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CHUNGKING

February 17, 1942.

Mr. B. E. Garside,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Garside:

It has been a number of years since I have had the pleasure and occasion to write you on Yenching affairs. The present occasion is not so pleasant as it is challenging.

I have just worked out a memo summarizing the various questions connected with reopening the University in free China. I enclose herewith a copy of the memo, to which I hope you will kindly give as much attention as this letter itself. We are especially grateful for the fact that Dr. H. H. Kung's office as the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chancellor of the University has continued during the period of the war though the name has not been publicized for prudential reasons. Furthermore, the presence of Mr. Dwight Edwards, who was prevented from returning to Shanghai, has given us much of the courage and guidance that is needed. I feel personally privileged to be able to work under such leadership on this significant but difficult task.

The Committee is quite realistic in temper although there is also a good deal of enthusiasm and idealism back of the project. As a first step, we would wish to do only what is needed and hope that the spring months will help us to a better understanding of the developing needs and situation. But to be able to proceed at all even only with the preparatory steps, we need the proper recognition and authorization from the Board of Trustees. And of course there is also the problem of securing a small promotional fund to work with. For these two purposes, Mr. Edwards has sent you a cable, a copy of which I herewith enclose for confirmation, and the figures requested are US\$5,000 for travel and relief subsidy of teachers and students and US\$5,000 for a 6-month promotional office budget. Some friends think we may be losing time by being too cautious, but having no idea as to your general attitude towards the whole proposition, we feel this is as far as we would want to go as a first step.

Needless to say that we need all the support and guidance that you can give us in this undertaking. And I look forward to further correspondence with you on a task that is to our common interest.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei

Encl: memo, minutes, cable.

Secretary, Committee on Reopening.

0502

YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Memo on Reopening of University in Free China

Soon after the declaration of war between America and Japan, the Japanese took over Yenching University in Peking. As far as could be ascertained, the foreign members of the faculty were interned and the Chinese faculty and students were sent away. Communications have been cut between Chungking and Peking and attempts have failed to get in touch with President Stuart. According to the statement made to the press by a member of the faculty who has recently come through the enemy lines and is presumably headed for Szechuan, Dr. Stuart is confined in the Legation Quarters and all the administrative officers of the University have been "arrested". We are inclined to interpret the "arrest" to mean an examination by the Japanese military. It is believed that groups of teachers and students are coming to free China but no definite word about this has yet been received.

News has just reached us about the Japanese reorganizing the "Chinese Church" in the occupied territory and the reopening of the Christian Universities in Shanghai with Japanese "cooperation". This is naturally sobering with respect to the possible future of Yenching in Peking.

The Chungking Yenching Alumni Association held an emergency meeting shortly after December 8 and there was a record attendance. Sentiments were very strong and a vote was taken for reopening the alma mater in free China. During the subsequent weeks, faculty members and alumni committee met several times for discussion. Similar expressions and requests were received from alumni groups of several cities. Finally, the matter was presented to Dr. H. H. Kung, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chancellor of the University. In spite of his indisposition and great pressure of state affairs, he called a meeting of the members and former members of the Yenching Board of Directors who are in Chungking on February 8. The Emergency Board at this meeting took action to proceed with the matter of reopening Yenching in free China, appointed a committee for this purpose and set up an Office on Preparations. (a copy of the minutes of this meeting is appended to the memo.) Pending ratification of the Emergency Board by the New York Trustees, properly authorized procedure is now completed for going ahead with the proposal. The following is a summary of the several discussions on the matter by various groups, which underlie the decisions of the Board and may perhaps be regarded as guiding principles in developing the project:

I PURPOSE: The purpose of resumption of operation of Yenching in free China seems to be ~~three~~^{four}fold, namely:

- (1) to maintain a continuous and unbroken record of the University,

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- (2) to clarify the position of the University with regard to the Japanese regime,
- (3) to forestall the possibility of a bogus "Yenching University" being operated in Peking, and
- (4) to enable faculty members and students who are expected to be arriving in free China to continue their University life under the spirit and ideals of Yenching.

II SCOPE: Of the three Yenching undergraduate Colleges of Arts and Letters, Natural Sciences and Public Affairs, that of Natural Sciences seems to be out of the question under the present difficult circumstances. It is therefore proposed to limit the proposed program to a combined college of Arts and Letters and Public Affairs. Departments and courses will probably be re-organized and combined, and the tutorial system already in force in Yenching in connection with the Modern Greats course emphasized.

If circumstances should not warrant the operation of a college, a research institute in social sciences and Chinese studies will be considered.

III FACULTY: In order to preserve the educational spirit and standard of the University, the faculty shall be composed of members according to the following preferential order:

- (1) members of the present faculty who will come out to free China,
- (2) former members of the faculty who are now in free China,
- (3) alumni of the University whose further study and experience qualify them for appointment on the faculty, and
- (4) a limited number of outstanding scholars to be invited to join the faculty for specific needs and purposes.

In view of probable financial stringency, it is felt that while a certain number of full-time members of the faculty and staff will be necessary for the proper conduct of the University, a considerable amount of voluntary part-time service from the alumni and friends of the University will be expected.

IV STUDENTS: In principle, the student body should be limited to Yenching students who will reach free China. Exceptional cases will be admitted only as they fulfill the following qualifications:

- (1) exceptionally high academic standard and sound character and
- (2) readiness to continue their studies in Peking when it becomes feasible to move the University back to its original campus.

V EDUCATIONAL POLICY: Besides maintaining the generally high academic standard that characterizes Yenching, the following points shall be specially emphasized:

- (1) character building and development of spirit of service and
- (2) understanding of the present epoch in China's history and of China's role in the New World Order.

VI FINANCE: The financial problem is probably the key to the whole undertaking, especially in view of the present soaring cost in ~~free~~ China. As yet, there is hardly any assured income for the project, but several sources with varied amounts are either probable or possible, pending cultivation and negotiation. Among these, the following might be listed:

- (1) Subsidy from the Ministry of Education:- \$70,000 for 1941. An equal or even larger amount may be expected for 1942.
- (2) Grant from the British Indemnity Board:- \$90,000 annually.
- (3) Grant from the China Foundation:- The definite amount of this grant is not known and all of it is hitherto ear-marked for natural science work.
- (4) Rockefeller Foundation:- The Rockefeller Foundation has been supporting certain phases of natural science work and social sciences including education, especially that which have to do with rural reconstruction. Amounts involved are not known, but Dr. Balfour, the Rockefeller Foundation representative in China, is generally favourably inclined towards projects in free China
- (5) Harvard-Yenching Foundation:- This Foundation has been supporting a substantial portion of the work related to Chinese Studies in the College of Arts and Letters, such as Chinese and History. Professor Ku Chieh-kang of the Harvard-Yenching Institute is in free China. The attitude of Dr. Stelle, representative of Harvard-Yenching Foundation in China, is generally favourable and encouraging.
- (6) Board of Trustees in New York:- The major portion of the University budget has hitherto been supplied by its Board of Trustees in New York. Definite figures for the amounts involved are not available, but even a portion of the usual amount from this source would go a long way towards the supporting the new project. Mr. D. W. Edwards, for years treasurer of the Board of Directors, is corresponding with Mr. Garside and believes the proposal will be given serious consideration.
- (7) Other Sources:
 - (a) Contribution from alumni and friends:- An opportunity should be offered for a concrete expression of support for the University in her distress.

(b) The National Relief Commission:- A good part of the support and travel expenses of the students and part of that of the faculty may be derived from the National Relief Commission.

(c) The International Student Relief Committee.

VII LOCATION AND SITE: The alternatives are Chungking and Chengtu and decision lies with the Committee on the Reopening of the University. There is a joint invitation from the Presidents of the four Universities now on the West China Union University campus for Yenching to join and share their facilities.

VIII IMMEDIATE STEPS: While preparations are being made and financial resources explored for the reopening of the University, it is understood that realization of the project will depend on the number of teachers and students that will actually be able to come out as well as the development of the world war. In the meantime the following immediate steps should be taken as they may be regarded as obligations of all Yenching constituencies:-

- (1) Transmit the news of the reopening of the University to teachers and students in North China so as to encourage them to come out.
- (2) Organize reception of teachers and students as soon as they get to free China and all along the way. Financial subsidy should be administered in a comprehensive way while local assistance may be expected of alumni groups.
- (3) Place teachers and students as they arrive, presumably in the four Christian institutions in Chengtu during the Spring.
- (4) Set up an office of Dean of Yenching Students in Chengtu when the number of students justifies such a measure.
- (5) Raise enough funds for the following items:
 - (a) LC\$20,000 for initial expenses (furniture etc.) for the office and possibly a student hostel.
 - (b) LC\$90,000 to meet the office budget for a period of six months.
 - (c) LC\$200,000 for travel and relief subsidy to teachers and students on the basis of 140 persons at LC\$1,500 per person.

While other agencies might be approached for support for the University program itself, these preliminary expenses have to be carried by Yenching constituencies themselves. A cable has been sent to the Board of Trustees in New York requesting a portion of the above listed sums. It is planned to raise the balance among alumni and friends locally.

Y. P. Mei
Chungking, Feb. 14, 1942.

0506

COPY OF CABLE SENT TO DR. GARSIDE

B. A. GARSIDE
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRESENT PAST BOARD MANAGERS FACULTY ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES FORM YENCHING
COMMITTEE PURPOSES FACILITATE STUDENTS FACULTY COME INTERIOR ARRANGE
THEIR STUDY WORK HWAHSIPA CAMPUS MAINTAIN CONTINUITY PERSONNEL **SPIRIT**
ENVISAGE REOPEN UNIVERSITY FALL SHOULD NUMBER REFUGEE STUDENTS JUSTIFY
EXPENSES SIX MONTHS 5000 GOLD AID REFUGEES 5000 TOTAL 10,000 CAN
TRUSTEES AUTHORIZE FINANCE PROJECT LETTER FOLLOWS.

H. H. KUNG, Chairman
H. P. MEI, Secretary
D. W. EDWARDS, Treasurer

0507

May 25, 1942

Dr. Y. P. Mei
Chungking
CHINA

Dear Dr. Mei:

Your letter of February 17th enclosing copies of the minutes of the Emergency Board of Directors came at a most opportune time and gave the first authentic picture of progress being made in Chengtu toward the establishment of a Yenching unit to carry on temporarily.

Undoubtedly, you have shared with Mr. Edwards the cable sent by the Board and which was forwarded on May 14th. It was your letter and accompanying papers which gave the background for intelligent consideration and for which the Board was deeply grateful. Many questions were asked as to the scope of the work to be undertaken -- all of which, of course, at the present is largely premature. It will be determined by conditions and, therefore, the Trustees must depend largely upon you good people to take the necessary steps toward establishing the new work.

I cannot tell you how much relief has been occasioned by the news that work at Chengtu is progressing so rapidly for Yenching. It places a new emphasis upon our publicity work. It gives us a definite approach to various people and, as a matter of fact, from a practical standpoint \$2,000. was given to United China Relief to be a part of the amount voted for the rehabilitation of Yenching.

I could go on indefinitely in covering various phases of this question, but in order to get this letter into the clipper mail, it must be finished today. We are promising you that we will keep in closer touch with the situation and pass on to you such news as may seem fitting to give encouragement or impetus to your effort.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next Clipper

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UNIVERSITIES
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June 11, 1942
Yenching Office,
c/o West China Union University,
Chengtu.

Mr. C. A. Evans,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I presume that my letter of February 17 enclosing a memo on reopening Yenching in free China and Mr. Edwards' letter of about the same time, both addressed to Mr. Garside, have received your attention. A copy of your letter of March 20 to Mr. Edwards reached me early in May. We all feel much encouraged out here by the tone of your letter and would naturally want to exert ourselves on the "reopening" project in order to live up to your expectations.

Yenching in Reopening and
I have just finished drafting a second issue of the memo to present a comprehensive picture of the present situation concerning reopening Yenching in free China. I enclose herewith a copy for your reference. We shall leave it to your discretion as to how widely you want to circulate this information. I think it would be advisable to send a copy of the memo of both this and the last issues to the Rockefeller Foundation, the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Princeton Foundation, and the Missouri School of Journalism, to all of which I am writing in order to establish contacts from Yenching in inland China and to solicit continued financial support from these sources. Our Yenching colleagues on furlough would naturally be interested, as well as the alumni. The alumni probably could be covered through their local associations, but the specially active members like David Lu should probably be treated individually.

On the basis of the "reopening" prospects as presented in the memo, the Emergency Board sent you on May 2 the following cable:

"YENCHING STUDENTS FACULTY BEGIN ARRIVE CHENG TU POSSIBLE TOTAL 200 REMIT SECOND 5000 PLAN REOPEN UNIVERSITY FALL HWAHSIPA FOR 250 TO 300 STUDENTS ONEFOURTH GIRLS PRESENT FORECAST MINIMUM BUDGET UNDERGRADUATE WORK ONLY CONSULTATION MISS PRIEST ANNUAL 40000 MINIMUM PRESENT COST LIVING 53000 ON MUCH NEEDED ADEQUATER BASIS INITIAL EXPENSES HOPEFUL PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDE DORMITORY QUARTERS BUT NEED 14000 REPAIRS ADDITIONS 17620 EQUIPMENT ALSO 5000 CONTRIBUTION FOR USE HWAHSI HOSPITAL FOR OFFICES CLASSROOMS TOTAL 36620 BASIS PRESENT COST BESIDES LOCAL FINANCIAL EFFORT REQUEST TRUSTEES ABCCC PRINCETON HARVARD TOTAL APPROPRIATION 66620 GOLD MINIMUM OR 79620 ADEQUATER AGAINST RISING COST STOP PLANS GRADUATE WORK AWAITING EVACUATION DEVELOPMENT WHAT FACULTY MEMBERS RETURNABLE EXAMERICA THIS YEAR WHAT SCHOLARSHIP OTHER SPECIAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AIRMAIL MOST RECENT BUDGET HHKUNG DWEDWARDS YPMET"

Miss Priest's budget figures differ somewhat from those presented in our own cable, but they help you to realize that the general scope of our estimated needs comes to about the same, no matter how we arrange the details.

Mr. Edwards received from you on May 19 a cable as follows:

"ANNUAL MEETING YENCHING TRUSTEES APPROVED REOPENING YENCHING UNIVERSITY CHENG TU RECOGNIZE EMERGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORITY IN CHINA PENDING FUNCTIONING REGULAR BOARD"

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and early in June another cable as follows:

"MISSION BOARDS NOT PLANNING SENDING STAFFS TO CHINA SOON BRANK FULTON POSSIBLY AVAILABLE JANUARY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HIM"

Just a few days ago, Dr. Cressy transferred to us the following cable message from you:

"YENCHING APPROPRIATION PENDING FINAL TRUSTEE ACTION"

Mr. Edwards is still hoping to receive from you soon the second US\$5,000 for purposes of relief and subsidy for teachers' and students' travel. The recent fighting on several fronts have held up a number of our people the other side of the lines. But as soon as new routes are discovered, we shall find the funds on hand, which include NC\$120,000 from the National Relief Commission, inadequate to meet the actual needs.

There will be less than three months before colleges open in the fall. Naturally we are all anxious to hear from you more definitely on the Trustees' decision regarding the University budget.

Re Brank Fulton, I am sorry to say I have never met him. We are holding the necessary consultation before cabling you our reply. We still hope earnestly that arrangements might be made for some of our old Yenching hands to join us here in Chengtu. Besides filling the teaching requirements, we naturally shall need as many of our own people as are available to keep up the institutional tradition. I have learned from Dr. Cressy that at least one missionary of the Baptist Mission and another of some other mission have recently secured their permits to return to China. And Lingnan University is also trying to get some of their people out to their new campus.

In spite of our policy to avoid all publicity in consideration of the difficulties of the faculty and students in North China and on their way out here, the Yenching reopening project is already receiving considerable attention. The financial grant from the Ta Kung Pao to help reviving the Yenching Journalism Department, in spite of the fact that at least two existing colleges in Chungking have journalism departments, is especially encouraging. Enthusiasm among alumni and friends continues to be very high. Naturally there will be many many problems ahead of us in such an undertaking at such a time, but the spiritual forces for making a good college are there.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei
Y. P. Mei,
Director,

Office of Preparations on Reopening Yenching University.

- P. S. 1) The China Foundation Office has just called up to say that the Board meeting has voted to grant fully the Yenching request for an Emergency Subsidy of NC\$60,000
- 2) We presume that the back salary of the university staff members who will get here should be paid them and that these sums should be charged to the Trustees' account in addition to the regular budget.

Encl: 1 memo

Y. P. Mei

Yenching University,
c/o President's Office,
West China Union University,
Chengtu.

July 3rd, 1942.

Mr. Carl A. Evans,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Evans:

In planning the educational program of Yenching University, Chengtu, Journalism training seems to be one of those projects that must be included and reinvigorated after these years of dormancy since the Japanese occupation of Peking. The Department of Journalism was established by Mr. Vernon Nash some 12 years ago, and its contribution to the field of journalism in China has become more and more telling even during this short period. Among its graduates may be mentioned David Lu, press representative of the Chinese Government in the U.S.A., Richard Jen, press representative of the Chinese Government in India, James Shen, head of the English section of the International Publicity Board under the direction of Hollington Tong, and T. C. Tang, head of the English section of the Central News. Several others are in responsible positions in the various Chinese papers. In the city of Chungking alone, more than 20 Yenching alumni are engaged in the field of publicity and journalism.

An almost casual discussion of the project with the President of the Ta Kung Pao, winner of the Missouri International Prize for Journalism for 1941, resulted in a 3-year donation of NC\$100,000 from a Journalism Scholarship Fund totalling a little over NC\$110,000 in memory of Chang Chi-Luan the well known editor of Ta Kung Pao who passed away less than a year ago. The money is helpful; the recognition is priceless.

Encouraged by this initial success, the Yenching Journalism Alumni organized a Committee to help the Office for Re-opening Yenching University to set up a "bigger and better" Journalism Department. The Committee has made recommendations on suitable personnel, a minimum budget, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, and financial cultivation. The working budget for the first year does not call for a big lot of money, but it has been felt that the moral as well as financial support ought to be made and renewed both in China and in America as soon as possible. The University of Missouri and its School of Journalism have always taken a concrete interest in this budding Journalism Department of Yenching. It has been suggested that Mr. Henry Luce, because of his profession, interest and recent visit in China, might like to do something specially in favour of this department, besides his general support to Yenching as a whole. You will of course be able to think of other pros-

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pects that should be cultivated.

We are especially glad that Mr. David Lu, one of the graduates of this department in Yen-ching and later a Missouri-Yen-ching Fellow in the University of Missouri, is now on an important Government Mission in the U.S.A. We believe he will do his utmost for this project if you will keep him informed.

P. S. ^{One of the projects} ~~It has been~~ suggested ^{was} that special support be secured for at least one seasoned American journalist to come and spend a year in Yen-ching teaching journalism while observing the China theatre for his own benefit.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei
Y. P. Mei.

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File - This letter was never distributed - JP 10/22/42

Yenching University
c/o President's Office
West China Union University
Chengtu

July 3rd, 1942

Mr. Carl A. Evans
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

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Sincerely yours,

/s/ Y. P. Mei

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0514

YENCHING UNIVERSITY-CHENG TU

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM

Budget---1942/43

Salary

1 Professor	\$19,200
1 Lecturer	14,400
Part-time Lecturers	10,000
1 Assistant	<u>8,400</u>

\$52,000

Scholarships

10 @ \$800	\$ 8,000
10 @ \$1200	<u>12,000</u>

\$20,000

Office Expenses

8,000

Books and Magazines in "Shop Room"

10,000

Travel (Including subsidy to seniors
to receive training in Chungking)

5,000

"Yenching News"

15,000

Journalism Week

4,000

Total

NC\$114,000 = US\$6,000

UNITED
UNIVERSITIES
1942
JOINT OFFICE

05 16

Copy for N.Y. Office

Yenching University in Chengtu
Chengtu, Szechuan
31st August, 1942

Prof. Berge Elisseeff
Harvard-Yenching Institute of Chinese Studies
Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Elisseeff:

We hope that you have heard recent news of our re-opening of Yenching here in Chengtu. In spite of grave lack in men and money, we have been able through the strong support of our alumni and friends to set all plans into motion, and we hope to start all classes by the 1st of October.

When Dr. Stelle was here, I had several opportunities to talk our plans over with him. He thoroughly approved of our determination to reopen, and discussed the various difficulties most sympathetically. This was very encouraging to us.

In the subjects with which you have been most concerned, we now have the following line-up for our undergraduate teaching.

Chinese: K. Ma one-time head of the Yenching Chinese Dept.
and recently head of the Hongkong University
Chinese Dept.

Hou E (Lecturer) recently arrived from Peiping
Chang Ch'ang Kang (Lecturer)

History: Wang Cheng Tsu (Part-time Professor)
Tseng Hsien K'ai (Lecturer)
Wang Yi Tung (Part-time Lecturer)
Cheng Teh K'un (helping)

Anthropology: Lin Yueh Hua (Lecturer)

At present we are clearly not equipped to undertake research work, but we do hope that we can gradually pick up again the Yenching tradition and most of the personnel. We understand that Dr. William Hung had a Five-Year Plan for research work, but unfortunately we have no copy here. Will you be kind enough to send us a copy of yours?

We believe that a little later on we could collect an adequate staff for research work, capable of producing material worthy of the Harvard-Yenching tradition. The following persons are in our minds, and we think there is a reasonable chance of getting them.

Professor Ku Chieh Kang, now in Chungking

Chi Ssu Ho

Wang Tu Chien who is now in Peiping, but have a good chance of coming out here.

Teng Ssu Yu who may return to us from U.S.A.

Lin Yueh Hua is here now

Wang Yi Tung is with Nanking University in Chengtu

Cheng Te K'un with the Hua Hsi Museum, will be in a good position to help us.

0517

Of course we hope that Professors William Hung and Jung Keng may come out to join us, but we fear that the chance is very small.

At this time, when we are restarting our work under many difficulties, the continued support of our old friends and cooperating institutions given us security and encouragement. And so I hope that the Harvard-Yenching Institute will recognise the new Yenching as a hopeful enterprise and deserving of recognition and aid. Your cooperation will be most deeply appreciated.

We believe that as far as undergraduate work in Chinese and History is concerned, we can have a staff absolutely competent and inspiring confidence, and we trust that you will feel the same way, and be willing to help us by the support of some staff members for work in Chinese, History, and Anthropology.

As for research work we hope you will consider sympathetically our request that you finance the team listed on the previous page (excluding Cheng Te K'un) and make funds available for publication.

I would also like to raise the question of setting up a Harvard-Yenching Office in Free China. If possible, it would be headed up by Prof. William Hung, Before he comes, we would like to have Dr. Stelle in charge, or failing him, Cheng Te K'un acting as Executive Secretary. Such an office could do a great deal in correlating the work of the various branches of the Harvard-Yenching Institute in Free China, and the obvious place for it is Chengtu, since no less than four of the cooperating institutions are now here. What do you think of this idea?

In the belief that your interest in our work, and care for our future, will, if at all feasible, express itself in the most practical forms, I append a budget for undergraduate teaching, research work and publications here.

Office	Executive Secretary	NC\$ 24,000	
	Secretary	18,000	
	Assistant	12,000	
	Supplies and Expenses	10,000	64,000
Under-graduate teaching	Chinese: 2 Professors	40,000	
	History: 2 Professors	40,000	
	Anthrop: 1 Professor	20,000	100,000
Research	2 Professors	48,000	
	2 Assistant Professors	40,000	
	2 Fellows	30,000	
	Expenses	100,000	218,000
Publication	Yenching Journal		50,000

Hoping that you will give the proposals of this letter your most earnest and sympathetic consideration.

Yours very sincerely,

Y. P. Mei

0518

Sept. 10, 1942

Dr. M. C. Balfour
Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th St.
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Balfour:

I believe our New York office has been keeping you posted as to the developments in the effort to re-open Yenching University in Free China. We are happy to report that after some little hard work during the past few months, an undergraduate college with a student body of 300 and faculty and staff of about 45 is already to start class work in Chengtu under the name of Yenching University. By the same mail I am sending a copy of our report to Mr. Evans of our New York office with the request that copies of the report be distributed to you and the other organizations that have been so kindly contributing to the support of Yenching University.

My understanding is that your support has been especially directed to the pre-medical and the College of Public Affairs programs. To date we are able to report that of the original staff of Public Affairs College, the following members have arrived at Free China or have decided to return to Yenching in Chengtu after a period of leave of absence from the institution:

Political Science Dept.:

Wu Chi Yu, Prof. and Chairman
Miss Chen Fang Chih, Lecturer

Economics Dept.:

Cheng Lin Chuang, Asst. Prof.
J. B. Taylor, (Many years Prof. of Economics in Yenching and may possibly return on a Yenching-CIC collaboration basis)

Sociology Dept.:

Miss Chou Li Chiu, Asst. Prof.
Miss Kuan Jui Wu, Lecturer
Lin Yao Hua (Temporarily with Yunnan University since return from Harvard and now returning to Yenching)
Cato Yang (Several years Prof. of Sociology in

0520

Yenching and now ^{possibly} returning to Yenching).

We are sorry for being unable to make a clear ^{similarly} encouraging report as to the Natural Science faculty. We can only hope that some of them may be able to make their way out here in due course of time. ~~Now~~ the above list of Social Science faculty people, I am wondering whether you do not feel it justified to continue the support of their salaries and their instructional and research expenses as you so generously used to when they were in Peking..

An emergency Board of Directors of Yenching will be meeting next Monday to pass on the annual budget for 1942 to 1943. A copy of the budget will also be sent to Mr. Evans who might deem it proper to duplicate the material and send you a copy. At any rate we can assure you that during this first year of re-opening in Free China, we are very much on a conservative and economical basis. But the rise in cost of living makes it quite necessary to continue to seek sources of support, although we might be able to present a balanced budget at the present. We trust that you are in sympathy with our effort to re-open Yenching University in Free China. Whatever support you deem proper to give and enable the project to succeed, will be much appreciated.

There is of course also the problem of Dr. W. T. Wu's Social Science Project on your support yet to be taken up. I feel that if it is a part of the Yenching program, the project ought to be much more closely tied up with the institution now that the University itself is operating in Free China. However, I have not yet had the full details from Dr. Wu on the whole undertaking and I am not in a position to discuss the matter intelligently. If you have any definite ideas about it, it will also be helpful to our discussions out here that must take place in due course of time.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei,
Director of Office for Re-
opening Yenching University.

c.c. Mr. Carl Evans ✓

Cable Address: Yenta

Yenching University in Chengtu,
Shensi Kai,
Chengtu,
Szechuan,
W. CHINA.

Oct. 5, 1942.

Mr. C. A. Evans,
Yenching University,
150, Fifth Avenue,
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Evans,

As you have been informed, I came up from Chungking to Chengtu to attend to the last and most intensive lap of preparations for re-opening Yenching, early in July. By the end of August we had everything about ready to start class-work in September. It was then thought opportune and necessary that with the operation of the University itself, the administration should be placed on a more organized footing. I therefore took a trip to Chungking and spent the first three weeks of September there. My mission was mainly to help organize a Board of Directors, to urge that executives of the University be appointed and to discuss with the Ministry of Education on the various matters that were of interest to them. I am glad to say I was able to accomplish all these and several other tasks during my stay in Chungking, and to get back to Chengtu in time for a Pre-sessional Conference of the Faculty, followed by Freshman Week and the registration of students. Class-work began on Friday, October 2. It may be of interest to you to note that Mr. Wendell Wilkie was at that time visiting Chengtu, and in fact the first lecture for Yenching students this year was Wilkie's talk, which he delivered to between eight to ten thousand students on the lawn of the WCUU Campus, and that I shared the honour of the occasion as his interpreter.

After a good deal of careful preliminary discussion in Chungking, it was finally decided to organize an Emergency Board of Directors, with due respect to the original Board which should be expected to resume its functions and activities as soon as circumstances make it possible. Dr. H. H. Kung was very generous to Yenching with his time and hospitality. Besides several interviews that I had with him, he called a meeting of the Emergency Board on Monday, Sept. 14, in his residence and entertained the group at lunch. He was so pressed for lack of time that he had to double up the meeting of the Cheeloo Board with that of Yenching. A detailed report of the Cheeloo Board Meeting must have come to you directly.

Enclosed herewith I am sending you a copy of the minutes of the first meeting of the Emergency Board of Directors of Yenching University, a copy of the Central News Agency's story on the "Re-opening of Yenching" which may be accepted as the English version of my report to the Board of Directors, a copy of the University Budget and an explanatory sheet on the salary treatment for the University Faculty and staff. All of this material has been distributed to members

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of the Board of Directors. Mr. Edwards may have sent some of this stuff to you in his last letter, but I believe I ought to send it to you even if there should be duplication, as mails these days are far from being entirely dependable.

You will note from the minutes that the Board had voted to send an expression of appreciation to the Board of Trustees for the liberal grants for current, initial and promotional expenses. Will you please transmit this vote of thanks taken by the Board of Directors to the members of the Board of Trustees?

The Board of Directors Sub-committee on Women's College was not organized at the meeting of the Board. I am now calling together the women Board members in Chengtu to consider a list of people to be coopted for the organization of this sub-committee.

The Budget was duly approved by the Board of Directors with the understanding that at the beginning stage of Yenching re-opening in Free China and with costs rising so rapidly, revisions to the Budget will be necessary from time to time. The point of appointment of the executives of the University has been elaborated upon by Mr. Edwards in his letter to you. My personal hope and that of both the Faculty and the Board of Directors lies in President Stuart's early release and arrival in Free China to take up the administration of the University. It is only on such hope that I agreed to act for him on a temporary basis with regard to actual University administration. With regard to relationships with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry's regulations do not encourage a university to secure its chancellor from among government officials, and therefore the emphasis will have to be put on the Acting Chancellor in our case in dealing with the Ministry. *The proceedings of the Bd meeting have been duly reported to the ministry.*

On the whole, everything has been smooth and proper at the re-opening of Yenching and the Board of Directors had no particular problem to face except the item of student relief and aid. The estimates of this item are to be found on the last sheet of the Budget. You will realize that we are still in need of over NC\$300,000.00. While in Chungking, I started negotiations with the National Relief Commission and the English China Relief Foundation. While we hope to be able to raise this amount fully in China, we have yet no assurance.

As you must have noted, I have started cultivating the interests of our co-operating and contributing agencies and foundations in America. In my last letter, I enclosed a copy of my letter to Professor Elisseeff. Herewith I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Dr. M. C. Balfour of the Rockefeller Foundation. Whatever you can do with regard to these supporting groups, we shall be most grateful.

As soon as we started with the internal administration of the University, we discovered the need of data and material that are in Peiping and not procurable here. For instance, none of us here know who are our present members of the Board of Directors. A copy of this list from your files will be very enlightening. Then we are specially handicapped because we have not even a single copy of the Faculty Rank and Treatment Plan, while we are making a desperate effort trying to maintain the Yenching standards as set up in that plan. We should very much appreciate a copy of that from your files. As we go along during the year, need of other material

0523

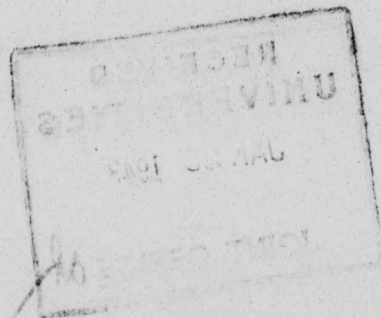
might be felt. If you have someone who can go over the Yenching files in your office and pick out ~~the~~ things that you think would be helpful to us, that would be very well. Mr. Edwards mentioned someone here in Szechuan received a whole folder-full of stuff from New York for a very small amount of postage. Time is not such an awful consideration in this connection.

Both Faculty and students are in high spirits, although everybody is under financial pressure. The whole Freshman Week gave promise of a very fruitful and successful year ahead. The Field Day programme was especially successful and the Yenta Christian Fellowship is already planning a programme of activities. I am herewith enclosing a copy of some statistical material, parts of which have been cabled to you by Miss Priest.

Sincerely yours,

A. O. Mei
Y. P. Mei

YPM/AGB
Enc.



0524

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Sincerely,
J. O. Edwards
 J. O. Edwards

Enc.
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RECEIVED
 UNIVERSITIES
 JAN 22 1948
 JOINT OFFICE *dk*

October 27, 1942

Dr. Y. P. Mei
Yenching University
Chengtu, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear Dr. Mei:

Some chain of correspondence between your office and ours should be established, although correspondence in the light of cabled information and telegraphic news sometimes appears out of date. Nevertheless, we are craving for details presumably in the same manner that you are anxious to get news from America.

Our cable to Dwight Edwards on October 23rd quoted \$50,000 from current funds and that more would be available if needed. This "more" refers to the Harvard-Yenching Restricted Funds and School of Religion Funds which, if the departments are established, will require the use of this designated income. As a matter of fact, I am giving you the September 30th Budget Analysis for Yenching income. You will note the method of handling receipts and disbursements. The total amount of Anticipated Income from the Trustees aggregates \$102,423.84 from which Home Administration and Promotional charges are deducted. This leaves a balance of \$88,157.76 available for the field budget, of which \$50,000 has been approved for field expenditures. This \$88,157.76, however, includes Princeton-Yenching Foundation appropriation of \$8,500 designated for the School of Public Affairs and before the money is released a definite program of procedure should be submitted to us.

The Harvard-Yenching Institute Restricted Fund of \$19,736.84 is for Chinese Cultural Studies, which is for the establishment and carrying on of a Chinese department of language and this must be of first consideration. A budget of this department likewise should be submitted.

The Natural Science Endowment is for the on-going development of the Science Department.

The Harkness Endowment, Thompson Endowment and Gamewell Professorship all are restricted to the Department of Religion. Scholarships are not restricted to any particular department.

We are also enclosing copy of the Yenching College for Women Budget Analysis for September 30. This shows there is \$15,636 available for the field. You will note the receipts include some sustaining funds. This is because last year, from various sources, we secured \$2,500 not through the United China Relief. The budget for the Women's College, quite naturally, is for the carrying on of women's work. You will best judge how this fund can be used, if at all, in connection with the women's work to be started at Chengtu.

I do not find that I have acknowledged your letter of June 11th which gives the history of your activities in West China up to that time.

We are all indeed grateful for the assistance which has been rendered by the Chinese Government both for relief and rehabilitation. With exchange at its present level and commodities soaring, it is impossible to carry on without some assistance of this sort. The assistance from the Ta Kung Pao to revise Journalism is also a stroke of good luck. I have elsewhere spoken of the probability of our giving consideration to the establishment of such a department, although in our estimation it is for the field to determine its program.

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Dr. Mei

- 2 -

October 27, 1942

Any back salary of university staff members should be paid and Account #31 charged with same and we will reimburse you from Reserve set aside for this purpose. Account #31 is what is termed "The Field Account" through which Miss Cookingham and our office formerly operated.

One of our first duties is to have a meeting of the Yenching Board as this morning a large sheaf of correspondence written during May and June from the staff at Peking came to hand. There are many problems suggested in these reports which must have rather thorough discussion--some of which may require reporting to you. We will let you know later.

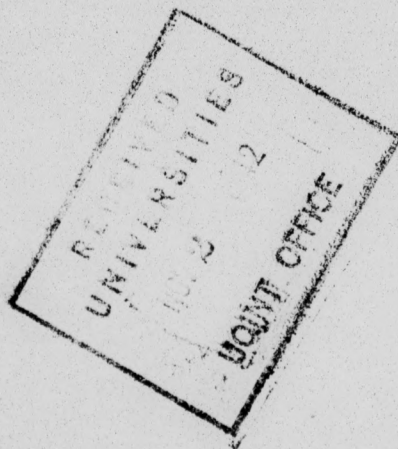
Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

cc: Accounting Office

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next Clipper



0527

燕 京 大 學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

Y. P. Mei

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

31st December 1942.

Mr. Carl A. Evans,
Yenching University Office,
New York.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I am in receipt of your letter of October 27. We are very happy to have an idea of our financial situation at the American end. My colleagues are already working on estimates and budgets on different items. But we are all anxious to receive the Budget Analysis referred to in your letter and was to come "Via next Clipper".

The problem of relieving the financial pressure of the Chinese members of the faculty and staff in Peking has been very much on our minds. After much exploration and negotiation, we have succeeded in securing the good offices of the Swiss Government through the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The arrangement is as follows:-

1. For the first instalment you are asked to remit US\$ 3000 to the Chinese Minister at Bern.
2. The Chinese legation will hand over the sum to the Swiss Government with the request that the Swiss Government will remit the sum to Prof. Philip de Vargas in Peking, presumably for the use of Dr. de Vargas.
3. We are writing from this end to Dr. de Vargas asking him to use his discretion in distributing the money among the Chinese members of the university.
4. The first instalment of US\$ 3000 will be regarded as an experiment. If it proves successful, larger sums might be remitted through the same channel. I suppose amounts used for the purpose might be charged to the "back salary reserve" on your account.

Then we are also anxious to strengthen our faculty and staff here especially by old Yenching hands among the foreign members now still in Peking. I am enclosing herewith a copy of my letter to the Yenching Repatriates sent to Africa. Presumably the people will be practically penniless by the time they get to Africa. To enable them to come to China necessary travel expenses will have to be made available. I am therefore writing to request that your office will attend to the necessary arrangement. It may be easier for you to learn as to who are in charge of American Affairs at Lorenzo Marques and may be requested to receive the remittance.

T.O.

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

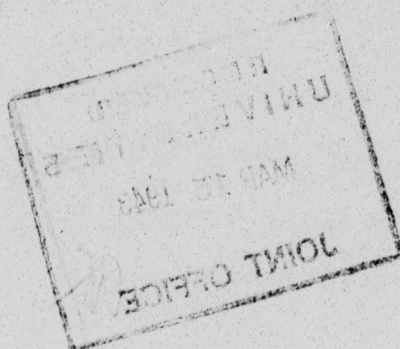
- 2 -

I am beginning to pick up a secretarial staff for the university, and hope to improve in the way of correspondence. The above paragraphs will have to do before the New Year holidays.

Sincerely yours,

Y. F. Mei

Y. F. Mei,
Acting President.



0529

學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGTO
CHENGTO CHINA

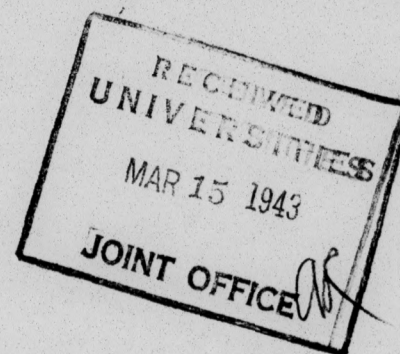
CABLE ADDRESS
YENY

- 2 -

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Sincerely yours,

W. L. Mei,
Acting President.



0530

December, 23, 1942.

To

Faculty & Staff of Yenching University,
C/o American Consul(or U.S.A. Govt. Representative),
Lorenzo Marques,
Portugese E. Africa.

Dear Colleagues,

Christmas is here now. But by the time you will read this it may be Easter. The thoughts of all of us in Yenching-in-Chengtu are with all of you especially during this season.

I am not clear as to how much you have heard about the reopening of the University in Chengtu. The inclosed Central News Story on the subject is somewhat out of date, but is adequate for general background. We held a Formal Reopening on December 8. Abundance of enthusiasm and sentiments made up for any lack of material splendor. However, I must not let myself loose telling you all about Yenching-in-Chengtu. In a word, we've got the beginnings but we have yet a good deal to do to be any where near the Yenching style.

Among the many needs, the original faculty and staff personnel stands at the top. Dr. Stuart's leadership goes without saying. On the unanimous vote of the F.E.C. - we have everything here according to the good old Yenching tradition - I am writing to invite you one and all to come and join us in Chengtu. This is no mere courteous gesture either. We are serious; we are in desperation. The few of us have been exerting ourselves to exhaustion to carry on thus far. We are afraid the present scope and style can not be continued too long without detriment to the good name of Yenching and the sound health of some of the individuals involved.

We know this is asking not a little of you. As far as physical comfort goes, those of you who decide to come will be taking a leap from the frying pan into the fire itself. May be, some of you have so much responsibility at home that the right thing to do is to go straight on. Some might wish to go home, take a look, and then decide. But we do hope there will be some among you who will consider this invitation important and urgent enough to come right over. The invitation is for all and we hope as many as can will accept it.

I am also writing Mr. Evans concerning this invitation and request that our New York Office make the necessary financial arrangements to enable the realization of this proposition. I hope something along this line will have been done by the time you read this letter.

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-2-

Again best wishes to all of you. And hearty welcome to those that are coming and bon voyage to the rest. In memory of auld lang syne and in deeper consecration to our common enterprize.

Cordially yours,

Y. I. Mei.
Acting President.

0532

enclosed for the use of the Joint Office of the
Department of the Interior and the Bureau of
Indian Affairs. The enclosed material is for
the use of the Joint Office of the Department
of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Very truly yours,

Is . . .
Chief of Bureau

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UNIVERSITIES
1943
JOINT OFFICE