, and otherwise to fit ourselves for the immediate task. My mission on this visit in America has been to secure \$500,000. With this additional fund, I have felt that I could devote my personal attention to my primary duty - to remain at work in Peking, supervising the institution, and guiding its development during this critical period. With that amount of additional money, I should consider it unnecessary to absent myself for long periods from the place where I am vitally needed.

0813

Mr. McCormick

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4/11/28

Under these conditions, I feel justified in making a very earnest appeal to those few Americans who have a vision extending beyond the immediate temporary disturbances in China. Since this condition has not affected Yenching seriously for a single day and since the University grounds are surrounded by a very thick and very high stone wall, erected by Chinese friends to prevent injury by any disorderly element or retreating troops, we have no misgivings whatever.

The most essential element required in the plan of the University is a dormitory to accommodate approximately two hundred additional students. The income from fees and rental would be almost a net increase in the University's receipts since no additions to faculty and very little to overhead would be necessary. I shall be profoundly grateful if you and other members of your family may feel disposed to adopt this dormitory as a fitting memorial to the memory of your mother.

May I add that, as you already know, Princeton-in-Peking is now completely identified with Yenching University and is making an extremely important contribution to the development of the institution. It is now responsible for the Departments of Sociology and Political Science and hopes eventually to take over also Economics, thus creating a Princeton School of the Social Sciences. The trustees of Princeton-in-Peking have frequently expressed the hope that this unique organization might somewhat later provide some element of the University plant which might be given a distinctive character as a Princeton entity. I have discussed this matter fully with Mr. Wannamaker, the Executive Secretary, and Mr. Burgess and feel that this relationship should be kept in mind as having some bearing on the proposed memorial to your mother.

If you prefer to postpone this conference until your return to Chicago, I shall be at your service. I understood from Mrs. Blaine that the estate is still not settled and from that standpoint there is no urgency in reaching a decision. I should, however, be very grateful for the chance to secure your judgment as to my course in regard to the suggestion Mrs. Blaine has made and your own probable attitude to the whole question.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Cyrus McCormick
Hotel Chatham
48th Street & Vanderbilt Ave
New York City

JLS:O

0814

April 26, 1928.

Dear Mrs. Blaine:

I am writing this note to inform you that I am sailing from New York by S. S. Majestic on May 12th, returning to China by Europe and Siberia. You will be pleased to know that our efforts to secure the remaining equipment for our University, in this the first stage of its development, have become quite encouraging. If your family feels itself able to carry out the plan which we discussed for a memorial endowment of \$100,000, I have good reason to hope that there are others who will be encouraged to complete the remaining sum necessary for the half million dollars which we seek. I shall probably be in Chicago for a day or so before leaving the country and shall look forward to a few minutes of your time for a word of farewell. I am writing by this mail to Mr. McCormick to the same effect.

With pleasant remembrance of my recent visit with you and with eager anticipation of the fellowship in Christian service which is now under consideration, believe me

Very sincerely yours

Mrs. Emmons Blaine
101 East Erie Street
Chicago, Illinois

JLS:O

08 15

CYRUS H. MCCORMICK
606 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO

1 May, 1928

Dear Dr. Stuart:

I have yours of 26 April. I have already brought the matter to the attention of my brother Harold who is out in Santa Barbara, and I regret that we cannot reach any decision until we learn his opinion on the question.

I will secure the opinions of Mrs. Blaine and my brother as soon as possible and telegraph or write you, but at the present moment, I am unable to tell you what we can do.

Sincerely yours,

Cyrus H. McCormick

Dr. Leighton Stuart
President, Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

(Dictated by Mr. McCormick, but not transcribed until after he had left the city.)

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May 8, 1928

My dear Harry:

I am just back from Chicago where I had a second very delightful visit with Mrs. Blaine. I was with her about an hour and a half. On the previous visit, she told me that she had never been able to get enthusiastic over the idea of a building on our campus as a memorial to her mother but that she much approved an endowment, the income from which would express her mother's interest in the building up of a thoroughly Chinese type of Christian faith and life. Later on I saw Mr. McCormick who had agreed to join with his sister and brother in attempting to make this an endowment of \$100,000. He seemed to share her point of view and thought this was the most suitable form their memorial could take. It appears that their brother Harold is unwilling to join them but they seem determined to carry the project out although they will not be able to give a final answer for a few weeks yet.

They both wanted very much to please you in the matter of a building. I assured them that you wanted whatever was for the best welfare of the University and that endowment was always the hardest thing to get. I said therefore that you would be as pleased as the rest of us in having their memorial take this particular form.

I am leaving next Friday night and hope that you and if possible Mrs. Luce can get to Mrs. Jenkins next Thursday for a word of farewell if we have no other opportunity to see each other before that.

As ever

Yours

Dr.
H. W. Luce
611 West 112th Street
New York City

JLS:SO

0817

May 8, 1928

Notes on Doctor Stuart's Visit in Chicago
May 4-6 with Mr. Cyrus McCormick and
Mrs. Emmons Blaine

Doctor Stuart states that Mr. McCormick and Mrs. Blaine have come to a rather definite understanding that together they would give \$100,000 for endowment for Yenching University, but that they could not send final word as to this until probably June of this year. If they give this endowment, they would expect Doctor Stuart to be the personal distributor of the proceeds for objects which he thinks most necessary. It is Mrs. Blaine's idea, however, that the gift should be a memorial to their mother, with particular emphasis placed on the development of an Oriental or peculiarly Chinese Christian teaching. Doctor Stuart would be expected to send frequent reports to both Mrs. Blaine and Mr. McCormick as to the use of the money.

Mr. McCormick promised Doctor Stuart he would write of their final decision possibly before Doctor Stuart leaves on the 12th, but at any rate by June.

COPY

McCormick

June 9, 1928

Mr. C. S. Stilwell
606 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Stilwell:

I venture to write you in regard to the possibility that Mr. McCormick might assist us in reaching the goal of our campaign. The following situation in the campaign leads me to write you this letter.

Two friends in Philadelphia pledged many weeks ago \$90,000 to complete the building plant of the Women's College at Yenching, conditioning their pledge quite rigidly in two ways. First, the entire amount of \$500,000 sought in the campaign must be realized in pledges or cash before July 1st. Secondly, the trustees of Yenching University must bring about a certain slight modification perfecting the unity existing between the Women's College and the rest of the University. The second condition is entirely acceptable and will be legally effected. The first condition we have not been able to meet. At the present time we are short about \$143,000 of the total of \$500,000. We are presenting certain special objectives to special groups here in the East - a Department of Journalism, and a School of Applied Economics - for each of which we are seeking initial financing of \$10,000 for five years. We feel reasonably certain of securing between \$40,000 and \$50,000 for one of these objectives or the two combined before the end of June. We see no source from which we can hope to obtain more than this \$40,000 or \$50,000, though we are of course leaving no stone unturned.

Both Mr. McCormick and Mrs. Blaine have expressed the warmest interest in Yenching and serious consideration of some actual help. Dr. Stuart had a very satisfactory conversation with Mrs. Blaine during the last week of March, talked with Mr. McCormick in New York City on April 12th, and later saw both Mrs. Blaine and Mr. McCormick in Chicago on May 6th. He was deeply grateful for the thoroughness of their appreciation of his extremely difficult task and their deep interest in the university. He suggested that their assistance should be in the form of endowment for two reasons. First, buildings are easier to secure than endowments and there is a general tendency for such institutions to be weaker in income for running expenses than in physical plant. Secondly, under conditions existing in China, he felt greater confidence in asking these friends to contribute for endowment because of the absolute safety of that form of benevolence as compared with a building.

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Mr. Stilwell

June 9, 1928

The question I venture to submit for your friendly judgment is whether you feel free to explain to Mr. McCormick the urgency of our campaign situation and the special value which a pledge from him would have if received before July 1st. The date of payment and various conditions attaching to the pledge would have no bearing whatever upon our ability to use it as a means of fulfilling the conditions attaching to the \$90,000 Philadelphia pledge. I shall be most grateful if you will give careful thought to this matter and shall rely entirely upon your own judgment as to whether you should discuss the question at this time with Mr. McCormick. Naturally I must leave entirely to you in the same way the question as to any possible interview with Mrs. Blaine.

President Stuart probably reached Mukden, Manchuria, yesterday. He expected to preach the baccalaureate sermon to the 100 students graduating at Yenching tomorrow. He may be prevented from reaching Peking in time because of the troop movement of the Manchurians from Peking back to Mukden. Nevertheless, cabled advices from Peking indicate that there is no special danger of interference with any Americans or American institution. We have no concern except that under war conditions temporary disturbances may naturally arise. Yenching will certainly continue to increase in its vital significance for Christianity in China.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Olin D. Wannamaker

Assistant to the President

0820

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PEKING CHINA IDENTICAL TO NEWYORK OFFICE STOP WE ARE
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IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO PROMISE THE GIFT OF ONE HUNDRED
THOUSAND DOLLARS NOW STOP WE WILL HOLD THE FEELING AND
THE HOPE AS BEFORE BLAINE MCCORMICK" UNQUOTE STOP WE
ARE REPEATING THIS TO YOU IN THE UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU
WOULD WANT THE INFORMATION=

ANITA MCCORMICK BLAINE CYRUS H MCCORMICK.

X to

0821

June 20, 1928

My dear Mr. McCormick:

It was very thoughtful of you to send to this office an identical copy of the cablegram you had just dispatched to Dr. Stuart. While we are all naturally sorry that you did not find it possible at this time to pledge the generous gift you had contemplated, we are grateful for your earnest interest in Yenching University. We still have a short period before the time limit on the conditional pledge of \$80,000 from two friends in Philadelphia and your thoughtfulness in giving me prompt information will enable me to put forth special effort during the remaining time to meet the conditions of that pledge.

I shall take the liberty of keeping your name on our mailing list in order that you may be informed of the development of the University in which you have shown so friendly an interest.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick
606 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

ODW:BB

Copy 8 L. 5.

0822

~~May 21, 1928~~

Feb. 9, 1929

"Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus McCormick were in Peking for three days on the Belgenland tour. I had a note of invitation to him which was delivered on the train, and found to my pleasure and somewhat to my surprise that he was quite pleased at the invitation to visit Yenching and decided at once to do so. He and his wife and their Peking hostess had lunch with me and a few of our friends whom I had asked to meet them. He seemed much interested and on his own initiative asked me to take him to the place where we had wanted to locate the building in memory of his mother. I showed him the vacant place where we wished for a fourth recitation building at the northern limit of our academic group, flanking the Ninde Divinity Hall and opposite to McBrier Hall. This seemed quite satisfactory to him and he told me that he would dictate a letter on the steamer putting a number of questions to me and that I might have the reply to these awaiting him on his return to Chicago next May. He would then consult his brother and sister and let me know. He did not seem to remember that in the interview I had with him in New York he had asked me whether I preferred this building or an endowment, and I had emphatically recommended the latter, although he remembered the conference. He was somewhat in a hurry and naturally wanted to go sightseeing elsewhere so that I did not go into any further argument but simply tried to have him receive a pleasant impression of the campus and of the institution generally. Meanwhile, Burgess has been very anxious to go to him and secure a building for the Princeton interests. As I explained to him I am quite ready for this with two qualifying comments. One is that William Hung is hoping to secure from the Harvard-Yenching Building Reserve Fund a grant for a library to include the advanced work in Chinese studies. The present library is really getting too small and as a purely administrative issue, the next building would give greatest relief if used for such a purpose. If this request were agreed to we would put the building on the spot which I indicated to Mr. McCormick. We would not then need an additional academic building, and every such expansion of the plant increases by so much the operating expenses which are now our heaviest burden. The second comment is that Mrs. Blaine very definitely preferred the endowment, and if this is to be a family gift in memory of Madame McCormick, and if Mrs. Blaine still shows the interest which she expressed to me, we have another complication. Mr. McCormick asked a number of questions about the Princeton work and seemed to endorse it thoroughly. On the other hand, he was clearly thinking of a family gift as a memorial to his Mother. I realize how keen Stewart is for a Princeton Hall that will be a visible embodiment of that important unit's share in our work

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and sympathize with all that he urges. On the other hand, every chance to get endowment ought to be taken the fullest advantage of. You might take up the whole problem with Burgess and decide on a course of action in view of whatever decision will have been made at Harvard and the outlook generally. There will be plenty of time for this as Mr. McCormick will not reach home until some time in May."

Excerpt from letter of February 9, 1929,
to O.D. Wannamaker from Dr. Stuart.

ENG

0824

Agnes H. McCormick

January 13, 1931

Dear Leighton:

I must write very briefly because of absence for nearly a week from the office on a trip to Chicago. Unfortunately, there is very little to say about that trip. We wrote in advance to Miss Clark, and she was enthusiastically ready to help me. Unfortunately, she had a violent attack of neuritis, was confined to her bed, and could do nothing except to have her mother send three notes of introduction to Chicago for me. One of these persons was out of the city; a second was in too remote a section for me to visit him; the third came to the door of his office and said whatever money he had to give would go to Olivet College, of which his wife is a trustee.

I tried a good deal of telephoning to get appointments with other persons on our list, but without success. I did, however, have a splendid talk with Mrs. Blair. I feared she had been a little annoyed by the information sent her by Dr. Low that he had not received her gift allocated to him last year. She did not show any serious disturbance over this. A few words of explanation were sufficient. I raised various questions with her about cooperation in Chicago and found her extremely responsive. She gave me a good many names here in the East and made certain useful suggestions for Chicago. I shall pursue this matter further somewhat later, and believe she will really be of definite assistance to us. I emphasized the excessive strain under which you are working and our concern about this, thinking that perhaps a little later Mrs. Blair might be induced to pay her pledge somewhat earlier than the latest date previously mentioned. I did not, however, think it wise to ask her to pay at this time.

Edwards and I had a good meeting with 21 Princeton men, fairly important persons, including Mr. McCormick. The latter was enthusiastic about the encouraging report made by Edwards. I sat by him at the table and he amused me by remarking, "I always think of you as associated with all the best things at Princeton University." I told him he was very kind to take that point of view. He is seriously and deeply interested in Yenching and in the Princeton connection and expressed himself so heartily to the group of men. He urged us to try to get good stories in the Chicago press, and the President of the Club and Mr. Yard exerted themselves to make connections for us. A reporter came from The News and spent an hour

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with us. That paper gave us about six inches of space. The Tribune failed to send a reporter as promised. The Editor of the Evening Post, Mr. Duncan-Clarke, invited us to his office in order that he might have a conversation and make an editorial comment. We had a long talk with him. He is evidently a man of the finest sort. He can certainly be deeply interested in journalism and in the University generally. He remembered Nash with pleasure. He asked me to send him something in printed or written form to use as a basis for an editorial. I sent him both printed matter and a lengthy letter for that purpose. I hope he uses it. I requested him to send me copy if he did. I intend to center on Mr. Duncan-Clarke as a point of departure either for a group of business men in the city or for a group at his suburban residence. I judged from an editorial in his paper that he has a sincere and deep-seated religious life.

I called on Mr. Steuart and had a most satisfactory conversation. He emphasized Mr. McCormick's interest and his own. He expressed only one misgiving - the feeling that you are too much alone as administrator of the College, and that anything which might eliminate you would leave the institution in a very weak position.

I requested Mr. Steuart to propose to Mr. McCormick that since the latter evidently hopes to give the Princeton-Yenching Foundation \$50,000 instead of only \$25,000, he should, therefore, give us in the meanwhile for our current budget, the interest on the larger amount - \$2500 annually instead of \$1500 which he gave in 1930. Mr. Steuart seemed to take rather favorably to the idea and promised to talk it over with Mr. McCormick this month.

I look upon this as a first excursion on my part to be followed by others. Things are working very nicely at the office, and I think I can get away increasingly. I shall try to use the good offices of Miss and Mrs. Clark in Evanston through a pre-arrangement long in advance before I go back to Chicago.

Dr. Jenney wrote while I was away to ask whether he should go to Pittsburgh and Philadelphia for a few days. I suggested that he postpone until we have a joint Princeton-Harvard-Yale gathering in Pittsburgh in the near future, I hope in early February. He agreed that this would be wiser. I think he and I can do some good work together.

There is no question, however, that the financial depression has cut very deep. I shall be writing you today about the meeting of the Executive Committee of Princeton-Yenching Foundation of yesterday, and about the unfortunate losses incurred by that organization in 1930 due entirely to the financial situation of the country.

Your friends, the Lyfords, have sent us \$100 in response to the folder on religious life, bringing the total from that appeal up to \$1481. We shall be issuing a new number of Yenching News shortly.

0826

J.L.S.....#3

January 13, 1931

My circular letter to the members of the Board, asking for annual or recurring contributions, has brought almost no response. Of course, some trustees have outstanding pledges.

Cordially yours,

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University
Peiping, China

ODW:KK

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copied for J. R. S.

HARTFORD SEMINARY FOUNDATION
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

*Mrs. McCormick has
never given to
Yenching as far
as the records show
Jan. 27/31
1-28-31*

Dear Wannamaker:

They^{*} are now writing a "Life" of the late Mrs McCormick and I have been furnishing them material for same. I should be glad if you would let me know whether Mrs. McCormick has ever had a gift recorded on our books. I am under the impression there is none.

Also, I have an opportunity to write to Cyrus and Mrs Blaine about the long proposed gift about which they have been so slow. As I understand it they have decided against a building, and prefer endowment. My argument all along has been that since their mother had given buildings to Canton Christian College, Nanking University and Shantung University(I have used C.C.C. for I think that is they name they know), it ought to be crowned by a gift to the fourth university(Yenching), completing the line from south to north. The argument, I think, has been a strong one with them, in addition to the others. I could write now, urging that the final decision be made in time to include the fact in this "Life"

Ever sincerely yours,

H. W. Luce

** Dr. McClure is writing
the book.*

*P.S. Shall I write a friendly letter to Dr. Hooker, Detroit,
indirectly & accidentally speaking about the good work at Yenching?*

0828

Mr. McCormick
Hall

entire file
✓ Cyrus McCormick
✓ Mrs. Blaine

✓ X Blaine
✓ X Foster

January 28, 1931

Dear Doctor Luce:

I am delighted to have your letter of the 27th.

Our records show no gift by the late Mrs. McCormick to Yenching University.

With regard to the effort made for so long to get her sons and daughter to make a gift to the University as a memorial to her, the following is the situation. Doctor Stuart came to the definite conclusion that since Mr. Cyrus McCormick is obviously and emphatically the most important prospective donor to the endowment of Princeton-Yenching Foundation and would have to be used as the leader in that effort to raise endowment, therefore everything possible should be done to emphasize the Princeton-Yenching connection in conversation with Mr. McCormick. Mr. McCormick himself responded heartily, since his interest in this Princeton connection in China is very genuine. He seems to have done his utmost to get Mrs. Blaine to share with him. Failing in this, he finally pledged definitely \$25,000 toward the Princeton-Yenching endowment and, conditionally, a second \$25,000, the latter being conditioned upon our securing a single \$50,000 pledge from some other person and also completing our effort for \$500,000 by January 1934. I think it would not be wise at all to press Mr. McCormick himself, at this time, for any other gift to Yenching. I sat at table with him recently at a Princeton meeting in Chicago where he expressed great enthusiasm over the report brought by Dwight Edwards of conditions in China. He urged us to give interviews to representatives of the Chicago papers, and such arrangements were made. I later discussed with his secretary, Mr. Steuert, whether Mr. McCormick would not give us at the present time the interest on the whole \$50,000 which he hopes will be his ultimate donation to the endowment, instead of only the interest on the unconditional pledge of \$25,000. Mr. Steuert thought there was at least a hopeful prospect that this could be done.

With regard to Mrs. Blaine, the situation is quite different. The last time Doctor Stuart saw her in California, he reported that she was especially interested in something of a religious character, which she felt would have been especially appealing to her mother. Doctor Stuart retained

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Dr. Luce.....#2

January 28, 1931

the hope that she might be induced to set up an endowment for something special of that character. I do not think quite the right sort of thing has yet been set before her.

As to Harold McCormick, my impression is that he has shown quite definitely a lack of any interest whatever in this whole matter.

I certainly do not wish to appear to be claiming Mrs. Blaine's interest for the Princeton-Yenching Foundation. There is no reason why this should be done. Her case is entirely different from that of Mr. Cyrus McCormick. I shall be glad for anything you can do to help us in this connection.

With every good wish.

Cordially yours,

Dr. Henry W. Luce
422 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut

ODW*KE

cto of RS.

ESS. Mrs. Hoobler sent \$500 in December in response to our printed appeal dealing with the religious life of the University. Doctor Stuart saw Doctor and Mrs. Hoobler shortly before he left America. They were somewhat concerned about conditions in China. I think a letter from you might be a good idea, only it is obviously not well to make an appeal so early after receiving their contribution. I think they will eventually give us something substantial if we can convince them of two things - the stability of our work and its deeply religious motive.

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