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UECHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
PG 11

Yenching
Corres
Marston, George W. 1924-1941
Martin, Esther L. 1931

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He Claremont Inn

Claremont, California

June 16, 24

Marston

Dear Mr. Lewis

I had your letter of June 3
forwarded to me here. The first
touchdown at San Diego but the S.W.
Marston I found here for the trustee
meeting of Pomona College. His first

love is here but I think that he can be inter-
ested in Peking. He knows Lucius Porter very
well and as he is to be on here he is the
man to close with Mr. Marston. I found that
Mr. M knew my brother and my father, and other
mutual friends, so I paved the way for Porter
to get in good work. I think that Porter
can expect to get a \$50,000 dormitory from
him if he does it right. He is able to give
that way. He regularly makes up the
deficit here, and also has given largely
for additional land.

Porter should also follow up the
three other San Diego people that you gave
on my list, as they are interested and he
can so well continue that interest, and he
will have time to get to it.

If I can see any of the other ones
on this list, I will report later, but I
thought it wise to get this off so you can
get the word to Porter. His brother is
here and I may be able to see him before
I get away. It may help.

We are having a fine trip and I
expect to get home full of pep.

Sincerely

Frank J. [Signature]

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THE MARSTON COMPANY
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

January 23, 1926.

Dr. Henry W. Luce,
c/o Rev. O. H. Bronson,
148 Hot Springs Road,
Montecito, Santa Barbara, Calif.

My dear Doctor Luce:

I beg to confirm my telegram of
January 20th as follows:

"Pardon delay February twelve
earliest available date at
University Club."

Enclosed find Col. McRae's letter
concerning the matter. The Club will be happy to
have you make an address for them on February 12th
if you can be here conveniently.

I am intending to make a contribution
of \$500.00 this year to Pekin University. Shall I
leave this open until you come here, or shall I send
the check to the New York office? If you are not
coming again please advise me about this.

Hoping you have recovered your health,
I am, with sincere regards,

Yours very truly,

George H. Marston

GWM
ENC.

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OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

May 9, 1932.

Mr. E. M. McBrier, Treasurer
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

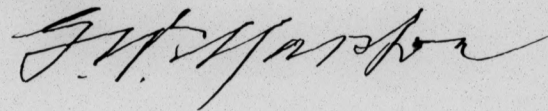
My dear Mr. McBrier:

In order to help you meet
the situation which you outline in your
letter of May 3rd, I am sending here-
with my check for \$400.00 in payment of
pledge of \$200.00 for June 1932 and \$200.00
for June 1933.

It strains my bank account a
good deal to do this, especially as I am
cutting most of my contributions 50% this
year. I am glad, however, to help you toward
securing the \$75,000 that you need for match-
ing the Rockefeller proposal.

Sincerely yours,

GWM
Enclosure



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OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

July 2, 1932.

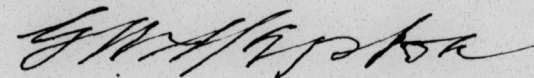
Mr. Chester E. Jenney
Office of Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

My dear Mr. Jenney:

Your telegram of June 28th was duly received, but I had already left home for a trip of four days. On my return today I have considered your request.

On account of my payment of pledge for 1933 as well as the pledge for 1932 in May of this year, amounting to \$400.00, I feel unable to give any further assistance.

Sincerely yours,



GWM

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OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

✓
✓ *yes*
T
GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

February 22, 1933.

Mr. George G. Barber, President
Board of Trustees
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Mr. Barber:

Referring to your letter of
February 10th, you may include my name as
heretofore in the Advisory Council of Yenching.

As I doubled my installment pay-
ment for 1932 in order to include the installment
for 1933, I imagine you will exempt me from
pecuniary assistance during this year. */ for el*

Very truly yours,

Mr. G. W. Marston

GWM

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7.9.33.

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GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

January 24, 1936.

President J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Stuart:

Your letter of December 26th to Mrs. Marston and myself was duly received, but owing to holiday activities was put aside until the present time.

We are disposed to give some financial assistance to the University, but feel more or less concerned over future prospects under a possible and even probable Japanese domination. You may depend upon us for sending you \$1000.00 about the middle of the year. This will be a contribution toward your maintenance fund. We will consider further whether we will make a larger donation toward the two million endowment fund.

We do not feel able to give you any advice in respect to a solution of your extraordinary problem. Undoubtedly you will confer with educators and public men while you are in the United States. There can be no doubt in the minds of all friends of China that Yenching University must continue to be in the future what it has been in the past - at least this, if not even greater. I cannot help feeling, however, that it is a very critical time in its history and possibly an unfortunate time to seek for an endowment.

Hoping that you will meet with deserved success while you are here in this country, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

G. W. Marston

GWM

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GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

February 25, 1936.

RECEIVED ATTENTION

MAR - 2 1936

E. M. McBRIDE

President J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Stuart:

Referring to your letter of December 26th and my answer of January 24th, I wish to say now for Mrs. Marston and myself that we will make the following conditional pledge for the benefit of Yenching University. You are at liberty to use the money either toward the endowment fund, or for your current expenses.

We are both of us over 80 years of age and I am in my 86th year, therefore, any pledge carrying through a period of five years is subject to our living through this period, and to any accident that might happen to our income. We will simply say, therefore, that it is our intention to give \$1000.00 a year for five years beginning in August of this year.

You have asked me if I can make any suggestions and therefore I wish to say that I believe it advisable for you to spend a week or two in the City of Los Angeles. Dr. Pettus has a California committee for his institutional work in Peiping and has been quite successful, I think, in getting financial assistance in this state. His frequent visits here and the cooperation of a number of well known people have resulted in a larger knowledge of educational conditions in China and there is a growing appreciation of the great field.

Besides this, in Pomona College particularly, and in the other colleges of Southern California, there is a growing interest in Oriental study with particular attention to China. I think you would get cooperation from Presidents Blaisdell, Edmunds and Jaqua. This is probably the good year for work of this kind.

With all good wishes for your success, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

George W. Marston

GWM

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學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA.

January 28, 1937

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS
"YENTA"

Mr. George W. Marston
Marston Company
San Diego, California

My dear Mr. Marston:

May I presume upon the generous interest you have already shown in Yenching University to ask that you consider providing in your will for the maintenance of your annual contribution so that your intentions on our behalf may be fully realized. I should much rather take this up with you in person, but am sending this letter to our New York office in the expectation that someone can confer with you about this matter. The increasing stability of the Chinese government, and the awakening of a new national consciousness that shows itself in constructive reforms of various kinds, has greatly increased the value to China of all that our University has been attempting. The significance of providing youthful leadership with Christian faith and ideals can be easily left to your imagination. On the other hand, the effects of the economic depression in America seem to be not only financial, but the number of those who are both interested in over-seas Christian enterprises and are able to do anything at all substantial, is very few. Would it not be possible for you to make plans for an endowment which would retain your name in connection with one of the more urgently needed requirements of ours? If you feel able to consider such a suggestion, these needs could be laid before you and a decision reached that would at once be of practical help to us and would meet your own desires.

With pleasant memories of my previous visits with you, and grateful appreciation of all that you have done for us thus far, believe me

Very sincerely yours,

J. Highton Stuart

jls c

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Miss Van Sciver's file

GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

September 9, 1937.

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

My dear Mr. Garside:

In response to your letter of August 27th I am sending herewith my check for \$1000.00. I have not regarded my pledge as an absolute one, because my circumstances are uncertain in some respects. I shall be 87 years of age next month and have put in my will a moderate bequest for Yenching University. In the event of my death next year, or during the life of the pledge, it should be understood that the pledge is cancelled, and possibly so if my finances are not in good condition next year, or the year after.

At that time there may be no Yenching University in existence. If the Japanese should launch their bombing on Peiping as they have done on Shanghai, it would probably destroy this great institution in its physical structure.

I have read Dr. Stuart's paper with much interest and quite understand that, war or no war, an income is needed for this year.

Sincerely yours,

G. W. Marston

GWM
Enclosure

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GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

September 13, 1939.

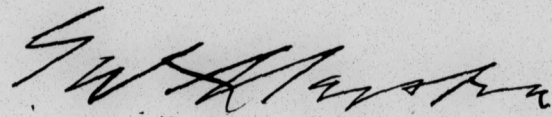
Mr. B. A. Garside, Secretary
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Garside:

In accordance with my
provisional pledge made in 1936,
I am sending you a check herewith
for the fourth payment of \$1,000.

It is surprising and
gratifying that the University can
carry on so well in the distressing
conditions of China.

Very truly yours,



GWM
Enclosure

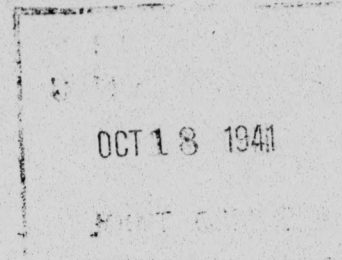
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GEORGE W. MARSTON
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE WITH
THE MARSTON COMPANY

October 3, 1941

*Return to
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Mr. E. M. McBrier, Treasurer
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. McBrier:

This is to acknowledge your letter of September 22nd. I quite understand that the United China Relief cannot accept my gifts to the causes in China as a part of the special campaign of 1941. For the past five or six years I have been giving about \$1,000 to some eight or ten religious, educational and relief agencies, one half of which was for Yenching University. As \$1,000 a year is the limit of my giving in this area of the world's needs, I could only say to the local committee that I would renew my gifts as usual. They assured me that this would count on the United China Relief campaign. This evidently was a mistake. Of course it makes no difference to me how this is treated. I thank you for your explanation.

I continue to wonder at the progress of the University under so many adverse conditions. It is a part of the splendid stand of China against Japanese aggression.

Sincerely yours,

G. W. Marston

GWM

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Yenching University, Peiping, China

March 22, 1931.

Dear Friends All,

A year ago to-day Victor and I and our two younger children arrived in Peiping, eager to begin our work here which was to continue until July 1931, and very happy at the thought of living for a time in old Peking, and of learning to know the Chinese people. Many things have happened differently from the way we hoped and planned, but it has been a rich year, the richest in our lives, we think, and we are not sorry that we came.

You should have had a letter shortly after Christmas thanking you all for that you did to make our Christmas a joyous one. If you read this letter through you will find out that I did try to write you, and why I did not succeed. But before I begin that story let me thank you now for all the letters and cards and gifts that came to us at Christmas time. We appreciate more than you will ever know, unless you sometime live in a foreign land, your unfailing kindness to us. In the words of Tiny Tim in the old Christmas story, "God bless you every one".

Now I must proceed to the recent history of the Martin family. Shortly before Christmas when we learned that our Japan Mission would receive a big cut for the New Year, we tried hard to think of some way of helping. We wrote our Mission treasurer in Japan that we would not send in any medical bills for the year 1930. That, we thought, would help a little. Then we found that two or three of the regular English teachers here in Yenching University would be absent on furlough from July 1931 to July 1932. So we made a tentative arrangement to stay on here during that time, and to receive our salary directly from the University. We then cabled to Japan that we were willing to stay here another year to relieve finances there if it would not affect our relation to the Mission.

But our relation to the Mission was already affected, although we did not know it, nor did our Mission group in Japan. On January 8 we received a letter from Dr. John R. Edwards,

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Senior Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, which turned our world completely upside down. It had been written on Dec. 4, and said in part:

"Owing to the serious decrease in the receipts of our Board during the past year, it is necessary to cut our force of foreign missionaries. In considering the various fields and the ones whose relationship to the Board of Foreign Missions should be terminated, it is the judgment of the group here that we must ask you and your splendid family to return to the United States and to seek other employment."

Dr. Edwards asked us to return to the States as soon as we could in fairness to our China colleague, Dr. Faucett. He said that we would be given furlough salary during a brief period while seeking work and promised us that we could depend upon cooperation from the Mission office in our search for employment.

We could see no use in going to America to join the 7,000,000 unemployed who were already there, so we decided to remain here at Yenching until July 1932, and wrote at once to the Board reporting our decision, and asking that we receive the furlough salary after July 1932 that they were offering now, provided we had not secured an adequate position by that time. We also asked for assurance that our travel expenses back to America would be met and that our right to a retiring allowance (based on the years of service a missionary has given) would not be sacrificed.

To that letter we have never had an answer, nor have we had any further word whatsoever from the New York office in regard to our leaving, though our Mission treasurer in Japan has had some word concerning our present finances. It happens that we have not heard from the Japan office just what that word is, so we've been walking rather more in the dark than in the light in some respects since the opening of the New Year.

But our way has not been all dark. Word seemed to get about in Japan pretty quickly about the action of the Mission Board, and before there has been time for a letter from us to reach Japan (and indeed before we had even written to anyone there off the compound) Victor's friends in Government educational circles in Japan had got busy on his behalf, and Mr. Harold Palmer, the Linguistic Adviser to the Department of Education in Japan, had sent us word of a very good opening in a college in Northern Japan. It would have been difficult to manage our children's

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schooling had we gone there, still we wrote for further information. But instead of answering our questions, Mr. Palmer asked us to wait a few days, as he and other friends had something better in view.

The "something better" was a position in the University of Commerce in Osaka. If we took this it would be possible for our children to attend the Canadian Academy at Kobe, and to come home for week ends. We thought hard and prayed hard. The Osaka position was for three years, or until April 1934, while the position here was only until July 1932. On the other hand we did not like changing schools immediately again for the children, especially for Maribel, because she would have only one year in the Canadian Academy before going to America to enter college, and for Jishin because he is in a wonderful school—the first six grades—out here at Yenching, and we did not like to think of him living away from home Monday to Friday. He's only seven and he is our baby. Then we did not like making so radical a change before the Mission Office had answered our questions re travel and retiring allowance, and also we did not want to leave Yenching. This school is a great missionary enterprise, we believe in it and in what it is doing and will do for China.

The president of the University and the head of the English Department both had told us how glad they would be to have us here permanently but that they could not see how to provide our salary after July 1932, as Yenching has been suffering from the economic depression which is prevalent in America. Like most Mission bodies, Yenching gives salary and children's allowances to its foreign staff, and the children's allowances increase in amount when the children are ready for college. So Yenching could hardly justify itself in a time of financial difficulty if it took on permanently a man with a family of children nearing college age when unmarried teachers could be had. The same reason that made it an economic advantage for the Methodist Board to drop us made it an economic disadvantage for Yenching to take us on. There was this difference of course, that Yenching had absolutely no responsibility toward us, while we had served the Methodist Mission for many years with the confident expectation of allowances for the children during their college years, as well as of a retiring allowance for ourselves when our years of service were ended.

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After talking the matter over between ourselves and with others, we thought it might be possible to raise our own salary after July 1932. So on March 10 we cabled a refusal of the Osaka position and settled down to work harder than ever here.

Then on March 19 Dr. Faucett, with whom we have been exchanging places, suddenly arrived here in Yenching. He felt that his situation in Japan had been greatly complicated by the action of the Mission Board toward us. For this and for other reasons he had terminated his work in Japan and had come over here prepared to stay until the end of this school year in June. (The Chinese school year ends in June, the Japanese school year in March.)

So off went another cable to Osaka, on March 20, the day after Dr. Faucett's arrival. Twenty-four hours later came the answer. That was yesterday, and in a week Victor will be off to Japan. He will go to Tokyo first to pack up our things there. You know the Faucetts have been in our house there this year, and as Mrs. Faucett and the children are leaving for America in April, we must get all our things out of the house as the C.W. Iglehart family are to move in. Any of you who know Victor will know what a real trial it is to him to go over there all alone and pack up.

We are not certain of the opening date at Osaka but think it is about April 10. Victor will make some temporary living arrangement in Osaka, and I shall remain here with the children at least until the end of June. Then if we can manage it Victor will join us here and we will all go to Peitaiho again for the summer. Last year we were there through the kindness of Mr. Thomas Sze, who lent us his beautiful home for six weeks. As you know Victor was ill all that time, and I want him to go back and enjoy life this year. We could not engage a house earlier because of our uncertain future, now it may not be possible to get one that our purse will permit us to have. But living is so much cheaper here than in Japan that it will be a good thing to remain in this country until September 1st if we can.

We regret much that we have had to take a position before the Board has written us about the business details involved in the change. But we could hardly do differently and we have already been waiting for what seems to us a long time for a letter from the Mission Rooms.

We wrote you a letter on February 6, telling you of the change in our affairs. We had the letter printed, the envelopes addressed, and some of the letters were folded and put in the envelopes, and then we decided not to send the letter. We were most anxious not to do injustice to the Mission staff in New York nor to anyone involved, and it did seem to us that we had been dealt with rather abruptly after Victor's long term of missionary service, which dates from April 1900.

But now that Victor has accepted this position at the Osaka University of Commerce, we think it due to you all to know what has been happening to us, and due to us for you to know what has caused us to go into what may not seem like missionary work. As a matter of fact, we do not feel that our call to Christian work in the Orient has been withdrawn, and we mean to continue to be missionaries in all but name and support.

Our future is full of problems, but we prefer not to dwell upon them just now, but to be thankful that a way has been opened to us for the next three years.

You may write to Victor until July 15 in care of the university of Commerce, Osaka, Japan. You may write me here at Yenching until further notice. Probably this address at Yenching, Peiping, will be in force until September first. You need not write to both of us, as any letter sent to either of us will be forwarded to the other.

This letter is painfully lacking in news of the family or of our work here or of this wonderful land in which we are living. If this letter were not so long already I'd like to tell you of our struggle with the flu, of Maribel's week in a hospital and of some of the interesting experiences we've had lately, especially of one night when we had a roast duck dinner in a restaurant that has been serving roast duck for three hundred years, and afterward went to a Chinese theater to hear and see the great Chinese actor who was recently in America, Mei Lan Fang.

But I can only mention these things. There is one thing though that I must tell you. Yesterday morning James and his friend Howell Breece started out on their bicycles from the Methodist Compound in Peiping about eight o'clock to come out to Yenching. The distance is twelve miles and they generally cover it in less than an hour. But yesterday they did not arrive

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until nearly noon. Just before reaching the gate in the west wall of the city they were arrested and taken to the police station because James did not have the receipt that was given him when he got his bicycle license, though he did have the license. Howell Breece had neither, but the police were not disturbed about that.

After a long wait, part of which the boys spent in playing baseball, to the amusement of the police, the boys saw the car of the president of the University going by. They hailed it, and found Stephen Tsai, the Treasurer of the University and Bliss Wient, one of our Methodist missionaries, inside. These men signed some sort of paper and the boys were dismissed none the worse for their experience. On the way home they passed hundreds of soldiers as we did when we went in to town in the afternoon. But I really must close now. I'll try not to wait so long before writing again.

With best wishes from us all to you all,

Very sincerely yours,

Esther L. Martin

Apr. 9

Dear Dr. Stuart,

We were glad to get your letter from Tokyo, and glad for your interview with Mr. Mochizuki and Mr. Eguchi. We were sorry indeed that your interview with Dr. Fancett resulted as it did. We both of us wanted and still want to spend the rest of our working days at Yenching.

Dr. Fancett came the day after we received your letter. He had determined his work in Japan, said that so far as Yenching was concerned the exchange ended with April 1. I cannot say I do not wish to repeat all that he said, but my husband did the only thing possible under the circumstances left for the Osaka Convention. But when the University wants him back, he wants to come. E. L. M.

May 7, 1931

Mrs. Victor Martin
Yenching University
Peiping, China

My dear Mrs. Martin:

Your printed letter with its personal postscript has just reached me. I have read both with the keenest sympathy and regret, as you already know quite well my own hopes, as well as various others on this subject, and as I am looking forward to seeing you soon after this letter will arrive, I shall only send this brief line of acknowledgment, regretful sympathy, and grateful admiration.

Very sincerely yours,

JLS:KK