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Yenching
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Mei, Y. P. 1944 Aug-Dec

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGDU
CHENGDU, CHINA

August 1, 1944

TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF YENCHING

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We have just finished with the entrance exam. About six hundred applied in Chengdu and many were scared away by the stiff entrance exams we put up last year. Over 300 have been reported from Chungking. Then there are also candidates on the accredited school system. But altogether we can only take in one hundred at the most because our dormitory space is already too crowded. The \$10,000,000 campaign has brought in several million dollars of money but also head-ache cases of admission for the Acting President!

Dr. Wei Yung-ch'ing has already told you a little about our housing problems. The Methodist Primary School has given us another ultimatum to move out at the end of July. There are ten families living in this small court yard, which also includes the "President's Mansion". The Housing Committee has searched the city to get accommodation elsewhere but so far there are still no houses in sight. We shall be either on a sit-down strike or on the streets by next week.

Naturally I want to write something about the Home Economics Department. I noticed several previous writers in this series had mentioned our Nursery School so I shall not repeat that. When Yenching was reopened in Chengdu, the Department began with six major students. Last year, we had 26. Probably we shall have 30 or more this year. Our Child Welfare work and Home Education program are well under way but I regret to say that the Nutrition training is still weak due to lack of equipment and staff. We are still hoping Dr. Kung Lan-chen will finally come out from Shanghai. If Dr. Hsu Peng Cheng comes to Chengdu, probably Dr. Kung will be here too. Miss Yu Hsi Hsuan of the P. U. M. C. is here in Chengdu but there are other demands for her time, so she can only help us part-time. Dr. Cheng Chi, a well-known food-chemist, has promised to help us with a course this year. We are hoping that Dr. Kramer might come out but she wishes to stay at Kansas College to brush up. There you are. We have to get along the best we can, even though I personally am sold to the idea that Nutrition work is most fundamental to Chinese life both during war and after war.

Finally, I must say it is a privilege to work for Yenching at this difficult time. If we grow only by solving problems the group in Chengdu will all become giants before long.

Best wishes to you all, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) V. K. Nyi Mei

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燕京大學

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YPI/PC/132

Mr. C.A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Evans,

My last letter to you was dated July 6. Since then we have been in receipt of some communication from Mr. Ballou but nothing from you.

Hitherto, you have been in charge of both the offices of Yenching and A.B.C.C.C. in New York. It was very convenient for correspondence, in that I could just write you and let you decide as to whether the problems raised were to be filed at the one office or the other. Now that Mr. Ballou has been given responsibility for the A.B.C.C.C. office, I have to feel out my way gradually as to how much to load on him and how much to keep up with you. If you can give me some general lines to follow I may be saved from a good deal of uncertainty now and then.

Enclosed herewith I am sending you one statistical table of graduating classes and Biweekly Letter Series No. 11 written by Mrs. Mei. No. 10 in this series has been written by Dr. Wei Yung-ching which he has sent you directly already.

Dr. Wei has been in Chengtu over two months and is now making a real contribution to the University Administration and student life by his hard and conscientious work in student welfare in general and religious activities in particular. Summer heat in Chengtu is quite a proposition but Dr. Wei feels he has already had a long vacation on his way home and insists on working more than full time through the vacation. I am sure as time goes on Dr. Wei's presence in the University will make a notable difference in the quality and spirit of the new student body especially. Dr. Wei will be offering one or two courses in the fields of social administration and religion in the fall.

Our Rank and Salary Committee made a study of Dr. Wei's record and has ascribed to him the University rank of Lecturer and a monthly basic salary of \$250. Compared with his income and his enjoyments while in America Dr. Wei is serving his Alma Mater at a considerable sacrifice. But he has been very good about it and made little fuss. Our Treasurer's Office is paying him the full amount of salary and subsidy every month on the regular University basis. Mr. Hausske, the Controller, will try to make a report of these expenses periodically to New York and collect from the McBriar Fund, for reimbursement. We understand that Dr. Wei's travel expenses are properly covered from the fund in New York. We wish still to call your attention to

Copies Landed
To: Mr. Ballou
" Mr. Corbett
" Mr. Mills

9/11/44

August 4, 1944

ack 9/11/44

Bi-weekly
letter series
to CNB
9/11/44

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A.C. Evans, August 4, 1944.

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the fact that Dr. Wei's salary and subsidy treatment in Yenning began in June, the month he started work here. There is a long period of several months after he left America and before he arrived at Chengtu. It seems some additional remuneration should be given him besides the actual travel expenses for that period, since he has a family to support, etc. We wish to recommend this matter to your attention and favorable consideration.

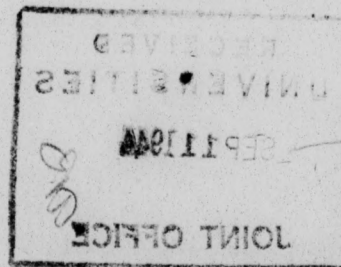
There is still one matter that is outstanding in my mind. I refer to the back salary settlement for members of the University who were in Peking and who are now in Chengtu. Since receiving the material so carefully worked out by Miss Cookingham, we have set a small Committee working at it from the Chengtu end. Unfortunately for one reason or another that Committee has not been able to render its report yet. But we hope to be able to communicate with you again on this soon.

There are always enough problems in the University to keep everybody going and to keep life from being drab. Just now the wrestling is alternately with entrance candidates and the Methodist Mission landlords. The exchange situation is far from being stable yet. Now we have secured the privilege of free market in a city like Chengtu the demand for U.S. currency under the special terms is likely to be a matter of ups and downs. This swaying from one side to the other make the lot of us, including Miss Priest, optimists at one time and pessimists at the next. Just now we tend toward the gloomy side. I suppose the only thing to do in a situation like this is to plan for the best and prepare for the worst.

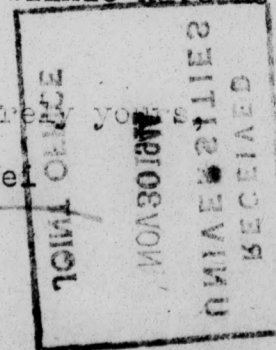
There is a good deal of newspaper report about the doings of Dr. H.H. Kung and his party in America. I hope our Yenning constituency is making good use of his presence for cultivation purposes, etc. Vice-president Wallace brought to Yenning those 2 packages of teaching material which we all appreciate so much and now Mr. Penfield of the American Embassy, Chengtu Office has sent to us a small quantity of Vitamin B and of Vitamin C also brought over by the Vice-President. The material will be found very helpful and the thoughtfulness will go a long way towards convincing the Chinese people of the friendly attitude of the American people. All of us who had the privilege of meeting Vice-President Wallace are much impressed by his simplicity and true spirit of democracy. We are somewhat disappointed to see that both he and Mr. Wilkie have not succeed to get on to the next election.

With best regards,

Acc. Mr. A.C. Hausske
Dr. Wei Yung-ching



Sincerely yours,
Y.P. Mei



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A.C. Evans, August 4, 1944.

the fact that Dr. Wei's salary and salary treatment in Yenching began in June, the month he started work here. There is a long period of several months after he left America and before he arrived at Chengtu. It seems some additional remuneration should be given him besides the actual travel expenses for that period, since he has a family to support, etc. We wish to recommend this matter to your attention and favorable consideration.

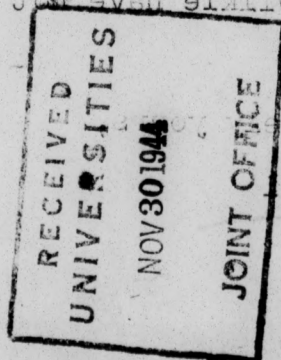
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There are always enough problems in the University to keep everybody going and to keep the fire from being kindled. Just now the wrestling is alternately with entrance committees and the selection of Mission Laboratories. The exchange situation is far from being simple yet. Now we have secured the privilege of five cars in the city like Chengtu. The demand for U.S. currency under the special terms is likely to be a matter of some importance. This is a matter of one side to the other make the lot of us, including Miss Fraser, of course at one time and participants at the next. Just now we tend toward the gloomy side. I suppose the only thing to do in a situation like this is to plan for the best and prepare for the worst.

There is a good deal of newspaper report about the coming of Dr. H.H. Kung and his party to America. I hope our Yenching Committee is making good use of his presence for educational purposes, etc. Vice-President Wallace brought to Yenching these packages of teaching material which we all appreciate so much and now in the hands of the American Embassy. Chengtu Office has sent to us a small quantity of Vitamin B and of Vitamin C also brought over by the Vice-President. The material will be found very helpful and the thoughtfulness will go a long way towards convincing the Chinese people to the friendly attitude of the American people. All of us who had the privilege of meeting Vice-President Wallace and whom he pressed by his simplicity and true spirit of democracy. We are somewhat disappointed to see that both he and Mr. Wilkie have not succeeded to get on to the next election.

With best regards,

cc. Mr. A.C. Evans
Dr. Wei Yung-ching



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C O P Y

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
Statistics of Graduating Classes

	June 1943			Jan. 1944			June 1944		
	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS									
Chinese	1	2	3	0	1	1	0	0	0
Western Lang.	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
History	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2
Journalism	1	3	4	0	0	0	3	2	5
(Education)	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
(Psychology)	2	0	2	0	0	0	1(M.A.)	0	1(MA)
(Phy. Ed.)	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Total	(5)	(9)	(14)	(0)	(2)	(2)	(6)	(4)	(10)
COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCE									
Mathematics	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physics	3	1	4	2	0	2	3	1	4
Home Economics	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2
(Chemistry)	2	0	2	1	0	1	4	1	5
(Biology)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
(Pre-Medical)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1(M.S.)	1(M.S.)
Total	(5)	(2)	(7)	(3)	(3)	(6)	(10)	(3)	(13)
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS									
Political Sc.	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	1	7
Economics	5	1	6	3	2	5	5	1	6
Sociology	1	3	4	0	3	3	1	1	2
Total	(6)	(4)	(10)	(4)	(5)	(9)	(12)	(3)	(15)
GRAND TOTAL	16	15	31	7	10	17	36	15	51

June 27, 1944.

0762

August 7, 1944

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

Re: Your letter of June 24, 1944

Dear Dr. Mei:

Possibly I will get caught up on correspondence by making the last first and the first last. By this I mean I am answering your letter of June 24th prior to some other ones which are awaiting acknowledgment. Possibly I can cover them all with one fell swoop.

We greatly appreciated your cable regarding Dr. Kung which we had already anticipated by approaches from several different angles. Your cable gave us another lever to work with. All told I have attended two receptions, a luncheon and a dinner in his honor in addition to one hour's conference which was allotted to the Colleges, on Wednesday. Not much can be shown as immediate results from these various contacts, as you will readily understand his reluctance to commit himself.

I hope Dr. McConaughy has conveyed to you all a personal message which I gave him, to the effect that we cannot write as freely as we would like; whereas, seemingly letters which come from China cover about every phase of diplomatic procedure and come through all right.

We took up with Dr. Kung all the items you suggest and many others, but we cannot report any direct positive result.

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the Minutes of the Sub-committee of the Board of Directors, your report with appended statistics, summary of preliminary budgets for 1944-45, together with a revised summary and the Bi-weekly letter No. 8 by Mr. Robinson.

I have just learned that the National War Fund will not allocate more to United China Relief than last year. What the Colleges will get from U. C. R. is another question.

Dr. Y. G. Chen. We have had several long conferences with President Y. G. Chen. We are keeping in close contact with him, although he is resting up after a very strenuous air trip to America.

Your Letter of May 12. Your letter of May 12th entitled, "Yenching Titbits" was pretty well emasculated after leaving the censor's hands--so, we just passed it up for the time being.

Your Letter of May 22. Your letter of May 22nd with letter No. 6 came to hand and this was sent out to the Yenching constituency.

Miss Kuang Jui-fang. I cabled on July 3rd regarding Miss Kuang Jui-fang but have received no reply. The organization granting the scholarship, I understand, is willing to wait for a while but, of course, this cannot be held indefinitely.

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Dr. Mei

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August 7, 1944

United Clearing Board. I am sorry to say the operations of the United Clearing Board are not working any too smoothly at this end. This is due to the freedom of which checks are floating about without being presented for payment, but steps are being taken to regulate this.

It appears that this covers the letters of yours which I have not acknowledged, but we will write you again if any new or interesting things come out of other pending conferences.

New York has experienced a terrific heat wave which has been relentless for a whole month and it is beginning to sap the energy and resistance which ordinarily enables people to carry on.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next Clipper



0764

- C O P Y -

British Council
Cultural Scientific Office
British Embassy
Chungking,
China

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

August 17th, 1944

Dear Friends:

About the same time as we received Mr. Corbett's letter of April 10th, President Mei wrote to Dr. Needham suggesting that Yenching would be willing to "second" me to the British Council in Chungking for a period of one year, to be renewed annually if all parties concerned agreed. Dr. Needham on his part agreed to this. But although I have now been working for the Council here for more than six months, and my appointment has been accepted in London, there is still no very definite information about exact terms offered. Meanwhile of course we are assured at least of subsistence.

My work is interesting, and I am happy to have had this opportunity to take part in the Council's liaison work in China. Two weeks ago both the Needhams went to Kunming and have left me in full charge of the Office for the months of August and September, so I am kept fairly busy.

In my first letter, of February 25th, I reported that Claire had had a satisfactory medical report, and that because I felt perfectly fit, I was assuming there was nothing wrong. Last month an unpleasant succession of stomach troubles forced me to consult the doctor, and he gave me a thorough overhauling. While on the job, he did the same again for Claire.

My blood count is down: haemoglobin 81% compared with 95% in Peiping; red cells 4.47 million, white cells 5,100. Blood pressure 50-90 (also down). Weight 138 lbs. compared with my standard 156; I used to weigh 150 - 154 in Peiping.

Claire's blood count is down lower than in February: haemoglobin now only 74%, red cells 3.66 million, white cells 7,100; which makes her definitely anaemic. Weight only 99 lbs. compared with standard 114, which she used to weigh in Peiping.

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Chungking seems to agree with us even less than the guerilla areas! We neither of us seem able to gain any weight though we both eat as much as our appetites allow. The climate is so enervating that we have no desire to eat more than the minimum. The summer here has got us both down in a way which never happened in the North, and it is said to have been a comparatively cool summer for Chungking. We certainly do not wish to go through another summer here. And local residents tell us the winter is miserable! So altogether we do not feel so hopeful as when we first arrived.

So it seems to us that now is the right time to begin discussing the arrangements for our furlough to come after this first year with the British Council, which terminates the first week of February 1945.

Apart from health considerations, there are other reasons why our furlough should start next spring. These arise because of the increasing and unexpected speed with which the war is progressing on all fronts. If we agreed to a second year with the British Council we might find ourselves facing a situation in which Yenching needed all available help preparing for the move North before we had really started our furlough, and so completely tired out that we could offer no useful assistance.

In the Memorandum attached to Mr. Corbett's letter of April 10th, it was stated that "If a furlough appears to be needed before the termination of the war the University should give the matter consideration in the light of the travel situation at that time."

At the moment travel to America is troublesome. But we should naturally wish to travel to England, and here the situation is more normal. The restrictions due to second front operations are already being lifted, and by next spring things in Europe ought to be very much better than they are now. Travel is by the usual direct route, preceded by the air-hop from Chungking to Calcutta. The cost is somewhat higher than in peace-time, latest unofficial estimates at the Embassy being as follows: Chungking to Calcutta by air N.C. \$14,000 about U.S. \$80.; Calcutta to Bombay by rail about U.S. \$40.; Bombay to England by steamer about U.S. \$330.; Total passage per person about U.S. \$450. Of course there will be some delay in India, where living expenses are fairly high.

We have now been in China since September 5th, 1937, without a break in fact even without any real summer vacations except for one week in the Western Hills, 1940. The two years 1942 and 1943 were exceptionally strenuous, physically and spiritually. By February 1945 we shall have completed seven and a half years very much "on the field", and continually under war-time strain. With one year here in Chungking I think we have rounded off an honourable contribution and deserve a furlough to recuperate on all fronts! We are anxiously awaiting your early favourable response.

Very truly yours,

(signed) Claire and William Band

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C O P Y

British Council
Cultural Scientific Office
British Embassy
Chungking
CHINA

Miss Mary Cookingham
Yenching University
150, Fifth Avenue
New York City, N.Y.
U. S. A.

August 17th, 1944

Dear Mary,

The enclosed is a letter proposing a definite time for our furlough. Would you be good enough to see that it gets into the hands of the appropriate people?

And here is, we hope, the last of our bothersome little debts. This time it is U.S.\$5.00 we owe for some clothes left behind by Mrs. E.B. Copland, c/o Mrs. J.P. Copland, 1481 Fort Street, Montreal, Canada. I think they could be paid through the United Church of Canada. Will transfer of this large sum across the "frontier" be possible? Please forgive us for worrying you about all these things.

I will send one copy of this by Air Mail, and another by "bag".

With many thanks and best wishes,

Yours,

(signed) William Band

0767

(COPY)

As from
Yenching University
Chengtu, West China
August 19, 1944

Dear Charles,

It was most kind of you to write me on December 9, so soon after the arrival of the Gripsholm party, and of course every detail of their condition and reception at home was of immense interest here. It is all ancient history now, but even so late I must send my appreciation of your letter.

The year in Yenching has gone as well as we could expect, and with the June Commencement we gave degrees to the majority of the students who came to us as refugees from the North. There are now a few, but very few left in our midst, and our task now is to carry Yenching ideals and traditions with students who never saw our campus and never knew Dr. Stuart. In this we are like our sister institutions (except Hua Hsi.) We must hold our continuity and fight to maintain standards of scholarship and conduct.

Wei Yung Ching is a great reinforcement, and I am most thankful he could join us, especially since it now seems unlikely that we can expect any one of our repatriated staff in the near future. I entirely understand the reasons which are keeping Ran Sailer and Margaret Speer at home; and I know that it will be difficult for Alice Boring to leave the country even though she is less bound by home responsibilities than the others. I lament our lack of our senior staff; but I feel, on the other hand, that the necessity to take and carry responsibility cannot help but be a cause of development of our young Chinese, and if they are not crushed by it they will grow in it.

I should like to put on record my appreciation of Dr. Mei. I do not think you ever knew him, so it may not be amiss to bear witness to my experience of these two refugee years. No one could work harder than he; no one could carry responsibility more conscientiously; and in force of character and sagacity I think he compares favorably with any Chinese educator I know. He has made mistakes of course; but I believe he learns from his mistakes. I have an increasing respect and affection for both Dr. Mei and his wife and am very glad to be associated with them in refugee Yenching. Their courtesy to me and patience with my limitations arouse my deep gratitude, and I wish to express this to our New York office.

I am writing you from Behluting the mountain resort where people from the West China Campus have been going for thirty years. This is my first vacation since I reached Free China in 1941 and I am greatly enjoying it. I hope you and Minnie have had some respite this summer. Please give her my love.

With cordial greetings to you both, I am
Very sincerely yours
/s/ Grace M. Boynton

P.S. I am glad you found a use for my account of the re-establishment of Yenching. I particularly like the title which was chosen "Where is my home?" I fancy my colleagues here are not very thrilled over Yenching publicity in a YWCA publication, since we are definitely not a women's institution!

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燕京大學

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YFM/PC/145

August 21, 1944

Mr. Earle H. Ballou
A B C C C Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City, 11.

Dear Mr. Ballou,

I am in receipt of your good letters of May 15, May 26 and a mimeographed letter to the College Presidents of June 16.

I am happy to have your invitation to write you freely and frankly, off record as it were. Life is not easy in war-time China. And to try to carry on an institution under these circumstances takes not only all the energy, courage, but also high pressure patience. When a man works under such conditions, you will probably not blame him for occasionally blowing off steam. In fact, that is what I have done at times, possibly much too often. More than once I was tempted to unload myself on our New York Office. I have yielded to the temptation once or twice too. With your invitation I shall just let go the reins altogether. But summer is still hot in Chengtu and the half-day office schedule during the vacation does not allow one's mind to wander too far afield from what is the most immediate. However, I hope you will not be surprised to receive either a fifth columnist report or a letter filling a whole list of accusations stated in utmost grievance one of these days.

We realize that we were too late in discussing with you the question of a permanent connection with Yenching. Of course we did not count on having you with us in Chengtu - that would be too much and too good to expect. Our serious thought was a post-war Peking proposition. Your leadership for the A.B.C.C.C. for the duration is a good thing in itself and might even be regarded as profitable preparation for the proposition we have been discussing. Without any fear of misunderstanding and to you, I may confess that my present position in Yenching is somewhat anomalous. Legally speaking we here are the Yenching University. But as a matter of fact most of our senior and permanent Chinese faculty are still in Peking and American members in America. For immediate measures that have to do with carrying on the University in Chengtu, I have to be responsible. Re matters concerning future and permanent plans of the University in Peking our group in Chengtu should try to consult and confer with those other groups in so far as time and circumstances allow. Now that your commitment to the A.B.C.C.C. makes the Yenching proposition a proposal of the future, I believe you will agree with me in taking advantage of the time at your disposal for a process of wider canvassing. I am still as firm as before if not firmer in my conviction that you will fill a most important need in the future personnel re-alignment of Yenching. I do not think the points you brought out need bother you or us too much. In fact I have asked Mr. Cross to keep an eye on the matter at the end of your Mission Board just before he left for America. The only other person here who knows you and Yenching well is Miss Grace Boynton, and she agrees with me in my judgment. I am sure all the others whether in Peking or in America who know you well will consider my idea brilliant. But there is no use of trying to come to a decision about the matter now, and everybody will feel

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E. F. Ballou, August 21, 1944

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happier, yourself included if I might so presume, if an important step like this is taken on the strength of a more popular expression rather than as an idea of one or two persons. However, I thoroughly believe the result will be the same as far as the Yenchiing side is concerned. And we hope yourself and Mrs. Ballou will be prepared to join us in Peking as soon as war is over.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei
Y. P. Mei

0770

August 28, 1944

Dr. Y. P. Mei
Yenching University
Chengtu

Dear Y. P.,

It was so nice to have a personal letter from you as well as a business one. In your letter of May 15 you mention that you are going to Chungking in connection with the \$10,000,000 campaign. I am very much interested in the results of your campaign. Are you using the money which you raised for current expenses, endowment or both? I admire your courage in undertaking the campaign. I know from past experience how much work is involved.

In your letter of May 22 you state that Mr. Hausske, Ralph Lapwood and Cheng lin-chuang are working on the annuity problem. I shall be interested in seeing the recommendation which they make after they have had time to study the matter. Probably they have had difficulty getting together during the summer and the problem requires some careful thought I am sure.

I inquired from Miss Cloud about your own annuity and found that payments were discontinued when you left in July 1938. Your name and also Ralph Lapwood's are being added to the list as of July 1, 1944. The Sun Life Assurance Company does not permit any back payments on suspended policies so starting in again this July is the best we can do. Payments on your policy in the past were US\$18 per month, half of which the University paid together with exchange compensation. We are using the same figure again.

So far as I know there is no regulation made by the Sun Life Assurance Company preventing new members of the faculty from joining the annuity plan but the Faculty Executive Committee in Peking passed a regulation which made it necessary for all new participants to be approved by the committee in the spring of the year. This regulation was designed to prevent people who were not expected to be permanent members of the faculty from securing benefits from the plan. In view of the complicated exchange situation I wonder if it would not be desirable to discourage any new members from joining the plan before the University is able to return to Peking.

I am enclosing a letter to Ralph Lapwood about his annuity and will be glad to have you read it over before passing it on to him. His case presents one more annuity problem!

I have been very much interested in your May 20th report and also the minutes of the meetings of the Administrative Committee and the Board of Directors. I hope you have solved that big problem of building space satisfactorily.

It is good to be occupied with regular work again after two years of uncertainty. I am feeling fine and I hope that we can have a reunion in Peking in another year.

Greetings to V. K. and my very best wishes to you both,

Sincerely yours,

MC
Via China Clipper
cc via next Clipper

0771

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
AUG 31 1944
JOINT OFFICE

0772

0772

Excerpt from letter of 8/30/44 to Alice Boring from Ralph Lapwood

Tsung-Ping assures me that the Ministry of Education will register the Biology Department as soon as you arrive here. Whether it should be done or not, you will be able to help us decide. I am in favor of registration, for here in Chengtu with a small number of staff we can take students and contribute as part of the Joint 5-University programme. We shall then be in a position to decide for ourselves whether we want to run our own Biology Department on return to North China. Whereas if we don't register now we may not be able to do so then.

As to your coming, it is obvious to us here that even if there were no Biology Department we would want you to come out. From long experience with Yenching, and in administration, you have a great deal of information and insight that we urgently need. We are terribly short here of people of mature and reliable judgment, and of people who can encourage the younger faculty when they "P'eng ting tse." So do come as quickly as ever you can. As for finances, the budget this end is in good condition, and we have reserved a Professor's salary for you if needed.

You will probably get soon from S.D. a copy of my letter to him which got lost on the way. We sent another off as soon as I had word from you that the first hadn't turned up. I think it can still stand more or less as written, except that now that we know that SD won't be out this academic year much of the work suggested for him will devolve onto your shoulders.

Latest word from Bill Band says he will try to leave China in Spring 1945. As it has been long planned that Nancy and I should leave at the end of this academic year it is urgent that you are here in plenty of time for us to transfer things over to you--I don't mean actual administrative detail so much as a very full report of the work and problems and ideas of the past two years, so that there is continuity.

Many thanks for your concern over our journals.

We are all well. Nancy gave birth to a baby daughter on August 24th. Grace is looking in good condition again after her two months on the mountain. We are very glad to see that.

0773

See Harvard Yenching Inst. folder
燕京大學 *for Reports - (8-12-44)*
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU *letter of 8-22-44*
CHENG TU CHINA *attached*

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YPM/PC/151

August 30, 1944

Mr. C.A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City, 11.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 17 accompanying minutes of the Yenching Trustees' meeting. We have duly digested the material and read several sections of the minutes to the University Faculty Executive Committee. I might also report that while my secretary was ill during the last few days, I took an opportunity to go through the minutes of the Associated Board's meeting, the minutes of the Planning Committee as well as the full report of the Committee on Greater Unity. Altogether I counted some 90 sheets of material. It was all very enlightening and shows how much thought and effort are being put into the maintenance of these institutions in China by interested friends and supporters in America.

I completed and sent my annual report to the Harvard-Yenching institute about a week ago. And I send you herewith one copy with the relevant enclosure. Please check with Prof. Elisseeff. If anything should go amiss with that other mail, this will be the second copy in America.

The \$10,000,000 Campaign has been going quite well. To date we have about \$8,000,000 in hand and more contributions ~~will be~~ are coming in. I plan to tour the Free China cities after school opens and hope to be able to make our final goal on the Anniversary day on December 8.

I received a letter from Mr. Ballou of July 21 addressed to Mr. Edwards, and another mimeographed letter of July 15. I shall try to write Mr. Ballou without undue delay.

Sincerely yours,

F. P. Mei
F. P. Mei

P.S. Just as I am signing this letter one envelope from you dated July 21, 24, 25 has arrived.

F. P. Mei

0774

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGTO
CHENGTO CHINA

燕京大學

Letter of 8-22-44
for Report -
see Harvard University East Asia

CABLE ADDRESS
YENHA

YPM/FC/151

August 30, 1944

Mr. C.A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City, N.Y.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 17 accompanying minutes of the Yenching Trustees' meeting. We have duly digested the material and read several sections of the minutes to the University Faculty Executive Committee. I might also report that while my secretary was ill during the last few days, I took an opportunity to go through the minutes of the Associated Board's meeting, the minutes of the Planning Committee as well as the full report of the Committee on Greater Unity. Altogether I counted some 90 sheets of material. It was all very enlightening and shows how much thought and effort are being put into the maintenance of these institutions in China by interested friends and supporters in America.

I completed and sent my annual report to the Harvard-Yenching Institute about a week ago. And I am herewith one copy with the relevant enclosure. Please check with Prof. Hissner. If anything should go amiss with that other mail, this will be the second copy in America.

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Sincerely yours,

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITY OF CHINA
SEP 25 1944

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITY OF CHINA
SEP 25 1944

I am enclosing this letter to Mr. Ballou dated July 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 1944.

5770

(COPY OF LETTER FROM ACTING PRESIDENT Y. P. MEI OF YENCHING
TO T.C.T'ANG, NATIONAL SECRETARY OF YENCHING ALUMNI ASSOCI-
ATION IN U.S.A., DATED SEPTEMBER 11, 1944)

Your cable of Aug. 29 reached me about a week ago. It is certainly very heartening to get the news of your party with Dr. Kung and of the opinions of such people like Mr. Henry Luce. This is the first day of class work for the new academic year, the University's third in Chengtu, and according to the usual practice in Peking the faculty held its Preseasonal Conference last Saturday. Your cable was read to the gathering. The faculty appreciated the kind greeting sent them by the Alumni Association in America, and would like to reciprocate by sending through you to the whole alumni group their kindest regards.

The University is going quite well considering the circumstances we work under. Of course there have been difficulties and disappointments. But on the whole I think we may truthfully apply to Yenching in Chengtu the apt phrase that Churchill used in referring to the British Armed Forces, "They accomplished so much with so little." The \$10,000,000 Campaign has been coming very nicely. After 6 months' work and in spite of disturbances in several centers due to recent fighting, we have now in hand over \$8,000,000. It seems so possible and feels so tantalizing to reach our final goal, that I have decided to spend the next 4 or 6 weeks on Campaign travel again.

Our aim is to be able to announce on the Anniversary Day, Dec. 8, that we have fully reached the goal of our \$10,000,000 Campaign. To be able to do that we have yet to put in a good deal of hard work. I am writing to turn to the Alumni Association in U.S.A. for help. We understand that the National War Fund and the U.C.R. place many restrictions, but we are not trying to approach the American public in general for this campaign. It is mainly a China alumni effort. But we believe that the Alumni in U.S.A. are free to contribute without infringing on those restrictions and may even wish to have a share in the effort of their schoolmates in China who live under much more difficult financial conditions.

The present exchange the University can get is 115 - 1 and it is still on the up grade. Therefore a few thousand dollars, for instance, would go a long way toward our needs. Nothing could give us more encouragement and happiness than a cable from the U.S.A. Alumni Association before Dec. 8 to announce to us that you are making a gift of, say, half a million Chinese dollars toward the campaign. I know this will take work and effort on the part of yourself and all alumni. But isn't it worth trying though? Be sure to send the gift in U.S. currency through our New York office to us....

With best wishes to you and all members of the Alumni Association,

Sincerely yours

(Signed) Y.P. Mei

0776

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YPM/PC/182

Mr. Earle H. Ballou
A B C C C Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City
U.S.A.

Sept. 13, 1944

Dear Mr. Ballou,

I have been trying to clear my desk before I leave on Campaign travel for the next several weeks. I have just written a letter covering about a dozen items to Mr. Evans. I have asked him to share that with you and I shall not repeat myself.

I have your letter of July 21 addressed to Mr. Edwards concerning the plans of Mr. Sailer, and Miss Speer and Miss Boring. We fully understand and appreciate the many calls and responsibilities of these colleagues. We can only hope that Mr. Sailer and Miss Speer will be able to start for Chengtu sometime next spring. We are all very anxious for Miss Boring to come as early as possible, and we would appreciate a cable when her sailing date is fixed. Such news, as you will probably realize, will mean much to the morale of the University and its faculty. I hope to be able to write these friends directly today or tomorrow.

It is also heartening to hear that Stanley Wilson was honored by his Alma Mater with an Honorary doctor's degree. Bill Fern just returned from a flying trip to Chungking to fight for the interests of the 13 Christian Universities at the U.C.R. Coordination Committee meetings. He reports having met Dr. McConaughy who is conferring with Sweet and Edwards.

I am also in receipt of your mimeographed letter to College Presidents of July 15. And I read through all the material and minutes of the Yenching Trustees' annual meeting, the A.B.C.C.C. Executive Committee meeting, Planning Commission conference as well as the Annual Meeting of the Full Board. I also waded through the stuff on Greater Unity. It took me several consecutive mornings, and I still cannot say that I understand or am familiar with all of it. But this exercise did give me an appreciation as to how hard friends and supporters of the Chinese Christian Colleges have been working for the welfare of the field. It also made me realize what deep water you must have plunged yourself into almost as soon as you got into that Office. Those spring weeks must have been a grand time for you and your colleagues in the Office, and you have handled it all in a great style.

Somehow I have not yet found time for gossip. It would seem fortunate if I do not drop back too far behind in carrying on the necessary correspondence. When I am on campaign travel during the next few weeks, I shall be not be able to write at all. But I hope to be able to do better after I get back to my home base.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Y.P. Mei

BALLOU

REC'D 10/20

ANS'D file

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Sincerely yours,
Y.P. Mei

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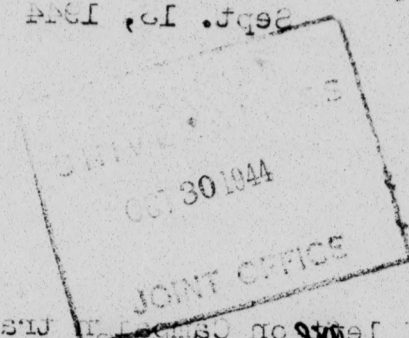
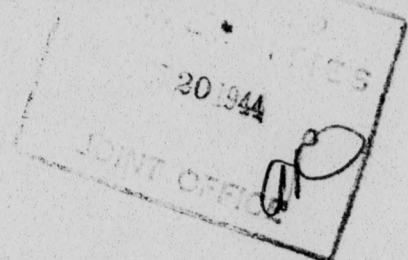
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Dear Mr. Ballou,

U.S.A.
New York City
150 Fifth Ave.
A B C C Office
Mr. Barle H. Ballou

YPM/TC/182
CABLE ADDRESS
YPM/TC/182



YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGTO
CHENGTO CHINA

燕京大學

RECD 10/20
BALLOU

*Please share this with Mr. Ballou
and save my repetition.*

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

*Copies of this letter
to Mrs. Ballou
" Cori
Mrs. Mills*

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YPM/PC/180

Sept. 13, 1944

Mr. Carl A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City, 11.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Evans,

I am in receipt in the last two mails altogether 6 letters dated from July 21 to July 25. Now that the registration rush is over, I wish to ~~reply~~ ^{reply} to the points raised therein. Of course several matters have taken their natural course of development and need not be further referred to.

Liao Tai Chu's Scholarship. Mr. Liao is still anxious to take advantage of the Scholarship opportunity at Columbia. But at the present neither the Chinese Government regulations nor his own financial ability would permit him to go to America this year. He and we shall be grateful if you could arrange with the Columbia authorities to have the scholarship held over for him for another year.

Wu Pei Ch'i and Kuang Jui-fang's Scholarships. Both of these young ladies are glad to receive the news about scholarship opportunities for them and are grateful to Miss Rathbone and Miss Kramer who have been instrumental in their respective cases. There again I doubt whether any of them can actually go within the next few months. They are attending to the matter themselves.

Wang Yang's Scholarship. It took us quite some effort to check up the matter when we received your cable concerning Wang Yang's scholarship. As a matter of fact it has nothing to do with Yenching University. I understand Dr. Stuart has been unusually kind to the boy, and apparently people have been taking advantage of that fact. The University Administration here has nothing to do with the case, and we should be grateful if you will notify parties concerned not to use Yenching's name any further in this connection.

Profs. Speer, Sailer and Boring. We have noted the report of the present plans of these people. We can only hope that Dr. Boring's trip need not be too long delayed and that Miss Speer and Mr. Sailer can also get started early next spring.

Spelling of Trustees' Names. We have noted the correction of the spelling of the Trustees' names, and we hope that the next edition of the University directory will appear in better form, if we can afford the expenses of printing the Directory again next year.

Faculty need in Peking. The financial need among the Chinese faculty in Peking is getting more desperate everyday. We have just secured a special

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Mr. C.A. Evans,

- 2 -

Sept. 13, 1944

grant for this specific purpose from the Ministry of Education and we are arranging with some of the Special Service Agencies of the Government for putting this money into the hands of our people in Peking.

The \$10,000,000 Financial Campaign. The Financial Campaign has been going quite nicely. To date we have some \$8,000,000 in hand. It seems so possible to reach the goal, that I have decided to spend the next several weeks on campaign travel. I have written the Alumni Association in U.S.A. also to make an effort. Our aim is to be able to announce by Dec. 3, the University Anniversary Day, the raising of the full \$10,000,000.

Alumni Interest. You referred in your letter to the keen interest that the Alumni take towards their Alma Mater. We have just received a cable report from the Alumni in New York of the Dinner in honor of Dr. H.H. Kung, which is very interesting to us here. You may be heartened to hear that somebody in Chungking received word that old Mr. Wu Lei-chuan, the Chancellor-Emeritus of the University, was especially in a bad way. He seems to be suffering from not only financial needs but also fast failing health. At one Alumni gathering one evening \$30,000 were collected as a token of their affection towards this old teacher. Of course the whole \$10,000,000 is very much an alumni show. *Campaign*

Harvard-Yenching Institute grant of L.C.\$150,000. I hope by this time you are in receipt of the copy of my report to the Harvard-Yenching Institute for the year 1943-44. And I hope our understanding of the HYI situation is much clearer than before and in agreement with each other. As to the Institute "grant of L.C.\$150,000" mentioned for 1942-43 my impression is that it has already been dropped by the Institute people. However, it may be well for you to check up with them before we give up that point altogether.

Special Committee Cable of U.S.\$4000. Under date of July 27 you wrote a paragraph as follows:

"On March 29th I cabled at the request of the Special Committee authorizing approximately US\$4,000 pending receipt of communications which would give further details. I do not find where an answer to this letter giving further details has been received."

I checked up with both Miss Priest and Mr. Hausske and none of them seem to have any idea of either the cable or of the money. None of us here understand what Special Committee this is either. For the sake of clarity and to avoid unnecessary confusion I should like to suggest that you will henceforth deal with Mr. Hausske concerning all financial matters peculiar to Yenching.

U.C.R. Grant to Yenching for 1943-44. There still seems to be some discrepancy between your figures and those accepted by the field concerning this point. The following paragraph written by Dr. Lennig Sweet under date of Nov. 4, 1943 from the U.C.R. New York Office seems to support the field understanding of the matter:

"Mr. Evans has forwarded to me your letter in behalf of the Board of Directors of Yenching thanking United China Relief for the \$95,000.00 which it has given to Yenching University."

Class work started last Monday for the new session. In spite of the many handicaps that we work and live under, both faculty and students seem to be in high spirits. We have every reason to believe that this third year will be the best yet for the University in Chengtu.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

W. H. P. Mei

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Mr. C.A. Evans.

Sept. 13, 1944

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STANLEY D. WILSON
625 Berkeley Avenue
Claremont, California

September 23, 1944

Miss Mary Cookingham,
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

Dear Mary:

For the past three weeks I have been trying to get a letter off to you enclosing a copy of Lapwood's letter which you sent forward to me on August 30th, and also a copy of a second letter from Lapwood dated July 13th, to which there is attached a "Yenching University in Chengtu, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE REPORT FOR 1943-44." I have been much delayed by the business of the opening of the college year here at Pomona. Classes are larger than they had expected, staff is lacking, and so I have been well occupied, but things are going well finally. In addition I did not have time to copy these letters and reports myself and it was very difficult to find any one else to undertake it. Finally Helen did it for me and as she also is busy, it has not been very well done but I think that you will get everything that he said in these various letters and reports. I am sending copies to Marnie, Ran, Boring, Galt and Adolph. I will forward Ran's through your office as I am not certain that I now have the correct address for him.

In Lapwood's letter of July 13th, he mentions their need for microfilm projectors, etc. Can you people see any way to get any sent out? I don't seem to have any way at the moment at anyrate. On page two of this letter he also mentions the equipment which our air-force has in China and which will become available perhaps at the end of the war. If anybody knows how to make the correct contacts we might obtain considerable scientific material from that source at a very low cost. Can anybody in the office make the contacts. Be sure to discuss this matter with the people there like Corbett and Ballou. They may know how to get after this. I feel that both Corbett and Ballou should read both of these letters of Lapwood's. If there are others in the office who should read these be sure that they have an opportunity to do so.

Recent communications from Dr. Harry Taylor tells me that Ran has taken on a position at Berea for the year. I wonder why he is leaving Washington? I am expecting to be in New York before too many weeks to attend a meeting of the P.U.M.C. trustees. Shall of course try to see you all then.

The family all join me in best regards.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Stanley D. Wilson

P.S. The E. O. Wilsons are living very quietly here in Pilgrim Place. He seems better than when he stopped working but has made no marked improvement. There is a rumor in Claremont that Houghton and Leighton have been moved to Tientsin. Have you any word of this? S.D.W.

0782

C
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College of Science,
Yenching in Chengtu
1 April 1944

Dear S.D.

I was very happy indeed to receive your letter of January 22 which arrived here nearly three weeks ago. My delay in replying has been partly due to the stress of activities, and partly due to my wish to give you the most carefully considered news and suggestions.

It was good to hear of your happy return to your family and how well they are all getting on. I found it was no use to send on your letters in the form you send them, to Weihsien. They must be retyped in 50-word letters in capitals, and sent off part by part. I am doing that now and very glad to be of any assistance in such a way.

Your letter got in the same time as Bill Band turned up from Chungking. Both he and Claire looked much the same as ever, and though Claire was very tired, Bill was extremely fresh and well. Claire is staying on here and rapidly regaining energy and freshness. Bill left today to return to Chungking - a two day journey by Postal truck.

The British officials in Chungking had been unduly cautious and would not hear of Bill's immediate return to the University, though at this end we thought it would be quite all right. We are much more free than pessimists make out. So Bill was grabbed by Dr. Joseph Needham and has been formally appointed a member of the staff of the British Council - Scientific Section. This happened before he came here, and when he saw our work and the amount that he could do in Yenching I think he was rather sorry he was already committed to Needham. But on the other hand there is a great deal that he can do to help the University both now and later by staying where he is.

We tried to persuade him to get appointed to work in Chengtu. He would like to do that, and it depends on Needham. If Bill does come here we expect that he will be almost like a member of the 5 Universities' faculty, and it will be very valuable indeed to have him at hand for consultation. During the past three weeks it made a world of difference to have him on hand to discuss all problems connected with the present and future of the Science College.

Of course I showed your letter and also those that came from Dr. Adolph and Dr. Boring, to Bill, and also called in the people who are acting as Heads of Departments - Chen Shang-Yu (Phys.), Paul Chang (Chem.) Chang Tsung-Ping (Bi.), Mrs. Y. P. Mei (Home Ec.) for general discussion. After careful deliberation we decided that I should write to you and others describing the situation here as faithfully as I can, leaving it finally to you to decide in consideration of your own health, etc. whether and when you should come to join us.

Present Situation of the Science College in Chengtu

1. No one here is hopeful that the war in China will be over in less than two years, and pessimists think in terms of five or more years in Chengtu. This is a world factor over which we have no control, and its uncertainty makes all planning difficult. But our general line of thinking is that we should (a) hold a skeleton staff and organization through this period in Chengtu, (b) cooperate to the maximum with other universities here, (c) try to build one or two phases of work which can stay when we leave, and strengthen West China Union University, (d) undertake no large financial burdens, but rather assist in the saving for future rehabilitation, (e) assist in planning for future reconstruction of the college. I will take these points in detail later in the letter. 2. The attitude of the Ministry of Education to Yenching has been very "correct." It is not to be expected that private institutions should enjoy special government aid or privileges.

We fall in line closely with government regulations. For instance, our students

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must study courses which meet government requirements exactly - with no leeway except what is specifically allowed in the schedules. In general no great hardship is entailed, for the regulations themselves are very reasonable. For instance the schedule of courses in Mathematics is much better planned than was our old schedule in Yenching.

But it means that we are not in position to act on any point without Ministry approval. For instance we could not open new courses or new departments or new graduate work without first getting official approval in the correct manner. Thus it is a great advantage to have a running organization which can recover its original scope gradually. This has been a guiding principle in our policy here.

What of future relations with the Ministry? Most of us think that the trend is towards the gradual elimination of non-government Universities. Now in addition to Christian Colleges only one private University (Huang Hua) survives. We want to survive, and the way to do it is not to become weak so as to be an easy prey to financial or other pressure. Of course changes in Ministry set-up and policy are conceivable, and even likely, given sufficient time. But it is too difficult to prophesy what those might be. We can only act on the certainties of the present and the immediate future.

3. The five Christian Universities in Chengtu have a very poor record in cooperation - going back to the original arrival of Cheeloo, Nanking and Ginling. Most obvious failure was the splitting off of Central Medical College from its cooperation with West China. Other failures have been the lack of coordination of agricultural programmes of WCUU and Nanking, the extensive duplication of courses in many departments, scattered and unplanned research projects, poor planning for joint use of buildings. Every University has thought in terms of a short exile and the need to preserve individuality, rather than combine.

I mention these points not as criticism of other Universities - please do not quote me - but to show the kind of atmosphere of mutual reserve into which we came. Personally I have been in favor of most thoroughgoing cooperation, even at sacrifice of the interests of individual institutions including our own. After experience of trying to cut out overlapping courses, exchange students and teachers, coordinate advanced work, I have come to the conclusion that it is a waste of time to try to work out a plan with Nanking but that we can proceed with WCUU. Cheeloo Science is very weak and Ginling negligible. People will ask you to what degree we are cooperating, so I will summarise the facts of this semester.

In Mathematics WCUU and Yenching each teach our own freshmen. In the second year we each teach our own differential equations course, for this being studied by students of Math.Ph. and Ch. has big classes. All other courses are in common. Yenching has given up Advanced Calculus, Analytical Geometry, and Higher Algebra to Hua Ta, while Hua Ta has given up Projective Geometry and Theory of Equations to Yenta. Advanced courses are planned without overlap. Many people feel that Yenching gave up too much, especially as Hua Ta has almost no Math. students, and sometimes advises them to wait a year to study a Hua Ta course rather than enter the corresponding Yenta course this year.

In Physics the situation is about the same as in Mathematics. Each University teaches its own courses for Freshmen. Other courses are planned jointly without overlap, in general with Hua Ta giving courses with more experiment and Yenta teaching theoretical courses, since our only apparatus is that which we borrow from WCUU. It is generally recognized that Yenching teachers in Physics are much superior to those of West China, but this does not mean that WCUU teachers willingly surrender their courses to Yenching.

In Chemistry a Yenching teacher teaches our freshmen, and all other courses are part of a joint program with WCUU. But Yenching's share is only one or two courses per

semester. We also pay a contribution each term which covers all costs incurred in experiment and demonstration by our students, and also a share of overhead of the WCUU Chemistry Department. Yenching Chemistry students are an excellent group, and head the classes generally.

In Biology Yenching teaches only one course for Yenching students only - Non-Science Biology. All other courses are part of a 5-University jointly planned programme. Chang Tsung-Ping teaches two or three very popular courses in the joint programme. Our instructor and assistant join the common pool.

In Mathematics and Physics there is a good deal of overlapping in courses offered by Nanking and offered by the Yenching-Cheeloo-WCUU groups, made much worse by Nanking's habit of beginning many year-courses in the second Semester of the academic year and carrying them over to the first semester of the succeeding year. The Chemistry and Biology Departments have done much better. In Chemistry there is no overlapping in third and fourth years, and in Biology there is none at all.

In Home Economics there is good cooperation between Yenching and Ginling - mainly in the way of Ginling's sending students to Yenching's courses. In this field West China, which has the only other H. Ec. Department, does practically no cooperation with others. This is a matter of personalities.

Thus set out, the Science Colleges' record in cooperation seems fairly good, and it is excellent compared with all other Departments except English, which carries a united programme. But in the science work there is still a lot of room for advance. For instance there is almost no joint planning, once the year's courses are settled. Many electives are given for one or two students, for cutting down overlapping courses has enabled many teachers to offer electives. We should plan research, extension, translation, etc. but so far we have failed to do so. We should have cut out some of the worst teachers and teaching methods, but such awkward questions are avoided.

4. I feel consequently that when the rest of the world is bending all energies to winning the war, Chengtu is cut off and pursuing peacetime activities. The Government allows little modification of prewar curricula, and students are preparing rather for reconstruction than fighting. So often our work has a remoteness which is unpleasant to those of us who want to see China's youth (and ourselves) engaged in work of immediate significance.

5. I asked Paul Chang whether you would be needed as a teacher, and he said "Yes, there is none here so well qualified to teach Advanced Organic Chemistry." So I imagine there would be at least one important course for you to take up. Probably not more than two though. There are here very few supplies of chemicals, and I understand that there is an especial shortage of reagents needed in research analysis.

6. I hope that if you come you will take up the work of the Dean, tho I realise it may be more necessary for you not to be tied up in details of administration, if you want to spend your main energies in the more important statesmanship of planning for the future of your Science work, and of Christian Higher Education in China as a whole. But you will anyway be interested in knowing what the work of Dean now involves. First there is an inordinate amount of Committee work. The Faculty Executive, the Deans' Committee (concerned purely with academic problems), the Student Welfare Committee (concerned with all questions of students' life, health, and discipline), the University Council, meet regularly (the first two weekly, others monthly). Then there are Ranking and Salary Committee, Budget Committee Admissions Committee, and various ad hoc Committees on which the Deans are ex officio members. Most of these committees occupy a lot of time, for two reasons:- 1) Yenching is now governed very democratically, and every problem is talked out until we reach a united mind on it. This is a very valuable process, but

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takes a lot of time. II) Everything had to be reorganized from scratch, and we have had to learn by experience and repeated modification how to set up regulations for faculty treatment, student treatment, setting up budget, and so on.

There has been a great deal of miscellaneous business, with the procuring and occupation of this floor we now occupy, purchase of furniture and small items, and the business office being understaffed and the Dean having no real Secretary and no telephone, these details take up an amount of my time which I resent without being able to do much about it.

Students all have their individual problems, starting from difficulties in fitting into courses when they arrive from Peking in the middle of a term, and going on through finance and efforts to find them self help work, to sickness or additional dietary needs. Dealing with them individually takes a lot of time, but is a rewarding piece of work. In this respect I am much less busy than last year, for Chen Shang-Yi and others have taken a lot off my load.

Arranging cooperation with other Universities has meant cultivating good personal relationships, and going in person to take up points where we have been asking for favours. Also pushing ideas about cooperation means individual talks with a lot of people. I should do more of this but don't find time.

The Science College Committee meets monthly (I forgot to mention this above) but most of the work is done by personal talks with the heads of Departments.

At the end of this semester I shall have carried the Dean's work for two years, and I shall much appreciate the chance to hand over to someone else. Chen Shang-Yi doesn't want to do it, and perhaps it is rather soon to put him into this position as he has little administrative experience.

For my own part I realise keenly that I should be preparing for further studies and research. But for the past two years I have made no progress in this direction, and I am afraid that if I go on in the same way I shall not be able to make much future contribution to the Mathematics Department.

7. One point which you should know before coming to China is that during the past three years every Science College has felt severe lack of students. Now Economics and Sociology and Political Science are popular Departments. Premedical and Industrial Chemistry are in some demand, but pure science - mathematics, physics, biology is experiencing a dearth of applicants. The government is taking steps to encourage students to study science, and we ought to benefit by them, but family pressure and economic conditions exert greater pressure the other way.

8. You will no doubt be eager to get a clear picture of the actual living conditions in Chengtu, since that matters greatly in your decision to return.

In my opinion missionaries are suffering no privation. There is no lack of any essential foodstuff, - milk, eggs, flour, meat, vegetables, are plentiful. In fact it is difficult to name anything except imports like cheese and coffee which cannot be bought here. The problem is not supply but price. But it seems that now each Missionary Society which has decided to keep people in China has determined a scale of salary which while it allows for nothing else does suffice to buy food adequate for health. People like Harold Robinson who came out a year ago have retained excellent health. Good medical service and all necessary drugs for ordinary diseases are available in Chengtu. Excellent holiday places are available in the high mountains to the west, though holidaying is very expensive. But some still manage to take holidays.

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We are crowded compared with prewar conditions, but not in any absolute sense. Now in our house, Miss Boynton, Robinson, and Hausske have a room each, the Bands have one, and Nancy and I and Peter have two. There are large common rooms and verandas. But we are among the more crowded people in Chengtu.

Then why do people complain all the time about the terrible drop in standards of living? Food is much simpler than before - such items as butter and chicken and cake are usually beyond our reach. We have no money to buy clothes, and do very little entertainment. There is not much chance for exercise such as tennis. We live in an atmosphere of strain and worry, especially those who are concerned with financial administration of institutions. It is the cumulative effect of several years of such conditions which have made people ready to complain.

Future prospects and plans

1. The Council on Christian Higher Education in China has taken first steps towards a new attempt at rationalising our University programmes. It has been suggested that we should envisage five Christian Universities in postwar China, distributed regionally - n, s, e, w, and center. Yenching people here are somewhat afraid that Yenching being not well represented will not get adequate consideration. For instance, now Nanking has the most prosperous Chemistry work. What more natural than to decide that Nanking should take up the graduate work in Chemistry, and other Universities not? We hope that the future might see perhaps combination of Cheeloo and Yenching as the North China Unit, and Yenching selected as the centre for Christian University graduate work. The pushing of such an idea needs activity both in USA and China.
2. In various interviews Ministry of Education officials have suggested that Christian Universities should make science and medicine their special fields, and have indicated that the prohibition of Christian Universities from having Education Departments may be extended to other departments such as Political Science. Most Christian educators take a negative view of this, and think that Christian education should be "cultural" or "emphasizing the humanities." I prefer to take the positive view, and consider that a Scientific education may also be a liberal education, and it is the job of Christian Universities to make a unique contribution in producing scientists with keen social conscience and awareness of World events, trends, and questions. Don't you think that those of us who believe that scientific education is a suitable field of Christian work should demonstrate to the government (beginning now, not at the end of the year) that we can make a big contribution to China in this field. If so there is a lot of work to be done in the Five Colleges of Science in Chengtu, in raising standards, pushing extension and research programmes, etc. Registration of the still unregistered Chemistry and Biology Departments in Yenching might be a by-product of such activity.
3. Some of us hope that Yenching while here will make one or two concrete contributions which can be left behind to strengthen WCUU for the future - for instance, an optical shop, Shang-Yi having trained people and set up the shop while here, not planning to move things back to the North. Again Yenching is helping push the leather programme here, but that would stay with Huata. I think that even at a time of economies and general decision not to purchase apparatus, such schemes should be promoted.
4. Bill and I discussed at length, as far as one can discuss now, the problems which would arise when it is time to set up again in Peking. It seems that people should be working things out beforehand, and that there should be a strong advisory body to make decisions on policy of the College of Science during the hectic time of moving back. Many of our senior people are in Peking and can do little or nothing except consider plans. Those of us who are here are free to act, but we cannot do so without general agreement. You people now in America form a third group, in a position to take general actions but not detailed carrying out. Bill and I suggest that perhaps you could form a "Planning

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Committee" composed of people in all three places, working now by correspondence, but as soon as the time came getting together in action. This Committee would work on the determination of order of development of work of reconstruction of the College, people to be invited to the staff, raising of funds, relationships with the Government, rehabilitation of library, cooperation or combination with other Universities. By careful consultations it could build up relations of confidence with the Trustees, the present Yenching in Chengtu, and the Peking group. Thus it would be powerful and even decisive in effecting a smooth transition from the present condition to the future absorption of all groups in the postwar Yenching. You would be the natural person to head up such a committee having been in Peking and America, and coming to China yourself later on. Other membership we suggest is Tsai Lu Sheng, C. F. Wu, Hsu Hsien Yu, Chu Sheng Ling, Band, Boring, Adolph, Lapwood. It was our opinion that this group of two from each main department (two more might be added from Home econ.) contains the senior people who would have greatest prestige as a group. But of course you may have other information which leads to a different constitution.

We have means of passing on information to the Chinese now in Peking, so that circuitous communications could keep people at present separated by war in touch with each others' thinking.

We have not proposed this idea to any people here, as we like first to have your reaction to it.

Well, I have written a very long letter in an attempt to give you enough material for decision on coming back immediately or in the future. Obviously we want to have you, and in our minds the most important thing is planning. But if the war lasts five more years it would be unreasonable to spend five years talking of plans. So just when you might come out so as to be at the right places at the right times is a question we must leave with you.

I am writing today or tomorrow to Miss Boring and Dr. Adolph who both wrote shortly after you did. In order to avoid repetition I hope you will be able to share this letter with them. In letters to them I am dealing with other questions which they have raised, and I will ask them to let you see their letters too.

I will close with a little personal news. Bill's work with Needham has very great possibilities, as he has facilities for getting out from England, USA, and India many of the books, magazines and equipment which scientists in China are craving for. Their office also acts as a centre for exchange of information. Bill will probably be writing himself to give you more details.

Chen Shang-Yi has done very well, and proves very hard working and easy to work with. Chang Tsung Ping is making himself a reputation as a brilliant lecturer, and is much appreciated for his wide scientific interests, which range from mathematical philosophy to economic entomology. Kuan Chao Chih, of whom I have great hopes as a mathematician, has been sick ~~six~~ three months with TB, not yet fully recovered. He is a victim of wartime reduction of living standards. Mrs. Mei's work in Child Welfare is very successful, though the department is awfully weak on the scientific side (nutrition, etc.).

We very much hope for the early return of Hsu Peng Cheng. He is needed for straight teaching, as Yenching contribution to the joint programme, and to look after thesis work and other individual needs of the students. His work would not overlap with yours. If you see him and he is still querying whether to come or not please urge him to come quickly.

YP is now in Chungking, working on the campaign for raising a ten million dollar endowment fund. The outlook is quite good, with Chengtu's quota of 3 million already

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mostly promised, and Kung helping actively in Chungking. This is not to make us independent, but a desperate effort to raise funds to carry on next year on the same scale as this.

I keep my interest in CIC, and next month will probably be made treasurer of the International Committee operation here. This takes away precious time from my other work, but I am convinced of the extreme value of the CIC work and wish to help where I can.

You will remember how when in Peking I discussed what kind of mathematics I should study when on furlough, I never came to a clear line then, being interested in all kinds of applied mathematics from surveying to physics. During the past five years my interest has been focussed clearly on statistics, and I am determined to pursue that line in the future. I remember your work on fertilizer which required statistical analysis, and C W Lu's in psychology. I would like to become fully familiar with the various fields of statistical analysis so as to be able to undertake with confidence either advising or analysis for any project from other fields. This would not overlap with Lin Chia-Tung's work, as he is little interested in the mathematical side of statistics.

I have asked the Mission to grant me a two-year furlough when the time is appropriate, and would use it in study for Ph.D. either in Cambridge or London (originally I hoped to study in USA, but if the London Mission finances me, I shall have to stay in England to do weekend deputation work for them, etc.) I hope you will approve of this plan. Certainly my idea is to return to Yenching if I am invited.

Peter is very well, and has just started to walk. Nancy has been off colour for a month with catarrh, but we hope the return of warm weather will put her right. Very best regards to Mrs. Wilson and the two girls,

Yours as ever,

/s/ Ralph Lapwood

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College of Science
Yenching in Chengtu
13 July 1944

Dear S.D.

We have been expecting to hear from you in reply to my letter of last April 1st, but mails seem to have been coming more slowly lately, so I am going on to write again without waiting for your letter.

I enclose my report on the work of the past year. It does not contain statistics, as it is meant to be part of the University report which has statistical sections, and will reach you later. As you will see by the report we are making progress in certain directions - our Mathematics, Physics, and Biology are developing satisfactorily. We are worried about the failure to find adequate fundamental staff for the Home Economics and Chemistry. We still hope for news from Hsu Peng Cheng that he is returning, and I am pinning my hopes for the immediate future as far as Chemistry is concerned on him.

In order to let you have a clearer idea about the College now I will give you a few notes on our personnel here, but please treat them as confidential.

In Mathematics, Dr. Tseng Yuan Yung, as Visiting Professor, is a hard worker, a good lecturer, and inspiring to the students in personal conferences. He also has great influence with our younger faculty. Of course we can't work him as hard as our own people, and he takes no administrative work. He is much respected through the five Universities. Kuan Chao-Chih has devoted the time of his illness to extensive reading, and now has an encyclopaedic knowledge of mathematics. But naturally he has not felt much urge to create. It is now time for him to be doing original research, and I have had Mr. Tseng promise to direct his work. Kuan is very brilliant and I hope that he will before very long have a chance to study abroad. I would also look forward to him as a permanent member of the Department, as he is a good teacher and popular with the students. Yao Chih Chien is the fourth man in the Department, a rather angular personality and not very good academically. But he is a very hard worker, and good at doing business. So after some consideration we kept him on for this next year. I do not regard him as permanent however.

In Physics, the Department might have made much progress, but after Han Ching-Lien left Cheng Shang-Yi was conscripted to the Dean of Studies' position, where he has done well. But this has meant that he has given inadequate time to the Department. Tu Lien Yueh was a hard worker as his second-in-command, but found it hard to control the people below him. Recently Tu took leave of absence to get his family from Peking where they had been suffering great hardships. He was up in Honan when the Japs advanced, and we know only that he is safe, but not whether he succeeded and when he will be back. Lo Wu Nien after good work last year proved a failure this year, giving little attention to the job while he was trying to get abroad to study. We have dropped him from the staff, and will try to find a better man. Tseng Tse Pei was rather spiritless for a period after his arrival from occupied China, but with the arrival of Mr. Band has bucked up a lot and is working hard. He is a good research man but not such a good teacher, and I think Bill does not regard him as a permanency in the Department. Chu Pao Hsi the assistant is a pleasant hardworking fellow.

In Home Economics, V.K. is essentially an administrator, and has not given much time to teaching. Miss Hsieh Wen Mei, teaching nutrition, is not very good, but for lack of people we have to keep her another year. Mis Liu Chao Kuo, the assistant, is capable. The Home Economics Extension work has a couple of capable people.

In Chemistry, Chia Ting Hsun is not satisfactory, as his academic qualification is not enough to command the respect of the students, and his whole heart is not in

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teaching. But for the time being while we depend on Paul Chang we have to have someone who will work with him and do all the chores of the department. So we are keeping on Chia, but look forward to changes when Hsu and yourself come. The Assistant Yin Shing Chih is good, and is now working on translations for publication as "Abstracts from Chinese Chemical Journals" sponsored by Needham's office. This is in addition to his regular work as an assistant.

In Biology Chang Tsung Ping has been a great success. His lectures are brilliant, and he has found time to write several papers, and direct excellent thesis work. He is also very cooperative and efficient in administration, surprising some of the people who knew him as a student. Miss Tang Chi Hsueh is a very good lecturer and Mr. Chin Tsun Te an energetic assistant. The spirit of the Biologists is excellent.

I have mentioned the names of all the people we now have on the faculty in the College. Obviously with such a tiny staff we are only equipped to play a part in a joint programme - necessity and commonsense combine to direct us into that policy.

We have found that Needham's office will make gifts of textbooks, and so we have sent in long lists of needs, which should equip us well, especially in Maths and Physics, with books from England. Is there any hope that any organization in America similar to the British Council would present us with books? If so please request on our behalf. We have almost nothing and every book will be welcome.

Another need is for microfilm projectors or readers. The five Universities only have two public projectors. We have a makeshift machine which hasn't been made to work yet. We could use at least three machines in the college if you could find any way of getting them to us. Even the tiny hand readers like reading lenses would be valuable if you couldn't send us anything larger.

There is another question which you may have in mind. Now there is in China an immense quantity of scientific equipment belonging to the US Army and airforce. It is likely that when the war is done this will be disposed of rather carelessly. Could you find any way of getting as much suitable apparatus as possible made over to the University for physics use? Of course that lies in the future, but the idea was suggested to me by one of your airmen.

So far the University has been able to make up a balanced budget for 1944-5. Total \$20,000,000. Whether we can keep within it depends on the rate of rise of prices, but I for one am pessimistic about it. Costs are now 600 times prewar.

This is the first time since I came to China that I have stayed put during the summer vacation, but the China situation is unsteady, and Nancy is expecting another infant in September, so we decided to stay in Chengtu together. I am very fit, and shall try to get in a ten-day geologising-climbing trip into the high mountains on the west (17,000 ft.) in the beginning of August. Next year I hope will be my last as Dean.

Nancy and Peter are very well.

Please give my kindest regards to all your family,

Yours ever

/s/ Ralph Lapwood

13 July 1944

Yenching University in Chengtu

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE REPORT FOR 1943-44

1. General

The academic year 1943-4 has seen the continuance of the drift away from Science by the student in China. Economic and family pressure, and lassitude after years of war conditions, drive more and more students into lines of study which promise less rigorous discipline and more immediate financial benefits after graduation.

The Ministry of Education and all Universities are aware of this dangerous tendency - dangerous in view of the need of first-class scientists for the industrialisation of China. Special inducements in the way of subsidies and scholarships are given to students of science; but naturally no rapid reversal of the present drift is to be expected. Especially the pure sciences - Mathematics, Physics, Biology, will be short of students for some time. But the work of these departments must nevertheless be continued and developed as part of a balanced programme of scientific work.

A very healthy tendency among students of science is towards courses which they see to have immediate practical value - medical, home economics, industrial chemistry, etc. The standard curriculum of the Ministry of Education has lagged behind demand that all our work should be related to the needs of war and reconstruction.

2. Five-University Cooperation

The Colleges of Science of the five Christian Universities in Chengtu have achieved a healthy degree of cooperation. During 1943-4 there were few overlaps in courses taught, and students beyond the freshman year in any University were able to take any course offered in any other University. For 1944-5 overlapping will be completely eliminated, and the syllabus further rationalised by cutting down the number of electives with few students.

Naturally, sharing of apparatus and supplies is a more difficult task, but Yenching and W.C.U.U. have operated an excellent arrangement by which all W.C.U.U. apparatus, and most supplies, are available to Yenching, Yenching making cash payments for their use rather than trying to buy new equipment.

In Mathematics, courses have been shared equally, in Physics, Yenching has taught the bulk of the advanced courses, in Chemistry we have been dependent on W.C.U.U., while in Biology Yenching assets are pooled in a complete 5-University plan. In Home Economics Yenching has offered most of the post-freshman work.

Yenching came into the scene after four other Universities had been established for several years, so that very little space remained empty. Nevertheless, two rooms were allocated for Yenching offices in the main Chemistry building, one for Yenching Biology, and one for Yenching Physics, and classroom and laboratory facilities were provided for courses taught by Yenching. Then at the beginning of this academic year Yenching Science College was able to take over one floor of a new building, in return for a contribution of \$200,000 approx. There are eight large and two small rooms, available for Yenching for the duration of our stay in Chengtu. This now shows up as a very valuable arrangement.

In the new floor we have the Dean's office, Mathematics and Physics departments, Biology storeroom, two classrooms, a reading room for students, and living space for four junior faculty members.

3. Individual Departments.

When the University was first reopened, Departments of Mathematics and Home

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Economics were registered. In the summer of 1943, after the arrival of reinforcements to Physics, that Department was also registered. With the news of Miss Boring's decision to come out as soon as possible, we are trying to re-register the Biology Department.

We are only allowed to receive students by entrance examinations into registered departments, but old students from the north may be received into unregistered departments. Thus we have students in all the original main departments. We also have premedical students, who can study suitable courses in W.C.U.U. or Cheeloo. Pre-engineering students, however, are sent on as soon as possible to other Universities.

(a) Mathematics: The Department has been greatly strengthened this year by the presence of Dr. Tseng Yuan-Yung, visiting Professor from Tsinghua U. He has taught two courses in advanced Algebra, and has also been active in his own research programme and the direction of studies of students and junior faculty members. Mr. Kuan Chao Chih was knocked out by T.B. during the first semester, but with care and rest, followed by a programme of light work, he has recovered, and will be able to take a full load next semester.

(b) Physics: While the Department has suffered greatly during the absence of its Chairman (drafted into the office of Acting Dean of Studies) it has been stimulated by the arrival of Mr. William Band, after his adventurous journey of two years through guerilla China. Mr. Band is now working with Dr. Needham in the Sino-British Science Corporation Bureau, and visits Chengtu frequently, giving his time liberally to the Department. He has taken up again with Mr. Tseng Tse-Pei his programme of research in the Statistical Mechanics, and is expected to lead a seminar in that subject for the five Universities next semester. Dr. Ch'en Sheng-Yi has proceeded with setting up his spectroscopic grating in a locally made wooden frame - iron is impossibly expensive - and hopes as soon as his load of administrative duties is lightened to proceed with development of a plan of teaching and research in Spectroscopy.

(c) Home Economics: The Department has had little help from other Universities in teaching, and the shortage of trained personnel in this field means that faculty are hard to find, especially for advanced work in nutrition. Nevertheless the Department has prospered under the energetic leadership of Mrs. Mei, and there is great demand for the graduates.

(d) Biology: The small staff of the "Preparatory Department" has shown excellent teamwork, and made a good contribution to the 5 U. joint programme. Dr. Chang Tsung-Ping's lectures have been very popular and stimulating, and he has been responsible for the Joint Seminar. Students have made a good collection of local insects and amphibia.

(e) Chemistry: Our student body in Chemistry is the best in the College, but so far we have not been able to strengthen the staff. We have depended very heavily on the help of Mr. Paul Chang of W.C.U.U., and he has led an excellent series of research problems in leathertanning, in addition to looking after the needs of our students to borrow apparatus or beg chemicals. Dr. Chang also brought experienced industrial chemists to lecture in the five Universities. Most of them were Yenching graduates and lectured as a Yenching contribution to the joint programme. We certainly hope for the early arrival of Dr. Hsu Fong Cheng and Dr. S. D. Wilson, and look forward then to the registration of the Department. Yenching has been deeply indebted to Mr. Roy Spooner, Chairman of W.C.U.U. Chemistry Dept. for the way in which he has made available to Yenching students a share of the precious imported chemicals belonging to W.C.U.U.

4. Students:

With few exceptions, students of the Science College are refugees from the north. Some have families in Szechwan, but perhaps have no means of support through their studies

except scholarship, loans, and self-help work. They are a hardworking bunch. Of the June 1944 graduates, 5 students of the University graduated with honour, 4 of these were Science College students.

The total number of students in the College is over 80, equally divided among the years except for Sophomores. This is because when the University re-started the Science College got going slowly, and took very few freshmen, and those into the Departments of Mathematics and Home Economics only.

Considering the wartime conditions, student theses have kept a good standard. In Chemistry Tsao Tien Ching (son of C. P. Tsao) wrote a brilliant thesis on the tanning properties of a local root named "chian T'au". Lu Cho Ju (son of C. W. Lu) wrote an excellent thesis in Theoretical Physics. Good work was done by other students in problems on tanning, dormancy of insects, acoustics, and organization of nursery schools in Chengtu.

During the summer vacation most of the students are earning their living, and some extra funds for next year's expenses, by work outside the University and related to their line of studies.

5. Projects:

The Home Economics Department has achieved considerable success with two projects which have now run for two years - the nursery school, with 30-40 children, and publications.

The Nursery School is located within the tiny University campus, and serves both as a practice ground for students of the Department, and also as a convenience for faculty members with small children. Although its original building was burned down last year, it survived and is now quite well equipped.

The Department has published three pamphlets dealing with Child Training and Nutrition, and these have had an excellent sale, being extremely suited to the needs of the time.

The Chemistry Department has ^{cooperated} ~~adapted~~ with the W.C.U.U. and the C.I.C. in a programme of teaching and research on leathertanning. Yenching students have studied research problems, assisted in tanning processes, and taken most of the duties in the teaching of the Leather-tanning Technical School.

The Biology Department has taken the making of a collection of Szechuan flora and fauna as a major activity, and trips have been made to nearby and distant areas by faculty and students. We expect that by the time we return to North China we shall be able to carry back with us a representative collection of West China specimens.

6. Apparatus and Books

It is impossible to buy in West China the apparatus which would be needed for the science work, and we have therefore appropriated very little money for this purpose. What funds there are are used to supplement W.C.U.U. budgets, and to fill in deficiencies in the materials for the joint programme.

We have been forced to buy some books locally, as they came onto the market at excessive prices. But we bought as few as possible, and now that Dr. Needham's office gives facilities for purchase of books abroad we are trying to make best use of them.

Microfilms are now available in Chengtu, but the College needs a machine in each Department to make them really useful.

Meanwhile we have asked our members in USA to arrange for the purchase and storage of scientific magazines ready for the time they can be brought out to China.

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SINO-BRITISH SCIENCE CO-OPERATION BUREAU.
(British Council Cultural Scientific Office in China)

British Scientific Mission

British Embassy, Chungking
October 29, 1944

Charles H. Corbett, Esq.
Yenching University
150 Fifth Ave.
N.Y.

Dear Professor Corbett:

Thank you for your letter of August 23rd in reply to mine of May 12th; it has crossed another one of mine, dated August 17th, which proposed a definite date for our furlough. I trust that this has reached you safely also.

I am happy that the article on "Science in the Christian Universities at Chengtu, China" was so well received, and I hope that you will be able to make the maximum use of it. The people at the British Council prefer that no mention be made, however, of my connection with them, in any published material.

Thank you for replying to the British Council people about our salary in the way you did. I have still not received any contract from them, but they seem to be treating us in the same way as their other London appointments to the China field, and the terms are quite generous. You may rest assured that we have no financial worries.

Since our last letter, which must have made you think we were heading for a breakdown in health, the weather has cooled off, and we are picking up again. But we still feel very definitely that we shall not face another summer out here; the four months from middle May to middle September are so unbearable that another dose would just about knock us out.

We shall be leaving here early in February for England, and plan to spend about six months recuperating with our folk at home. By that time will be the beginning of the Autumn term, and I am hoping to get a part-time teaching position for one academic year in England. During this time I can get back into advanced study and make valuable contacts in Britain. Following this, I could very profitably spend six months in U.S.A. to complete the furlough by either visiting different centres or taking some advanced courses in one definite place.

For various reasons I do not wish to return to the China field until I can go directly to Peiping. From all present indications, this will not be for another two years at least. Perhaps I am being pessimistic; but I think you will agree that one year would be over optimistic. And on the other hand I certainly need two years to recuperate and also to get back into stride for real academic life of the quality we wish to build up in the new Yenching after the war. I should be glad to receive the reactions of the Board to these plans, and if you have any suggestions of how I could spend my time in the States before returning to Peiping, so as to be most use to Yenching, I shall be very happy to hear them.

The British Council has been erecting a new Institute building here, and I have been in charge of operations throughout the past three months, on top of all the normal routine of the Office as an information exchange, and so on. Dr. Needham and Mrs. Needham have been away in the S.W. on tours of inspection; they have still not returned. The building is now complete and we are installed herein. The new Medical Representative from London has recently arrived, and he is with us. The Needhams and another new Science Representative will be here. We have a staff of servants installed in readiness. Mrs. Band is managing all the domestic arrangements. It is all very interesting and we feel we are making a solid contribution; it is no picnic party for us!

0 195

Letter from William Band to CHC, 10/29/44, Page 2.

The campaign in Hunan-Kwangsi has very much upset the folks at Lingnan University. Fukien Christian University is still carrying on, and they are not yet cut off; we recently were able to send them a parcel of technical literature from England. The naval news from the S.W. Pacific this week has been very heartening indeed; we are confidently expecting great things from that direction before too long.

In case you send us letters dated later than about Christmas, please send one copy to England in care of

Mrs. F. Chaytor
"Kings Lynn," Hooton Road
Willaston, Wirral.

This will ensure our receiving it in good time should we have left Chungking before the letter reaches here.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ William Band

0796

October 25, 1944

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

Re: Yenching News Letter
Miss Boring's return
Possible invitation to Mr. Li Hui-lin

Dear Dr. Mei:

Thank you for your good letter of August 21. Lest I might possibly forget it, let me say at the start that Dr. McConaughy was deeply impressed by the efforts of Yenching to raise that ten million dollars and the great success you were meeting at the time he left China.

I fully appreciate and approve of the suggestion you make regarding that invitation sent me in your first letter. I can think of no pleasanter or in many ways more fruitful prospect in connection with our hoped-for return to China than work at the University. But I am still appalled by my realization of my lack of academic qualifications! And I am sure, with the present uncertainty as to when family conditions will permit a return to China, not to mention the technical point raised in your latest letter regarding the post-war seat of authority, the question had best be "laid on the table"--to use a parliamentary term.

Incidentally, did you have a chance to become acquainted with Langdon Gilkey? He went out in 1940, just in time to be caught by the consequences of Pearl Harbor, and is now at Weihsien. I do not recall that you were in North China during the last two years or so before America became involved in the war, but you probably have heard him referred to. He is not only the son of Dean Gilkey of the University of Chicago Chapel but very much a person in his own right. And here I do not refer merely to his having been New England Collegiate Tennis Champion! He is an altogether lovable young fellow with a keen mind, deep and growing religious convictions (one of the neo-orthodox school, I believe, after the pattern of Reinhold Niebuhr, whom I by no means fully understand and who has little use for the kind of liberalism which still means a great deal to me, but who is very possibly a step or two nearer Truth in some directions at any rate). People who were with Gilkey after Pearl Harbor and at Weihsien speak of him as having grown steadily and being more and more a help to others. I mention him because I have heard Wynn Fairfield, who as you know is both President of the Associated Boards and our Kunglihui home board Secretary, refer to him as an awfully good man to take Dr. Galt's place on our American Board quota at Yenching.

The staff asked me to reply for us all to the question raised in one of your recent letters regarding the Yenching News Letter. We want it kept up by all means. We get much too little rather than too much material of that kind, although Yenching is up near the top among the thirteen colleges. But we do have one or two suggestions to make which we think would probably increase its usefulness. These are offered in the hope that something already very good may become even better. Our first suggestion is that better continuity would probably be secured if you can persuade somebody to take on its preparation as a regular assignment. In passing the job around there has at times been some overlapping and repetition. Also of course there are differences of quality in the product. We would also hope that the writer(s) would keep in mind a fairly wide constituency at this end, not confined to former members of the staff. A good letter sent monthly would probably be often enough, an effort taken seriously, that is, with the thought that it would probably be used for fairly wide circulation, neither "sob stuff" nor self-praise. Grace Boynton's letters are excellent--always excellent, I believe--and have been very useful. Wei Yung-ching's letter written shortly after he got back there was also very fine. Of course he had the temporary advantage of seeing everything freshly.

0797

I hope what I have just been writing will in no way discourage you folks from keeping up the good work. We have more use for material such as comes in the letters than we have material. There is the quarterly bulletin "The China Colleges," which covers the whole field, and the semi-annual "Yenching News" devoted entirely to the University. Mrs. Morris Moore (sister of Henry Luce, editor of Time, Life, and Fortune) cultivates the Wellesley support for the Women's College, and there are other groups to whom material is sent at frequent intervals. Of course, at times some editing needs to be done, as any writers from the field will understand,--usually in the interests of conciseness.

Since writing the bulk of this letter I have been shown by Miss Boring a letter which you wrote to her, Miss Speer, Dr. Sailer, and Dean Wilson jointly on September 14, and a letter to her from Mr. Lapwood written September 25.. I wish that the faith of those who look for Miss Boring by Christmas might have been better founded! The tightening up of passport regulations has made it quite futile for her to push any application for passport or military permit. We hope that not long after the New Year there may be some relaxation in the position which the military situation has made necessary at Washington.

Mr. Lapwood's letter refers especially to the desire to add Mr. Li Hui-lin to the staff of the Science College. Miss Boring asks me what is the procedure about travel arrangements for Chinese in this country who go back to teach. On the authority of Mr. Evans, I am telling her that when a request comes from the University to assist him, or anyone in like case, we shall go ahead at once, making the necessary charges against university funds. But, of course, there has to be official authorization from the University. I may add that experience indicates that Chinese returning to their own country for definite service seem to fare better in unravelling red tape and securing all necessary permissions than American citizens just at present, especially women.

A fine lot of pictures has just come in from Harold Robinson via the British Information Service. They are all interesting and some of them will certainly be useful. Many might have been taken amid the beautiful surroundings of the campus outside Peking. It is a joy to have our faith confirmed by such photographs that picnics, laughter, and even weddings continue in the midst of the multitudinous problems that beset young life in Free China.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Via China Clipper.
c/c. by regular mail.
EHB/mec



0798

November 17, 1944

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

Re: -- Dr. Li Hui-lin.
-- Miss Boring's return.
-- Dr. Robert E. Speer's illness.

Dear Y.P.:

Miss Boring has sent me some letters which she has had from Dr. Li Hui-lin and a letter he has had from Dr. Chang Tsung-ping. Dr. Chang has offered Dr. Li a position on the Yenching faculty, which Dr. Li is inclined to accept. He has been, however, under some sort of obligation to Soochow University from which he must first be sure to secure release. This is what he says in his letter to Miss Boring: "I came to America with partial assistance from Soochow University, to which I originally agreed to return. But their work is now disrupted by the war. However, it will lessen my obligation if I can refund them the loan I obtained from them. I presume Yenching will help finance my trip to China. Besides that, can you inquire for me whether they will be able to give me a temporary loan for about two thousand dollars? I can, as soon as I get to China, pay it back to the New York office if I can get the exchange or to the Chengtu office by their rate of exchange." Can you authorize us to take this action on his behalf or do you have some other proposal to make?

We are writing to Dr. Li assuring him of our interest and saying that we will proceed in helping him to get back to China as soon as necessary arrangements can be made. Evidently he will not be free to leave his present position until April 1945 at the earliest, and possibly not before the end of June. We shall meanwhile need to have from you definite authorization in the name of the University to proceed with the application for travel permit, etc. A copy of Dr. Chang's letter to Miss Boring is not sufficient authority in this matter. We think there should be plenty of time for you to write, without it being necessary to cable. You probably know better than I just what form the letter should take. The purpose of course is to assure authorities that his presence is needed in China at this time and that a position is awaiting him. Other things being equal, Chinese returning to their homeland have a distinct advantage over Americans, even of long residence in China.

Incidentally, I expect to be in Washington within the next few days and hope to sound out the passport people regarding Miss Boring's longed-for return to Yenching. She certainly means business! Very definite assurance that nothing can be hoped for within three or four months means with her postponement of not more than two or three weeks before another inquiry as to how the situation is developing!

By the way, Dr. Robert E. Speer has now for some time been in the hospital undergoing a rather serious succession of operations. I have not heard within the past ten days how he has been getting along and do not know that there is any particular reason for anxiety except in so far as a man of his age is in not so favorable a position for any prolonged hospitalization as a younger man. It must, however, be comforting to Marnie to be so comparatively near at hand in case either her Father or her Mother should have special need of her. We do hope most sincerely that both she and Ran Sailer will be back with you a year from now.

With cordial personal regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Via China clipper.
c.c. via regular mail.
EHB:mec

Earle H. Ballou

0799

REC'D
UNIVERSITIES
NOV 25 1944
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燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YPM/PC/207

November 18, 1944

BALLOU
REC'D 1/25
ANS'D 2/9

Mr. Earle H. Ballou
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City, 11.

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Just a covering letter to accompany the enclosed letter, No. 3 in the Biweekly Series.

I only wish to add that upon my return I read your mimeographed letter of September 19 re Dr. Stuart's condition in Peking. In fact, Mr. Evans had already written under date of June 14 to Mr. Hausske concerning Dr. Stuart's condition. It must be Miss Boynton's summer vacation that that information should have skipped her. At any rate, we are glad for the assuring statements from New York concerning Dr. Stuart. There is here again a rumour of Dr. Stuart and his two companions all suffering a "nervous breaking down". But the group of us here who are more or less toughened by such constant solicitous but scary rumours regarding Dr. Stuart that we tend to think this one is again not well founded.

We are glad to read the long paragraph you wrote in the mimeographed letter re Dr. H.H. Kung. A cable report from Mr. T.C. T'ang of the Alumni Banquet in Dr. Kung's honor reached us in the summer. We are wondering when Dr. Kung will be back in Chungking again. For one thing, a meeting of the full Board of Directors is overdue.

While passing through Chungking, I called an informal meeting of the Chungking members of the Board of Directors some two weeks ago. A copy of the minutes which are being mimeographed will be sent to you when ready.

Our accounts for 1943-44 have finally been wound up and we are expecting the auditors early next week. We shall, of course, send you a copy of the auditors' statement at the first opportunity.

I should like to have your advice both personally and otherwise as to how I shall prepare and equip myself in order to make the best use of my trip to America. I may not be able to spend more than 5 months in America. I have already asked for addresses lists of Trustees, Alumni and faculty by States which will help my activities in America. Any advice you wish to offer will be much appreciated.

We are still anxious for the early return of our key personnel at the present in America. The Institution has been getting along rather well considering the circumstances. But it has many outstanding needs, and stability and materiality among the faculty group should probably be now placed first. Therefore, we still consider the early arrival of people like Miss Speer, Dr. Sailer, Dr. Boring, etc, quite essential. This situation has not changed since we wrote first on the topic over a year ago, and it now looks as though

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Mr. Earle H. Ballou

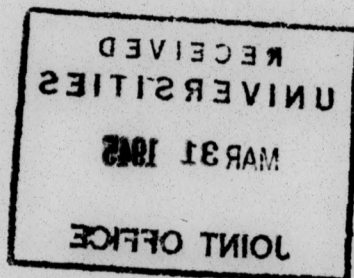
- 2 -

November 18, 1944

there will have to be at least another 3 years before we shall be moving back to Peking. In addition the impending furlough of Miss Boynton and the Lapwoods are going to leave further holes in our ranks. We are extremely anxious to have Miss Nancy Cochran and Dean S.D. Wilson to be with us in Chengtu latest by next fall, the earlier the better. Miss Cochran's expenses are probably a matter of University concern, but it has been suggested that an effort might be made for her to go back on the Presbyterian Board, pointing out that all the Yenching members of that Board are now home and probably have other sources of support. These 5 people we consider essential, and Miss Cochran quite indispensable to the English Department in the absence of Miss Boynton. We have been told that Miss Shirley Duncan is available and ready to risk living in Free China and working for the University. We are much moved by this report of Miss Duncan's spirit, and if our University finance at the New York end can stand sending her out in addition to the others, we shall certainly very happy to receive her.

Sincerely yours,

Y.P. Mei
Y.P. Mei



0802

November 18, 1944

- 2 -

Mr. Earle H. Ballou

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Sincerely yours,

Y.P. Mei



0080

Mr. Ballou

Mr. Evans

ackd
3/27/45

YPM/PC/211

November 20, 1944

Dr. Lennig Sweet
U.C.R. Office
218 Shang Nanchu Malu
Chungking

Dear Dr. Sweet,

I have written you once since my return to Chengtu. At a recent meeting of the 5-University Presidents, Miss Priest passed around a sheet of table which I herewith enclosed for your reference. I feel urged to discuss with you a few points that have come to my mind from the reading of this table.

First, the UCR total grant to all institutions in C.\$ for the current year are below 100:1 as compared to the grants in US\$ for the last year, definitely so for the 5 Universities on the campus of Chengtu. I understand the market rate today is well over 200:1. Even the foolish arrangement of advanced sale up to November 30 is more than 100:1. Using the US\$ figures of last year for this year, there will be a very large surplus from it which is probably larger than the grant itself. I wonder what is the UCR going to do with it. I am not awfully convinced with the "rainy day" argument when you see near-starvation all around you and even among your own colleagues. At the present the buying power of the faculty people is something like 6-7% of pre-war income. Even at that rate, each University is going to face a deficit of millions of dollars, and there is even a talk of going off the present payment basis and thereby further reducing the buying power of the faculty when cost index goes beyond certain figure.

Secondly, I see also quite some discrepancy even in the assignment of grants among the 5 institutions in Chengtu. Using the institutional grant of last year as the basis, the institutional grants this year range as follows:

Nanking	90
W.C.U.U.	82.2
Cheeleo	85.7
Ginling	83.3
Yenching	76.1

This distribution raises several problems in my mind. (1) It encourages the "bigger and better University" idea, which we thought the A.B.C.C.C., its representative Dr. William Fenn, our Joint Treasurer Miss Priest, and even the Presidents themselves have agreed ought to be discouraged during the difficult war time. I wish Dr. Fenn were here, and if he were I would be going straight to him for a very frank word. (2) It definitely discriminates against the smaller institutions. (3) It also seems to mistreats Yenching University in particular. I hope Yenching has not suffer.

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Dr. Lennig Sweet

- 2 -

November 20, 1944

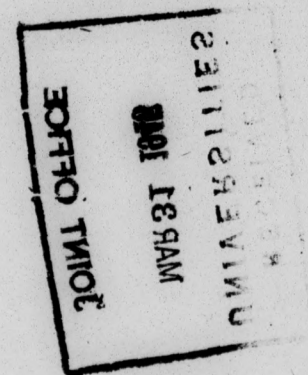
ed Because of its modesty at war time expansion. I also hope Yenching is not discriminated against because of its sounder pre-war financial position and its effort at a war-time financial campaign in China. We recognize that even as it is, Yenching is receiving more than the other smaller institutions on a percapita basis. But it should be pointed out that our late start and our conservative policy at the beginning of our reopening are incurring additional expenses in our annual budget. Our Controller estimates that the item for rent in the budget of the current year will come to something like \$2,500,000.

I wonder how was the total of C\$70,000,000 arrived at in the place and how it was distributed among the 13 units. If there is an opportunity for reconsidering either or both points, I should like to see it done. If that is impossible, I should still wish to register my reactions with you and with the other relevant parties.

Sincerely yours,

Y.P. Wei

cc. Dr. William Fenn
Dr. E.H. Cressy
Miss Elsie M. Priest
Mr. A.C. Nausske
Mr. C.A. Evans



0805

November 20, 1944

- 2 -

Mr. Lanning Sweet

ed because of its modesty at war time expansion. I also hope Yenching is not discriminated against because of its smaller pre-war financial position and a effort at a war-time financial campaign in China. We recognize that even as it is, Yenching is receiving more than the other smaller institutions on a per capita basis. But it should be pointed out that our late start and our conservative policy at the beginning of our reopening are incurring additional expenses in our annual budget. Our Controller estimates that the item for rent in the budget of the current year will come to something like \$2,800,000.

I wonder how was the total of \$470,000,000 arrived at in the place and how it was distributed among the 18 units. If there is an opportunity for reconsidering either or both points, I should like to see it done. It is impossible, I should still wish to register my reactions with you and with the other relevant parties.

Sincerely yours,

Y. L. Mei

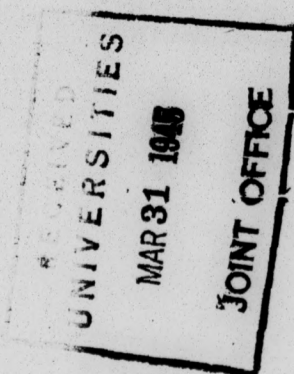
cc. Dr. William Tamm

Dr. E. H. Cressy

Miss Alice M. Priest

Mr. A. C. Tamm

Mr. C. A. Evans



0806

From Mr. Sweet's letter - U.C.R. - October 31, 1944.

There is still confusion over the grants for the different institutions for the year 1944-45. According to the figures presented by Dr. Fenn:

	Basic grant 56%	Inflation grant for total grant	Grant last year
Cheeloo	C\$ 3,360,000	C\$ 6,000,000	US\$ 70,000
Fukien	2,800,000	5,000,000	
Ginling	2,800,000	5,000,000	60,000
Hangchow	280,000	500,000	
Hua Chung	560,000	1,000,000	
Hua Nan	1,320,000	2,000,000	
Lingnan	3,080,000	5,500,000	
Nanking	10,080,000	18,000,000	200,000
Shanghai Com.	280,000	500,000	
Soochow Law	280,000	500,000	
West China	8,400,000	13,000,000	170,000
Yenching	4,480,000	8,000,000	105,000
Joint funds	<u>1,320,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	22,500
	C\$ 39,600,000	C\$70,000,000	

"We will be sending you for October 1/12 of C\$70,000,000. This should, however, only be considered tentative as the final decision will be made next month."

"We wish to know what amounts you are giving to each college, but leave the determination of that amount very largely to the Associated Boards as you know the situation much better than we can."



y. P. Mei

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MAR 31 1945
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"We will be sending you for October 1/12 of \$270,000,000. This should,

	C\$ 39,600,000	C\$70,000,000	
Joint funds	1,320,000	2,000,000	22,000
Yenching	4,480,000	8,000,000	105,000
West China	8,400,000	12,000,000	170,000
Szechow Law	280,000	800,000	
Shanghai Com.	280,000	500,000	
Nanking	10,080,000	18,000,000	200,000
Lingnan	2,080,000	2,300,000	
Hua Nan	1,320,000	2,000,000	
Hua Chung	260,000	1,000,000	
Hangchow	280,000	500,000	
Ginling	2,800,000	2,000,000	60,000
Peking	2,800,000	2,000,000	
Chefoo	3,360,000	2,000,000	225,70,000

There is still confusion over the grants for the different institutions
for the year 1944-45. According to the figures presented by Dr. Fenn:
From Mr. Sweet's letter - H.C.R. - October 31, 1944

November 22, 1944

Dr. Y. P. Mei
Yenching University
Chengt'u, Szechwan, China

Re: Drs. Hsu and Li.

Dear Y.P.:

Since I wrote you on the 17th, Miss Boring has urged the desirability of early action in connection with the return of Hsu Peng-cheng--that is, if the University wants him, as all the people here who have referred to him are sure you do.

Miss Cookingham--whose presence here in the office is very helpful in all matters connected with Yenching--has looked up the correspondence carried on with him in recent months by the treasury department, and finds that nothing very definite has been said from this end about his return. Stanley Wilson, however, has seen him and had a good talk with him. This was just about a month ago on Stanley's return journey to California after having been here for a meeting of the PUMC trustees. He then wrote me that he would be communicating with Chengtu and adds, "I expect that they will make definite request that he be gotten back in some manner. It is possible that he has saved enough to pay his expenses. The department needs him very much indeed."

Very probably action at your end has already been initiated. Miss Boring has in mind the possibility that ~~she~~ and Hsu might travel together next spring. She has had another letter from Dr. Li to the effect that, if he is to go to Yenching, he should begin very soon to double up on some of the work he is doing, so that he can be ready in the spring rather than in the summer. On the basis of the letter from Chang Tsung-ping and the reference to Li in Mr. Lapwood's letter of September 25 (to which I referred in my letter to you of October 25), I ventured to tell Miss Boring she could encourage Dr. Li to make the adjustment in full expectation of the formal authorization coming at the earliest possible date. On second thought, I think it would be well for you to cable us regarding both these men, in case you did not intend so to do anyway.

With renewed personal regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Via China clipper.
c.c. via regular mail.
EHB:mec

* *Li Hui-lin*

0809

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NOV 25 1944
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燕 京 大 學

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

November 24, 1944

Administrative Gossip for the Initiated
(Yenching University)

I have a small pile of letters accumulated during my absence from members of the Yenching faculty family section in America. I have now come to writing the long-delayed replies. To make full use of the typewriter carbons - a great luxury in Free China - and to save tedious repetition, tedious to me and Feng Pao-chung, my secretary, I have decided to write a general sheet of University gossip and to add personal remarks in the individual P.S.

The \$10,000,000 Financial Campaign has been doing quite well. I have already reported on my adventure at Lanchow in the Biweekly Letter Series. I am glad to add now that we have word from Lanchow that General Ma Pu-ching has given his promise to contribute \$1,000,000. This is the largest single contribution we have thus far received, and it brings our campaign way over the top. Furthermore, this sets a good example for the other two Mohammedan Ma Generals now at Ning Hsia and China Hai. If the thing works out well it might mean 2 more million dollars.

Mr. Lawrence Todnem and Mr. William Small came to our University to audit our accounts for 1943-44. Finding no holes they signed the Auditors' Statement. The Financial Statement for the year shows a balance of over \$300,000.

Mr. T.L. Shen has been Acting President of Soochow University ever since President Y.C. Yang went to America. From the Shanghai concession Soochow moved to Kungong with a short stop at Fukien. The student body has been small and there has been quite a little trouble otherwise. The present Japanese push on Kweilin gave that unfortunate institution the final stroke, and Soochow is now suspended except for its Law School which has been operating in Chungking. Misfortune to one institution may be turned to good luck for another; President Shen has accepted our invitation to join the Yenching administrative staff. He and Mrs. Shen are now in Chungking and expect to arrive here in a couple of weeks' time. I know him in my YMCA National Committee days over 20 years ago. Ralph was his associate in the Medhurst College at Shanghai. We all hold the highest opinions about him and now high hopes for Yenching.

The change in the Ministry of Education top personnel has already been announced. We had taken this occasion again to ask Dr. Han Ching-lien to return to the University. If both Han and Shen can come and will work out satisfactorily, the Yenching administrative will be as strong as a stone wall - please pardon the exuberant exaggeration.

The health condition among faculty and students is simply deplorable. Let me give you a list at random: Chen Fang-chih has just gotten out of bed again; this time it was pneumonia. Prof. Chao Jen-chun, one of the leading professors of Economic Statistics in China, has just been operated for pancreatitis and is even now not yet out of danger. Miss Fan Hsi-chun who is now assisting Lulu to run the Women's College has been laid up with bronchitis since before my return. Miss Liu Ching-yen (Mrs. Liao Tai-ch'u now) is now still in bed nursing her pneumonia. Mr. Chang Su-ke, the accountant and cashier, whom we all consider probably our best find in Free China, is suspected of T.B. He is now on light schedule because he is indispensable to the Office although complete rest might

0811

Nov. 24, 1944

be much better for the mat. Mr. Kuan Chao-chih who is now instructor in the Math. Department has just finished his 6 months' rest from T.B. Dr. Shih Yu-chung and Mrs. Shih (Nee Wang Shih-yi) are worrying over their small boy who has been ordered to rest from T.B. suspicion. Mr. Tan Chun-lin's small boy is a similar case and has just gone through his rest period of several months. Lin Yieh-hua and Jao Yu-su's brand new baby is suffering from some kind of infection which we all hope may not affect the young life permanently. Hsiung Te-yuan, my secretary, has been keeping to his bed because of a heavy cold. Ordinary coughs and colds are all around one. Of the many causes to failing health among faculty and staff in Chengtu the chief one is probably poverty. And of the several consequences, the worst, I should say, is grouchy temperament.

We are now right in the midst of the student volunteer movement - this time not for the ministry but military services. The Government has thus far put the movement on a volunteer basis. To date over 25 Yenching boys and girls, including students and instructors have enlisted. There is going to be a general discussion meeting of the whole faculty tomorrow afternoon. Don't you all wish to join us in the fun?

The University Anniversary will soon be here again. But this year, because of the military situation, both faculty and students decided to make the program simple and inexpensive.

Chengtu has been living through a series of Moonlight Sonatas this last number of weeks. They are not harmful and even sometimes entertaining to people in our part of the city.

YPM/PC/223

- F I N I S -

Dr. S.D. Wilson
635 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, Calif.

Dear S.D.,

It is certainly good to have your letter of August 6. Congratulations for accumulating another Doctor's Degree. We are especially glad to hear that your health is improving, and we hope that before long you will really be ~~good~~ in as fine a shape as you sound. Maybe by next summer you might even venture a trip to Chengtu. Our need will be very great in the Science College after the Lapwoods are gone. Except for our realization of your family needs, your age, and your health, we would have insisted on your coming long before this. I believe Ralph has been keeping you posted. We have to leave it to you to decide, knowing that you can also be very useful to the University and to the Science College while you are in America. The news about E.O. is certainly upsetting. I wrote Mrs. E.O. Wilson months ago but never had a reply. Will you be kind enough to assure her of our kindest wishes when you write her next? I have already decided to include Claremont in my itinerary in America. But the point is I do not know when I shall get started. Anyway I hope to be able to see you sometime in the spring. In the meantime the best regards from all of us to all of you.

Cordially yours,

Y.P. Mei
Y.P. Mei

08 12

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NOVEMBER 27, 1944

YIPAO WEI

CHENG TU (CHINA)

McBRIER COMMITTEE APPROVES WEI 1300 BUDGET PLUS PROPORTIONATE SALARY

APPLICABLE RELIGION PROGRAM WRITING. GREETINGS FOR ANNIVERSARY OPENING.

CARL EVANS

Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

DCC-8 NY

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08 13

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08 14

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Mr. Corbett

UNITED CHINA RELIEF, INC.
Member Agency of the National War Fund, Inc.
1790 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.
Circle 5-4100

November 27, 1944

Mr. C. A. Evans
Associated Boards for Christian
Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation of this morning reporting the following message included in a cablegram received from Mr. Sweet from Chungking on November 25th:

"MEI WHERES EVANS YENCHING TRUSTEES CHANCELLOR
FACULTY GREETINGS CAMPAIGN SUCCESSFUL EXPECT
ANNOUNCE OVER TOP ON ANNIVERSARY. FACULTY
ELECTED MEI CULTURAL GUEST STATE DEPARTMENT.
WILL COME SPRING. APPRECIATE FULL ADDRESS
LIST BY STATES OF TRUSTEES FACULTY ALUMNI.
SEND COPIES CHENG TU AND VIA AMERICAN CONSUL
LATES CHUNGKING KUNMING CALCUTTA."

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Mary E. Ferguson
Associate Program Director

MEF:o

08 15

(From Ralph Lapwood to Stanley Wilson)

C14C

C O P Y

College of Science, Yenching
in Chengtu, 28 November 1944

Dear Dr. Wilson,

Since my last letter to you written on 30th August I have received from you letters of (?) August and 24th September, and a good deal of material on statistical work in Columbia and Applied Mathematics in Brown. I am very grateful indeed for the way in which you have obtained such full information for me. It is of the utmost value in my attempt to plan for the future. I wish I had as complete material about courses available in England. I have written to Dr. Hotelling and Dr. Goodrich, and I shall be writing, as soon as I have finished this letter, to Dr. Richardson. In each case all I can do is thank them for the information, and tell them that in present conditions I am not yet able to plan definitely for the future.

You will of course want to know what my plans are, as worked out up to date. The London Mission has granted a two-year furlough, and is strongly urging that we do not delay beyond June of 1945 in returning to England. But the Mission is unwilling to accept my desire that study come first. They feel that as we have had an interesting life in China and will have many things to say in England, we should regard deputation work as inevitable. Study could be put in as time was left over from deputation. Naturally this will not do, I know well that unless study is recognised as the major activity it will be crowded out.

I have talked this problem over with friends here, and come to the conclusion that the best way out is for me to devote most of my first year to fulfilling the desire of the L.M.S. But I will live in a University town, and do my best to attend lectures and brush up ready for intensive studies later. Then at the end of the first year I will ask the Mission to set me quite free for one year, and then I shall probably try to go to USA for study. I hope that one year there will be financed by the LMS.

Having done some study in England, there should not be any difficulty in finishing a Ph.D. course in USA in two further years. I have requested Yenching to finance the second year of study, but so far have had no answer--Cookie wrote back that the decision should be made on the field, but YP points out that the people this end were not consulted when Bill Band was granted furlough from the New York end, and Yenching here has no budget for his travel or furlough expenses, supposing that New York will provide those.

What is your advice in this matter? I think that seeing I worked on Yenching payroll for three years I do have some claim on the University, though legally not for a full year of furlough. (Of course the University would not have to pay my travel expenses.) And I believe that it would ~~make sense~~ be very much in the interests of the University to make it possible for me to complete a course of advanced training.

One of the points which make me think that perhaps I should not try to start right in on a Ph.D. course is the uncertainty of date of reaching England. It is some doubtful whether I should leave here before the arrival of Ran and Alice Boring, and possibly yourself, if you do manage to get out next fall. Then there is no knowing how long the journey to England will last, especially as we would like to pass Australia to see Nancy's father and mother--Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Stuckey of Tientsin MacKenzie Memorial Hospital. So even if I got to England in time for the beginning of the term, it would be a great rush.

Well, that's enough of my own plans--you have shown so much interest in helping me that I thought I should bring you up to date. Let's proceed to answer your two letters, and give some news of the College and University.

I hope that you were able to get somewhere on the matter of donation of scientific equipment by the American air force to colleges in China after the end of hostilities.

We do understand the terrific difficulties in getting anything sent out here from USA. But if you can manage to get any parcel as far as Calcutta we can arrange for its transport from there.

Our cost of living here is now over 700 times prewar. But the change of exchange

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rates has eased the situation as far as foreigners are concerned. For two years we lived by scraping along and selling off possessions gradually, but now that the L has gone over 800 \$ mex we are able to make ends meet without further selling. This of course does not help our Chinese faculty, who are now living on the equivalent of 7% of prewar salary--i.e. a Professor is getting in prewar purchasing value \$25 mex per month.

Opinion here is now less optimistic than it was two or three months ago, on the subject of the wars in Europe and the Far East. YP has extended his estimate of the time to elapse until our return to the north from one year to three, and many feel anxiety over this strong Japanese advance which has reached the southern borders of Kweichow. The region of Hunan and Kuangsi which has been the recent battleground is very familiar to me as I worked there for two years as C.I.C. inspector and statistician.

We were very sorry to hear of the continued illness of E.O. I often meet chemical engineers who were graduated from Yenching and ask with affection and concern about E.O.

You mention what is in the minds of all of us--the conserving of the resources of the College for the future. I have understood that the Science College Endowment brings in around \$15,000 (gold) per year. In recent statements from Evans, the amount of this \$15,000 which is being sent to Chengtu is not specified. A considerable sum is being reserved in New York each year (very rightly) against salaries of faculty in Peking. Various other American payments are also retained. The final result is that of the total Trustees' income of G\$80,000 plus not over \$45,000 yearly is sent out to Chengtu. The majority of this \$45,000 is Harvard-Yenching and Princeton-Yenching and Rockefeller (CPA). My proposal is that a fair proportion of the funds reserved in New York should be earmarked as for future purchase of apparatus and equipment for the Science College, having been derived from the Science College Endowment in the first place. I am taking this matter up with the Controller here, but at present he is not able to find out the exact facts of the case.

Please continue to urge Hsu Peng Cheng to return to China as soon as he can. We kept a vacant place in the salary list for him, but seeing that he is not going to arrive this academic year, we are trying to invite Huang Jen Hsun, Chief Engineer of the Neichiang Sugar Plant (Yenching Chem. Dept. Graduate) to spend his six months of sabbatical leave with us. His engineering knowledge is very appropriate now that nearly every student is wanting to go into industry.

I am very glad that you will continue to push for the share of Yenching in future scientific training in Christian Institutions in China. I hope that graduate work can again be regarded as our natural field. It needs pushing from your end, for we do not have enough prestige of experience and achievement in our small group here to carry the necessary weight.

Your news of the existence of a committee in Peking looking forward to the restarting of Yenching was very interesting and encouraging. The reason for my suggesting a Science College Committee rather than a general University Committee was partly that Bill and I seemed to be somewhat ahead of the group here in discussing plans, partly that we had special problems to consider in the way of obtaining of apparatus and supplies, and partly that comparatively speaking the personnel problems envisaged are so much simpler than for the rest of the University, so that it is easier to start. But the situation has changed since I wrote then,--for instance, Bill and I will not be available for some time. In line with your letters I will have a chat with Y.P. before he leaves for the States, and see whether measures of a more general nature cannot be set in motion.

Our most recent news from Peking--via a pastor who recently came out--is that Leighton and Houghton are in good health, able to see friends once a week, to get in books, and to get food cooked and sent in daily from Norwegian nurses nearby. We regard the news published by the Hsin Hua Je Pao that they had suffered a nervous breakdown as untrue.

You will be glad to hear that Kuan Chao Chih was discharged from the hospital much earlier than we had feared. He is now free from TB and is rapidly gaining strength. He has taken a half-load, and is lecturing again with his usual excellence.

I am sorry to say there is no recent news about Tsai Lu Sheng. But comprehensive news about all the friends in Peking says that they are in good health, some teaching in Fujen (for instance Hsu Hsien Yu, J.C. Li) others staying at home (Wu Lei Chuan, Lu Chih Wei). T. C. Chao is Priest in the Anglican Cathedral. Yenching campus is now said to be the HQ of a "North China Natural Resources Investigation Commission." You will know that Robert Chao and his wife and family came through a short time ago. Robert and his wife are working for the Government organization which takes care of American aviators here. Both in responsible positions.

The ten million dollar campaign has succeeded well. Mainly owing to YP's energy. But unfortunately YP has recently antagonized many people by careless or tactless remarks or attitudes. So that there is a good deal of criticism by alumni. YP is too American and too little Chinese in dealing with some of them, or outside people. He is extremely good on the business and organizational side of running the University, but weak on understanding people.

Wu Chi-Yu hoped to go to the States as Yenching's representative. Having failed in the election, he is bitter and will not cooperate with YP. It is rumored that he plans to leave here. We are trying to get back Han Ching-Lin. He is very necessary for our smooth running. We also want to get JB Tayler and Kung Lan-Chen to return as soon as they can. Shen T'i-Lan, recently appointed as Chief Secretary, is a very good man, and should help us a lot. Mrs. Mei has done excellent work in promoting the work of her department, and has already put the publishing work--pamphlets, charts, etc. on a sound financial self-supporting basis. But she is more unpopular than before. Of course such problems always arise, and we are fortunate in having level-headed people like Mr. Ma Chien around to keep things running smoothly.

Chang Tsung-Ping is doing very well. Chen Shang-Yu has done well as Part-time Registrar. But the Physics Department has suffered greatly, so I must insist that Shang-Yi come back next semester to full-time work in Physics.

Within this last month the students here have been more active than at any time since 1939. First an unfortunate incident in which policemen beat some local students brought out the smothered resentment against undemocratic procedures, and the students, in defiance of orders from the government, combined to march to the Provincial Government and present a set of five demands, including "Habeas Corpus" and other people's right. The Provincial Governor--Chang Chun, one of the best statesmen in China--handled the matter well, and agreed to the demands of the students as reasonable, and so no further demonstration occurred.

Soon after the Government, at the pressure of American representatives in Chungking, began the reforming of the Army, and called for 100,000 student volunteers. Gradually throughout the country there came a vigorous response. From the Universities here several hundreds of students have volunteered. Cheeloo alone provided about 150 students, for interpreters, air force, or volunteer expeditionary force. The lists are not yet closed. We all hope that the Government plan will really make use of the students who have joined up. Last year a similar plan ended in fiasco.

The Presidents of the Five Universities, combining with non-Christian Colleges, have sent to the Government a manifesto suggesting total conscription rather than volunteering, and offered to turn the Universities into training establishments for wartime needs. This is what some of us have desired for a long time, and I earnestly hope that it is put into effect. Each department has been asked to submit curricula of wartime courses. If only this step had been taken five years ago it would perhaps have saved the present military disaster. There is a good deal of fear that the government does not really have any adequate plan to use all who wish to serve, and also on some sides that the KMT may ~~not~~ take advantage of these moves to strengthen the party rather than the nation. But it is realized that in time of national danger party considerations have to be put second.

A little more news about people. Grace Boynton has been ordered to complete rest by the doctor, since she was getting weaker under the continual strain. She is improving very slowly. She has previously been ordered to proceed on furlough in the spring. Probably you know that. Albert Hauske is doing an excellent job

0818

as Controller, but looks in poor health from overwork. Y.P. is in good health and spirits. Lui Hui Ching is proving a very good dean of Women, and Wei Yung Ching has^{worked} himself thin in doing splendidly as Dean of Discipline. He has an excellent understanding of the students, and they like and respect him. He has been asked to head up training of workers in relief and rehabilitation for the UCR and possibly later the UNWRA. He has not accepted yet, but it is unlikely that after finishing this semester he wants to go. It is very much in line with his previous training and experience. That would leave us a difficult problem in finding someone to take his place.

I am troubled to know who should act as Dean of Science after I leave. Shang Yi is the most probable man, but some of his relationships with Deans and Chairmen of other Universities are not very good, and cooperation is an essential. Chang Tsung Ping is a very good fellow--efficient and cooperative--but young as I am for the job, he is even younger. I am going down to Chungking soon and will talk over this and other problems with Bill Band. Bill is due to leave for England in February.

I still carry some work for the C.I.C.--now as chairman of the International Committee, which allocates the funds raised in other countries--especially USA-- for the CIC. Occasionally this makes me very busy. But I am in excellent health. The doctor has recently pronounced me 100% normal. Best wishes to all your family.

Nancy, Peter, and the baby (Joan) are all well.

/s/ Ralph Lapwood

Copies to
CSM
CAE
CHC
MCoookingham

Copy by mee

08 19

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Nancy, Peter, and the baby (Joan) are all well.

/s/ Ralph Lapwood

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0820

November 29, 1944

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

Dear Dr. Mei:

It has been in my thinking that I should write you and clarify the situation as now exists in our office. You have alluded to the question of division of responsibilities in our office and it would seem that all of the administrative correspondence regarding staff and personnel, the minutes of your meetings should be addressed to Mr. Earle Ballou, the Executive Secretary. All matters referred to finances and the budgets should be addressed to the undersigned.

Had I known in 1941 what I was facing in the responsibilities involved in the situation I have occupied in the last three years I would have very definitely refused to consider it under those circumstances. In the fall of 1943 I was asked if I would continue the then existing situation for the duration of the war, to which I gave a most emphatic "no." We are, therefore, now equipped with an executive secretary who has been familiar somewhat with the operation of Yenching University in Peking and has remarkably fine and broad China experience. The working into the intricate administrative problems will come in time and we are sure it will be for the betterment and uplift of the entire group.

I have been wishing that I could write you more emphatically regarding the money situation in the United States and trust that there will be sufficient clarity between United China Relief in Chungking and New York and our office so that we will know what is actually happening. Dr. Fenn's leaving the Colleges has created a vacuum which it is very difficult to fill.

I have had a long conference with Mr. Dwight Edwards and when he returns to New York the latter part of December will see him again. He was one of your original committee to start activities in Chengtu and gave me a very clear picture of developments. He was with us one day at the Princeton-Yenching Executive and Finance Committee meetings and gave an exceedingly fascinating talk.

It has been my wish for some time that it would be possible for you to come to America and make contact with the Board of Trustees as that would do more to inspire their thinking than anything else which is possible to do. Dr. Y. G. Chen has done an especially good piece of work with the Nanking Trustees and with our Planning Committee, and he is now traveling westward following the same general procedure with the Nanking constituency. He will be back again in New York before returning to China in the spring. A similar situation developing with you would be of infinite value at the present time. It has been my earnest hope that some such arrangements as were made for Nanking would occur at Yenching, although from what I learn you are greatly needed on the field.

I wish to thank you for the good letter you wrote in response to my communication regarding the attitude of the Trustees and the funds available. It has been a source of very keen regret to me that at least one or two of the staff from Yenching repatriated on the GRIPSHOLM could not find opportunity to go to Chengtu. Miss Bering has been willing almost from the beginning, but it is exceedingly difficult to secure passports for a woman. Last April we were able to get passports for an American woman going to Ginling who sailed by way of Portugal. The last we heard of her was from

0821

Dr. Mei

- 2 -

11/29/44

South Africa, and with experiences like that we are rather reluctant to urge anyone to go to China. Had one of the male staff been available, I am sure, that we could have made some sort of an arrangement earlier in the year. As a result you have been compelled to carry the burden of the load and from my own position I can understand something of the responsibility which has been yours. It would have been especially valuable to have had a person fresh from contacts with the Trustees and our office return to China, but there is no need of talking further on something which was not possible.

I recall that you alluded to the progress being made on the campaign which Dwight Edwards informed us was within \$2,000,000. of reaching its goal. I think that I alluded to the entanglements which sometimes occur in situations of that kind and my concern was simply due to an experience which in another institution, as well as one in Yenching at Peking, caused exceedingly difficult feeling for a while. In fact the one at Yenching years ago created a situation which was exceedingly difficult to heal. Apparently you have used unusual sagacity in dealing with this situation which is all to your credit.

We have heard frequently about the efforts to cooperate at Chengtu and after many reports have been received, we are convinced that the future holds the answer only to the extent that there is definite Christian cooperation in Colleges which are in close contact with each other.

I have had a letter from Yung Ch'ing Wei enclosing a budget for US\$1,300. The McBrier Committee has in general approved this, but the Committee was somewhat apprehensive lest the work which the Foundation is designed to do becomes overshadowed in general routine of administration. May I say that the Committee is very sympathetic and would welcome an opportunity to do more for the religious work on the campus. The program which was laid out, of course, cannot be considered a part of the McBrier Foundation, but the Committee is willing to take such proportions as are set forth in #1 and #2 of Dr. Wei's communication. I am writing to Dr. Wei and telling him that if he will give us the proper distribution of his time as divided between administration and/or teaching as over against the religious work, we will give authorization to draw the amount from the McBrier Foundation Fund. I find that we have not cabled you regarding the action on this budget and so a cable is going today.

With sincerest personal regards, I am

Most cordially yours,

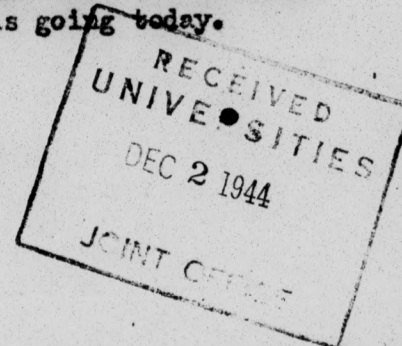
C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

LATER: Since dictating this letter a cable has been received through Dr. Lemmig Sweet stating that you have been appointed as the Representative of Yenching to come to the United States under the auspices of the State Department. I am delighted to hear this and look forward with great anticipation of seeing you.

C. A. E.

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next mail



0822

November 30, 1944

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

Re: Yung Ch'ing Wei and
Shipments to China

Dear Dr. Mei:

In other ways I have about answered your letter of August 4th which came to hand in September but was held pending the meeting of the McBrier Committee the minutes of which have just been distributed. I have written you in another letter the attitude of the Committee which need not be repeated here. It is perfectly in order for you to give us a memorandum regarding Dr. Wei's salary and we will reimburse the field for whatever proportionate share the McBrier Fund should stand. I did not tell you before that the Committee felt that if Dr. Wei's time could be applied entirely to religious duties they would be very sympathetic in granting a proportionate amount of the salary involved. At Peking one-half of Dr. Wei's salary was consumed by the McBrier Foundation account. It would be better if more of his salary could be absorbed from this source. In the past, the Committee has been very critical of the efforts at Peking to use the McBrier Fund for regular budget expenditures and thus with the sympathetic attitude which the Committee now has it would seem advantageous to use as much of his time in the religious program as possible.

I am glad that you have not lost sight of the staff members who came through from Peking and that the matter of reimbursements for salary for these people is still under consideration. It takes quite a little time to approve these matters here in the States, so as soon as it comes to hand the better it will be. I am greatly interested in the second sentence of the third paragraph on page 2 of your letter of August 4th. One of the alternate parties of your wrestling match has been a thorn in the flesh for many years. I sympathize with you deeply.

I am glad that the material which was sent out by Vice President Wallace was received all right, but I regret to say that the seventy-five pounds of books which were reported to have been sent out recently were not sent as scheduled. We hope they will be forwarded very soon.

As we are doing a large amount of work in rehabilitation of libraries and as we know of several sources where it will be possible to get funds for new books in the post-war period it seemed best to make this special shipment directly to West China where the equipment can be used by all of the Universities. We are daily making further efforts to get shipments through but it is very difficult. Further than that we do not know how, if or when they will get through. It would seem best for us to make a trial shipment and first learn the success of the effort.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next mail

0823

REC'D
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NOV 30 1944
JOINT OFFICE

0824

343.5261

November 30, 1944

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

Dear Dr. Mei:

Your letter of September 13th came to hand and has been distributed to other members of the staff. May I refer to the various items requiring an answer seriatim.

Liao Tai Chu's Scholarship. We have not had a decision from Columbia regarding Mr. Liao's scholarship but will let you know as soon as possible.

Wang Yang's Scholarship. We thank you for your warning in this situation and have taken steps accordingly. In no case should we act without full approval and authority of the College in China.

Faculty need in Peking. We are greatly pleased to learn of this additional help received from the Ministry of Education for special assistance for faculty in Peking. You have ways of handling these things with which we are not familiar and we are grateful for this cooperation.

The \$10,000,000 Financial Campaign. Elsewhere we have learned that the full \$10,000,000 has been raised for which we congratulate you most heartily. It is my understanding that the inspiration and drive was supplied by Dr. Y. P. Mei, and consequently you are to accept the greater portion of these congratulations. I hope that the Trustees at the next meeting will have something fitting to say about it.

Alumni Interest. It is indeed impressive as well as indicative of the Yenching spirit to read of the purse of \$80,000 raised for Mr. Wu Lei-chuan. We praise God that this spirit prevails and that it is the manifestation of the living spirit of the Master.

Harvard-Yenching Institute Grant of LC\$150,000. This has suffered a natural death as I understand it and we will not endeavor to resuscitate it until a more favorable opportunity.

Special Committee Cable of US\$4,000. In our effort to convey a message from the Reconstructed Administrative Committee we failed to give sufficient information. If you will re-read my letter of July 24th bringing together the last two full paragraphs on page 1, I think it will make better sense. In other words the \$4,000 was to be made available for the group referred to in the third from the last paragraph, page 2, of your letter of October 4th. I am sorry that we did not make this clearer.

*for the University
and the \$20,000.00*

U.C.R. Grant to Yenching University for 1943-44. The method of computing the \$95,000 by United China Relief was to add together the \$75,000 appropriated for repatriation which was held in the United States. I do not know that this answers your question adequately.

I notice somewhere in your correspondence you call attention to the

0825

Dr. Mei

- 2 -

11/30/44

number of communications which you received from our office. I thoroughly sympathize with you and realize what a burden this must be. I hope I can trust you with a secret which is to the effect that I cannot myself do justice to all of the correspondence which flows over my desk. I find myself utilizing the time commuting back and forth from New York, lunch hours and my Secretary has added "bedtime hours." With this experience one might think that we would endeavor to cut down on effusions and I must admit that there is a middle course somewhere which we should endeavor to find.

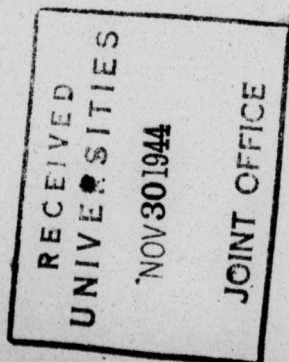
With best wishes, I am

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next Clipper



0826

November 30, 1944

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

Re: Harvard-Yenching Institute

Dear Dr. Mei:

I have been hoping to get a definite report from the Harvard-Yenching Institute as to the action upon various reports submitted by the Colleges.

I received your letter enclosing a copy of that sent to Dr. Elisseeff and found out that they had likewise received their copy of the report and that it would be presented to the Trustees on November 8th. Those minutes have not been written up as yet and probably will not be in our possession before the middle of December.

Insofar as I can find at the present time there was no criticism of the Yenching report, but there was nothing done about the \$150,000 request which, I believe, is just as well. The Trustees were gracious enough to guarantee the same amount of income from Restricted Funds as in the past, although it appears that the income will not be sufficient to cover the full amount of \$85,000 required for all of the Colleges.

It is quite possible you will be here for the meeting of the Board next fall and after you arrive plans may be consummated whereby you may meet the Trustees of the Institute in this vicinity. It can then be determined what, if any, further steps, be taken toward contacting the Institute itself.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
Via China Clipper

0827

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
NOV 30 1944
JOINT OFFICE

0828

W F W W W W W W W W

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

December 2, 1944
(dictated December 1)

Re: Drs. Li and Hsu.
Dr. Mei's State Department appointment.
Return of Dr. Sailer, Miss Speer and Miss Boring.

Dear Dr. Mei:

I sent you a cable yesterday afternoon regarding the return of Dr. Li Hui-lin (and Dr. Hsu Peng-cheng.) After writing you about this man not so many days ago, further conversations and correspondence made it clearer than it had previously been to my own mind that arrangements for return travel were likely to be much prolonged. Apparently it may take anywhere from two weeks to six months actually to get people started back to China. In case you want Dr. Li he would be glad to think of finishing his work at the University of Pennsylvania as soon as possible and going in the spring. From what Miss Boring and Stanley Wilson write me about Dr. Hsu, the same would appear to be the case with him. But if they are going in the spring it may take a long while to clear them with the authorities who have to consent to their leaving this country and provide them with passage. Of course we do not want to prejudice in any way any decision the University makes in any case. The letters which I have seen from Mr. Lapwood and Dr. Chang certainly suggest that the University wants them back. What we therefore need is authoritative word from the Head of the administration, and so I asked for a cabled reply in order to save time.

We are delighted at the word which came in a cable to UCR from Lennig Sweet that you have been nominated for one of the State Department Cultural Exchange appointments. A rumor that something like this might be in the wind reached us several weeks ago. We wondered then how you could be spared, but we were not thinking in terms of your being able to stay through most of this academic year before starting for America. The fact that you will not be there next autumn makes all the more imperative that we should do everything we possibly can to get some of the other people back before that time. There has been no chance recently to consult with Ran Sailer or Marnie Speer, but I am sure we can count on them (barring accidents at present unforeseeable) as well as a certain amount of cooperation by those who control passports. Miss Boring too, even earlier if our government authorities are willing.

The added information in the cable that you expected to announce the success of the ten million dollar campaign also calls for enthusiastic congratulations. It seems as if Yenching set the way for others of our colleges too, even though you may have been far more successful than most of them can be. Certainly you have demonstrated in a remarkable manner an ability to help yourself. May God help you all the more on that account! I have just seen this morning a letter to Mr. Corbett from Mr. Tang of the China News Service showing how what you have done there has aroused Yenching people here to do something in your support. With a man as energetic and resourceful as he is I think there is an excellent chance of the goal he has set being reached by or soon after December 8.

Several of these items will be cheering news for the Board of Trustees, which meets this afternoon. It is a special meeting to act on the Plan for Greater Unity, and we are going to have the narrowest kind of a squeeze to muster a required three-quarters affirmative vote of the total Board membership.* This is not because anyone on the Board is opposed to the Plan, but simply because it is very difficult to get eighteen people as busy and as scattered as these folks are together in one place at the same time. We may not be able to do it even so. Dr. Gamewell, eighty years old, comes up from Philadelphia and Mrs. Avann returns from California earlier than expected and comes specially from Chicago in order to be here. The loyal interest of practically everybody connected with the Associated Boards whom I have encountered so far is one of the fine things about work in this office.

Via China clipper.
c.c. via regular mail. EHB:mec

Very sincerely yours,

Karle H. Lau

0829

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
DEC 4 1944
JOINT OFFICE

0830

燕京大學

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

BALLOU

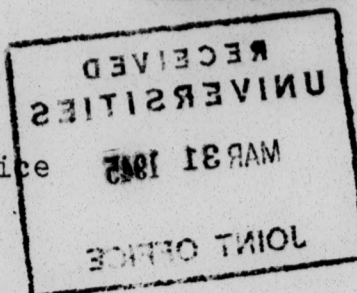
REC'D 2/8

ANS'D 3/9

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YPM/PC/244

Mr. Earle H. Ballou
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, 11.



December 6, 1944

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Day before yesterday we received your letter of October 25 inclosing a copy of your circular to the Chengtu Presidents of October 23 and a copy of Dr. Corbett's mimeographed letter of October 19. Since my return some 3 weeks ago, I have sent to the Office quite some material either addressed to yourself or to Mr. Evans. I hope it has all reached you duly and I shall not repeat myself.

We are looking forward to receiving Dr. Decker and Dr. Cartwright. I hope they will get here before I leave for America. Dr. Cressy is organizing a meeting of the Council of Christian Higher Education early in April. I have consulted him as to whether I should postpone my trip to America until after the Conference, and he does not feel it would make too much difference. I am thinking of leaving the University and the country sometime in February, provided the present military pressure does not turn into a landslide. In the case of a major catastrophe, I feel I ought to stay on my post and by my people.

Chengtu has just had the pleasure of receiving Mr. Donald Nelson. I believe he is now on his way home. Mrs. Mei and I have also had the personal pleasure of talking to your Congressman Mansfield who has come to China as the President's personal representative.

If you should meet Dr. McConaughy you may tell him that after talking with him I took a 3-week trip to Lanchow and raised 2-3 million dollars. We are now definitely over the top.

I have heard of Lang Gilkey spoken about. Apparently he is a young man of the grand category. We certainly need to develop a younger generation in Yenching worthy of its predecessors and able to carry on the old standard. It looks as though Lang is one of them. But that does not need to keep us from perpetrating our original idea. However, there is plenty of time yet, and I hope my trip in America might put this and similar matters a couple of steps forward.

Many thanks for your suggestions regarding the Biweekly Series. We shall try to get them incorporated as far as possible.

Regarding foreign personnel, we have reiterated our conviction in a recent letter, and can only hope that you will do the best for Miss Boring and the rest of them that might decide to come. With regard to Dr. Li Hui-lin and Dr. Hsu Peng-cheng, I shall send you a cable in response to yours tomorrow when we expect the Faculty Executive Committee to take action.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei
Y. P. Mei

0831

BALLOU

REC'D 2/8

AND 3/9

燕京大學

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGTO
CHENGTO CHINA

December 8, 1944



YPM/PC/244
CABLE ADDRESS
YENYU

Mr. Earle H. Ballou
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Ballou,

Day before yesterday we received your letter of October 23 including a copy of your circular to the Chengtu Presidents of October 23 and a copy of Dr. Corbett's mimeographed letter of October 19. Since my return home 3 weeks ago, I have sent to the Office quite some material either addressed to yourself or to Mr. Evans. I hope it has all reached you and I shall not repeat myself.

We are looking forward to receiving Dr. Becker and Dr. Garfield. I hope they will get here before I leave for America. Dr. Greedy is organizing a meeting of the Council of Christian Higher Education early in April. I have consulted him as to whether I should postpone my trip to America until after the Conference, and he does not feel it would make too much difference. I am thinking of leaving the University and the country sometime in February, provided the present military pressure does not turn into a landslide. In the case of a major catastrophe, I feel I ought to stay on my boat and be my people.

Chengtu has just had the pleasure of receiving Mr. Donald Nelson. I believe he is now on his way home. Mrs. Wei and I have also had the pleasure of talking to your Congressman Mansfield, who has come to China, the President's personal representative.

If you should meet Dr. McGonaghy, you may tell him that after talking with him I took a 3-week trip to Lanchow and raised \$2-3 million dollars. We are now definitely over the top.

I have heard of Lang Gilkey spoken about. Apparently he is a young man of the grand category. We certainly need to develop a younger generation. Yenching would be a good place for professors and able to carry on the old standard. It looks as though Lang is one of them. But that does not need to keep us from supporting our original idea. However, there is plenty of time yet, and I hope my trip in America might put this and similar matters a couple of steps forward.

Many thanks for your suggestions regarding the Weekly Service. We shall try to get them incorporated as far as possible.

Regarding foreign personnel, we have returned some conversation in a recent letter, and can only hope that you will do the best for this morning and the rest of them that might decide to come. With regard to Dr. Mansfield and Dr. Han Peng-cheng, I shall send you a cable in response to your letter now when we expect the Faculty Executive Committee to take action.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Wei

2280

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA

YPM/PC/238

December 2, 1944

Mr. Carl A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, 11.

Dear Mr. Evans,

Your letter of August 7 arrived while I was on my Campaign tour. I find that most of the contents have been covered by my previous letters to you.

I only wish to add that the University accounts for 1943-44 have recently been duly audited by Mr. Todnem and Mr. William Small. I believe Mr. Hausske has sent you a copy of the Auditors' Statement. You will see that the University has been fortunate enough to wind up its second financial year with a small balance of \$300,000.

We have at last taken action on the matter of Back Salary payment to the relevant faculty members now in Chengtu and the faculty Annuity plan. I believe Mr. Hausske is writing you or Miss Cookingham on the matter by the same mail.

We have gone way over the top of our \$10,000,000 Financial Campaign. The Campaign Committee is winding up its business and the Board of Directors has caused an Endowment Committee to be organized within the next few weeks.

In answer to the Government call for volunteers among students, 66 students and 6 instructors from Yenching have signed up to join the Army. In addition 3 boys have joined the Burma Expeditionary Force and flown to India. 8 boys have been admitted to the Chinese Air Force and will leave day after tomorrow to receive their training in India and later in America. There was also a call for volunteers to do relief work among refugee children now massed around Kweiyang. 55 students and 3 or 4 faculty members have signed up for that service. Our current resident student body is 370 and staff about 85.

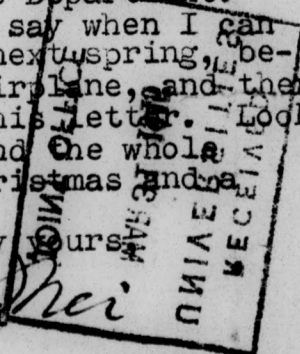
I was elected by the Yenching faculty to be its representative to take a lecture tour to America at the invitation of the U.S. State Department. The present situation in China makes it difficult for me to say when I can leave the University. I hope it will be possible sometime next spring, between February and April. I hope to be able to travel by airplane, and therefore ~~taxable~~ to see you not too long after you receive this letter. Looking forward to seeing you and Mr. Ballou, and Dr. Corbett and the whole Office staff. In the meantime our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Y. P. Mei

cc. A.C. Hausske

Thanks for cable re McBrier fund
appropriation and anniversary greetings.



0833

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGTO
CHENGTO CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENYU

YFM/PC/238

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

Dear Mr. Evans,

Your letter of August 7 arrived while I was on my campaign tour. I find that most of the contents have been covered by my previous letters to you.

I only wish to add that the University accounts for 1943-44 have recently been fully audited by Mr. Totham and Mr. William Small. I believe Mr. Haskins has sent you a copy of the Auditors' Statement. You will see that the University has been fortunate enough to wind up its second financial year with a small balance of \$300,000.

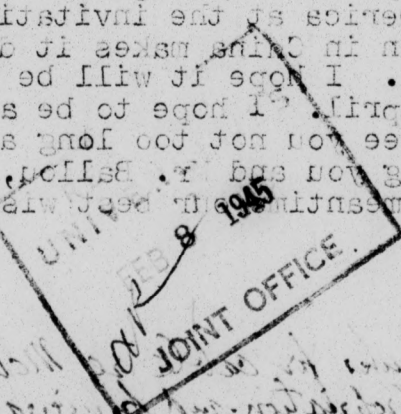
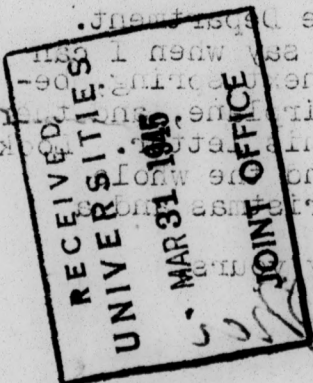
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We have gone way over the top of our \$10,000,000 Financial Campaign. The Campaign Committee is winding up its business and the Board of Directors has caused an Endowment Committee to be organized within the next few weeks.

In answer to the Government call for volunteers among students, 85 students and 6 instructors from Yenching have signed up to join the army. In addition 8 boys have joined the army expeditionary force and flown to India. 8 boys have been admitted to the Chinese Air Force and will leave day after tomorrow to receive their training in India and later in America. There was also a call for volunteers to do relief work among refugee children now massed around Kweichow. 85 students and 8 or 9 faculty members have signed up for that service. Our current resident student body is 370 and staff about 85.

I was elected by the Yenching faculty to be its representative to take a lecture tour to America at the invitation of the U.S. State Department. The present situation in China makes it difficult for me to say when I can leave the University. I hope it will be possible sometime next spring. Between February and April, I hope to be able to travel by air to the States to see you and Mr. Ballou, and Dr. Corbett and the whole staff. In the meantime, best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

cc. A.C. Haskins



4E80

December 8, 1944

Dr. Y. P. Mei
Yenching University
Chengtu (CHINA)

Dear Dr. Mei:

United China Relief has reported to us the cable announcing that you have been elected cultural guest of the State Department and that you will be coming to America in the spring.

This is thrilling news and is something we have been earnestly hoping would come to pass although we did not wish to urge it too strongly, not knowing how you could be spared from the work at Chengtu. Apparently this has been satisfactorily adjusted and the Trustees and all of the members of the Associated Boards welcome you most heartily.

Lists of the faculty, trustees, and alumni in so far as we have them at the present time are being enclosed herewith and another letter is going to Calcutta. In view of prevailing circumstances we did not think it advisable to mail to other places mentioned.

You certainly are to be congratulated on the successful outcome of the campaign to raise \$10,000,000. We should be sending you a cable and possibly we will be able to get it off tomorrow. If not, you will have to take this as a word of deepest congratulation from us in the office and the staff of the Associated Boards, as well as the Trustees of Yenching University.

With sincerest best wishes to you, I am

Cordially yours,

CAE:EW

C. A. EVANS

ENC.
VIA: China Clipper
VIA: Next Clipper

(enclosed Yenching Board of Trustees, Yenching College Committee, Yenching former and present faculty members in the U.S. and Canada
Yenching Alumni in the U.S. and Canada.)

(no list attached here - miss Evans has extra.)

0835

JOINT OFFICE
DEC 15 1944

0836

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燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU
CHENG TU CHINA

CABLE ADDRESS
YENTA
YPM/PC/254

December 11, 1944

Mr. C.A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, 11.

Receipt of letter

*ack
12/27/44*

Dear Mr. Evans,

We are in receipt of your cable as follows:

"MCBRIER COMMITTEE APPROVES WEI 1300 BUDGET PLUS PROPORTIONATE
SALARY APPLICABLE RELIGION PROGRAM WRITING GREETING FOR ANNIVER-
SARY OPENING CARL EVANS."

We are very happy to have this timely greeting from the Trustees on the occasion of our Anniversary. A report on the Anniversary will be sent you separately.

The Yenta Christian Fellowship and those interested in Christian work in the University are all happy to hear of the grant of US\$1300 to meet the budget submitted by Dr. Wei Yung-ching.

Dr. Lennig Sweet of the UCR has wired an urgent request for Dr. Wei Yung-ching's service as associate to Dr. Sweet in the UNRRA training program to be organized in Chungking. We feel the matter is so significant that we have to agree loaning Dr. Wei to Dr. Sweet, although Dr. Wei has made a great success and made himself indispensable in Yenching in our religious program as well as Dean of Men.

It is too early yet to say what final shape this new relationship will take between Dr. Wei and Yenching and UCR and UNRRA. But we all hope that the McBrier Fund may consider it possible to continue Dr. Wei's support.

Enclosed is a copy of Dr. Sweet's letter to me which he wishes to have me forward to you.

We are also in receipt of Mr. Earle Ballou's cable as follows:

"IF UNIVERSITY CONTEMPLATES INVITING LIHUILIN HSUPENGCHENG PLEASE
CABLE AUTHORIZATION THEREBY PERMITTING US INITIATE LENGTHY TRAVEL
NEGOTIATIONS EARLE BALLOU"

And we have just cabled back as follows:

"YENCHING DEFINITELY NEEDS HSUPENGCHENG EARLIEST CHANCE PLEASE
NEGOTIATE TRAVEL YPMEI"

Considering the great expenses of travel, etc., we have to limit our request of personnel from America to the very minimum. Therefore

0837

Mr. C.A. Evans

- 2 -

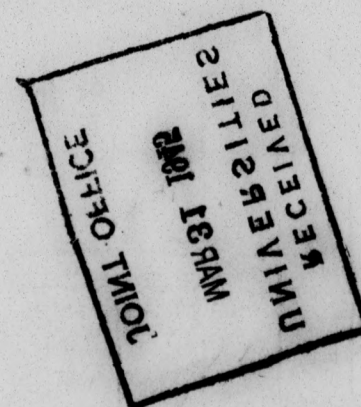
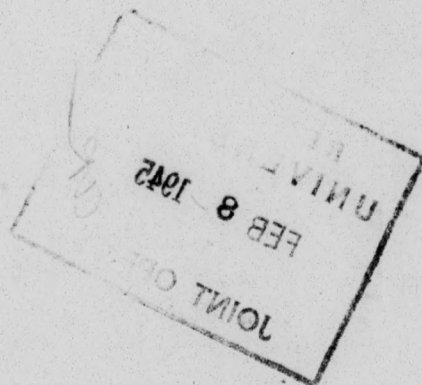
December 11, 1944

we have decided to let the proposition of Mr. Li Hui-lin go for the present. But we do need Dr. Hsu Peng-cheng very badly. We have in our budget the provision of his regular salary and subsidies. We hope his travel may be met by the New York Office, preferably from special donations. But we want Dr. Hsu as soon as possible and at whatever cost. Please transmit this message to Dr. Hsu as our regular invitation to him to return to our faculty.

I hope you will share this letter with Mr. Ballou and save my writing the same thing over again.

Sincerely yours,

Y.P. Mei
Y.P. Mei



0838

December 11, 1944

- 2 -

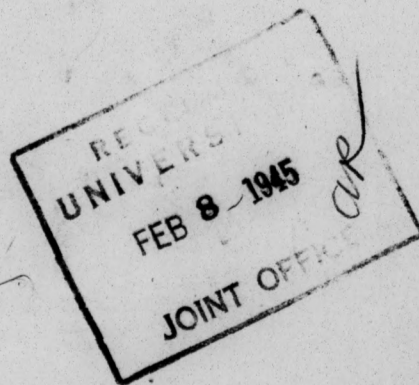
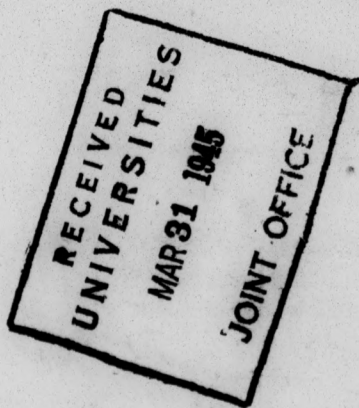
Mr. C.A. Evans

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I hope you will share this letter with Mr. Ballou and save my writing the same thing over again.

Sincerely yours,

Y.P. Mei



9380

c.c. Mr. C. A. Evans

November 27th 1944

Dr. Y. F. Mei
Yenching University
Chongtu

Dear Dr. Mei:

Replying to your letter of November 20th

United China Relief aids in the sustaining fund of the universities and therefore attempts to give what is needed rather than a certain amount of C.N. based on any gold appropriations.

It is true that if exchange keeps at present high level and there is not a run away inflation of prices, UCR will have considerable funds in addition to those which have already been appropriated. The Program Committee has ruled that in such a case use of these funds are to be reviewed and appropriations to be made in the same manner as any other appropriations. In case the faculty of the Associated Boards universities are near-starvation and each university faces a deficit of millions of dollars, I would think it would be perfectly in order for the Associated Boards to ask UCR for a supplementary appropriation.

The basis on which we made this year's recommendations was to take the budget which the universities drew up in March 1944 and to grant this request in its entirety. We first computed the income of each university at the rate of 200-1. This income was that stated in the budget of March 1944. UCR then took up the deficit which would have remained after income from other sources abroad had come in. In the case of Yenching no attention was taken of the CN\$10,000,000 which you have raised in this country.

Although price has risen considerably since March, I would think that there is also every expectation that your income will also rise. Your expectation of an exchange rate of 200-1 is probably conservative.

As you will see from the above we did not take into consideration the relative amount of this sustaining fund which would be received by each university this year in relation to last year but only thought about actual need. I believe that the final break down between the various universities was decided by mutual discussion between Dr. Fenn and the Associated Boards.

0840

To Dr. Y.P. Mei
Yenching University

- 2 -

Nov. 27th 1944

You will be interested to know that our Committee on Education here in Chungking has recommended a grant of ~~CH\$2,000,000~~ for Faculty Aid of the Associated Boards schools. This, if approved in New York, will make no difference between "basic" and "inflation" grants and would mean that we will give Associated Boards colleges a minimum of ~~CH\$2,000,000~~ and a maximum of ~~CH\$2,000,000~~ during the 12 months beginning October 1st 1944.

Personally I favor the Faculty Aid method rather than an additional salary grant because

- 1) it is distributed on the basis of need rather than academic position and
- 2) it makes it more difficult to expand the universities.

The bigger and better university idea is very strong in Chungking, although Yenching certainly has not joined this movement. Previously when some universities got a windfall from UCR they immediately expanded adding more faculty members then they said "you must help us because we are starving". I might note in passing that the Committee on Education passed a minute at its meeting last week recommending that hereafter we make no grants in aid to the Associated Boards toward the salaries of faculty members added in excess of those employed at the beginning of the academic year of September 1944.

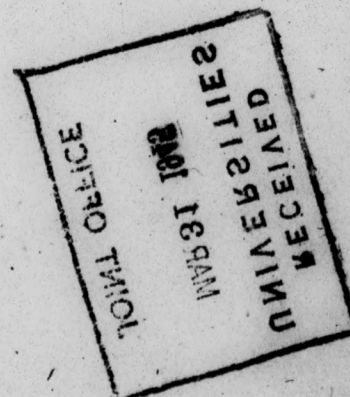
If the above letter does not completely answer your questions of November 20th will you kindly let me know and I will expand further those items on which you desire further explanation.

Sincerely yours,

Lennig Sweet

LS/TSP

c.c. Dr. William Foss
c.c. Dr. E.H. Cressy
c.c. Miss Elsie M. Priest
c.c. Mr. A.C. Hansen
c.c. Mr. C. A. Evans



0841

Nov. 27th 1944

To Dr. Y. P. Mei
Yenching University

You will be interested to know that our Committee on Education here in Chungking has recommended a grant of \$25,000 for Faculty Aid of the Associated Boards Schools. This, if approved in New York, will make no difference between "Basic" and "Initiation" grants and would mean that we will give Associated Boards colleges a minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$50,000 during the 12 months beginning October 1st 1944.

Personally I favor the Faculty Aid method rather than an additional salary grant because

1) it is distributed on the basis of need rather than academic position and

2) it makes it more difficult to expand the universities.

The bigger and better university idea is very strong in Chungking. Although Yenching certainly has not joined this movement. Previously when some universities got a windfall from the government they immediately expanded adding more faculty members than they said "you must help us because we are starving". I might note in passing that the Committee on Education passed a minute at its meeting last week recommending that hereafter we make no grants in aid to the Associated Boards toward the salaries of faculty members added in excess of those employed at the beginning of the academic year of September 1944.

If the above letter does not completely answer your question of November 20th will you kindly let me know and I will expand further those items on which you desire further explanation.

Sincerely yours,

Learning Sweet

cc. Mr. C. A. Evans
cc. Mr. C. C. Hays
cc. Miss Alice M. Hays
cc. Mr. B. H. Cressy
cc. Mr. William Fenn

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
MAR 31 1945
JOINT OFFICE

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
FEB 8 1945
JOINT OFFICE

2480

Excerpts of letter dated December 11, 1944

Copies handed to:
Mr. Ballou
Mr. Corbett
Mrs. Mills

Yenching University in Chengtu
Chengtu, China

December 11, 1944

Mr. C. A. Evans
Yenching University Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, 11

Dear Mr. Evans:

We are also in receipt of Mr. Earle Ballou's cable as follows:

"IF UNIVERSITY CONTEMPLATES INVITING LIHUILIN HSUPENGCHENG PLEASE
CABLE AUTHORIZATION THEREBY PERMITTING US INITIATE LENGTHY TRAVEL
NEGOTIATIONS. EARLE BALLOU"

And we have just cabled back as follows:

"YENCHING DEFINITELY NEEDS HSUPENGCHENG EARLIEST CHANCE PLEASE
NEGOTIATE TRAVEL. YPMEI"

Considering the great expenses of travel, etc., we have to limit our request of personnel from America to the very minimum. Therefore we have decided to let the proposition of Mr. Li Hui-lin go for the present. But we do need Dr. Hsu Peng-cheng very badly. We have in our budget the provision of his regular salary and subsidies. We hope his travel may be met by the New York Office, preferably from special donations. But we want Dr. Hsu as soon as possible and at whatever cost. Please transmit this message to Dr. Hsu as our regular invitation to him to return to our faculty.

I hope you will share this letter with Mr. Ballou and save my writing the same thing over again.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Y. P. Mei

0843

December 26, 1944

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

Dear Dr. Mei:

Enclosed find the original of a certificate from Columbia University indicating that Mr. Tai-shu Liao will be admitted to Columbia, but it does not carry approval for the fellowship. Such applications will be acted upon between now and the first of march.

It is only reasonable to call attention to the fact that there are few exchanges of students with Columbia at the present time as Columbia professors cannot get to China. Confidentially, also there is strong pressure brought to bear on giving scholarships for countries in South America as China in the past has been in a favorable position.

Presumably our office will be advised immediately upon the receipt about the fellowship decision and we will cable you as soon as such information is received.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

Via China Clipper
c.c. via next mail

0844

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
DEC 27 1944
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0845

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JOINT OFFICE

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

Re:--Drs. Li and Hsu.
--Continued travel difficulties.
--Miss Cochran's future.
--Same question re Miss Speer and Dr. Sailer.

Dear Y.P.:

We received in due course your reply to our cabled inquiry about Li Hui-lin and Hsu Peng-cheng. We were, however, quite disturbed by the fact that your reply mentioned only Dr. Hsu. There had been enough correspondence from Mr. Lapwood and Dr. Chang to convince both Dr. Li and Miss Boring--who has been the member of the faculty nearest at hand interested in the case--that the University was fully as much intent on securing his services as those of Dr. Hsu. We are therefore guessing that some change in the University's program or an anticipated difficulty in arranging the budget has made it seem less necessary and desirable to add a man in his field. We also hope that letters may be on the way to us explaining the situation. We estimate that, before this, letters which we wrote you on October 25 and November 22 will have arrived, so that you will have available more details than it was possible to include in the cablegram. Should no word come from you by the middle of January, I will probably cable again, so that we can have a clear picture as to whether or not Dr. Li is wanted, either soon or late. On December 15, Dr. Li wrote me that he had recently received a letter in which Dr. Chang "asked me to get \$500 (or more if necessary, he said) from the Yenching Office in America, the money to be taken out of the expenses of the Biology Department in China, to purchase some instruments such as camera lucida, micrometers, etc. I would like to know from you whether this money will be available when I make preparation for my trip back. It is not always easy to get these things now in the market, and it will be best to look for them early." Authorization for this sort of expenditure must also be received directly from the University by our treasury department, I am told, or at least such an authorization must be sent to us via the person who is to handle the matter.

~~Letter to his secretary~~ Dr. Hsu will probably be finishing his work at Chicago at the end of March. We will then proceed as fast as we can with the negotiations for his return. In fact we will take what preliminary steps are possible before this.

As you probably know by this time, restrictions on civilians leaving this country--except for government appointments to China--have been tightened up to the point where for the present absolutely no one is getting by. This complete close-down was undoubtedly caused by the dangerous turn in the military situation out there a month or so ago. We have reason to hope that things will ease up a bit after another month or so. Frank Cartwright, China Secretary of the Methodist Church, was planning to leave for China early in the New Year on a variety of missions. Things had been proceeding hopefully with him until this latest change, when he was simply informed that nothing could be done for the time being but that he should renew his application two months hence. He had a

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strong case, and if it availed him nothing, others would have even less chance. We were even told that several people who were already aboard ship, presumably waiting for a convoy to be made up, were ordered ashore.

I believe I added a brief postscript to my letter of December 2nd referring to the fact that we finally mustered a sufficient attendance at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on December 1st to take the action legally valid in connection with the Plan for Greater Unity. It now begins to look as if perhaps by the time of the Annual Meeting in May we shall have the United Board ready to begin functioning. That will not mean that all the colleges will have completed, or even approved, their entrance into the new organization, but that four or five of the trustee boards will have been merged and others will be either in process of merging or of working out schemes of cooperation which come short of complete merger. In this latter category it is likely the University of Shanghai, with its Southern Baptist constituency, Hangchow, with its Southern Presbyterian constituency, and St. John's, exclusively Episcopalian, are most likely to fall. This last remark is a strictly personal comment, in no sense a formal or authoritative statement by a member of the staff!

Day before yesterday I had a good talk with Nancy Cochran. She was in town attending a linguistics conference. She is still in the employ of the State Department but allocated to a project being carried on at the University of Michigan. As I understand it, she is working on radio lessons in English, working under a man who is interested in developing methods for teaching English to foreigners which shall be comparable in speed and effectiveness with those that have now been devised for teaching Chinese to Americans. As you know, it seems to be possible by these newer methods, such as are employed at New Haven, where Henry Fenn is on the faculty, to secure better results after four months of intensive application than ever were secured by a whole year of study at a language school in China. Miss Cochran is much interested in the possibilities of these newer methods for teaching English, and thinks that in some way they can and should be brought into the program of our China Colleges. She expects to have more information and recommendations in the matter a few months hence. Just at present she is somewhat torn betwixt two alternatives: first, should she plan to renew her relations with the State Department which expire June 30 and stay on for another year, primarily with this English project in mind (she is, I believe, the only China person in touch with it at present), or should she make her plans in expectation of being wanted back on the Yenching campus? Personal letters from Grace Boynton have informed her that your foreign English faculty is going to be depleted during the next six months. There are two factors which make her hesitate about giving up her present job: first, she is not sure just how much need or desire there may be for her return to Yenching and, second, she does not want to spend five or six months en route. In other words, even if word does come from the University that she is badly needed, she would feel that her time could be better employed at this end than in starting out with the expectation of spending four or five months in getting there, when perhaps a year later conditions might have so changed that she could go through on a normal schedule. We would appreciate--in fact we would like very much to have--your comment and advice on this matter. It may be that you will want to cable. She will have to come to some decision probably by the end of February or March.

It is also likely that Marnie Speer and Ran Sailer will be put under a good deal of pressure by February or early March to renew their contracts in this country. If travel prospects are by then much brighter I think there will be no question as to the course they will steer. If there then appears to be little or no chance of their getting through to Chengtu by early autumn, it will be hard for them to envisage sitting around indefinitely at this end when they might be usefully employed. Hence if you feel there that you must have them regardless of how long it may take them, or when during the year they can hope to arrive, either strongly worded letters or cables will be helpful. I write this of course as of December 30, with no prophetic insight into what may happen anywhere in this disturbed world before you get this.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Via China clipper.

or via regular mail.

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