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Yenching
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Missouri Botanical Gardens
1930-1931

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INDEXED

YENCHING

TRANSFER

August 19, 1930

Mr. George T. Moore, Director,
Missouri Botanical Garden (St. Louis)
Woodshole, Mass.

My dear Mr. Moore:

I attach hereto a confirmation copy of the day letter we sent you this morning. This day letter quotes the cablegram we have just receives from President J. Leighton Stuart of Yenching. In his cablegram President Stuart refers to correspondence and conferences he had with you during the month of June. From his cable we understand that all necessary arrangements have been made for Mr. Li Chien-fan to come to the United States this autumn for study in Washington University in accordance with the plan agreed upon by Dr. Stuart and yourself. The last detail which needs to be cleared is that of getting into the hands of the American Consul in Tientsin the information he requires showing that Mr. Li has been admitted to Washington University. Until this information has been received and accepted by the Consul he will be unable to issue to Mr. Li the credentials necessary to permit his entry into the United States. Therefore, President Stuart asks that you cable this information to the American Consul at once.

The procedure our office has usually followed in transmitting such information as this by cable has been to have the proper representative of the institution to which a student has been admitted notify the Department of State at Washington that they have approved the admission of the student, and the State Department has transmitted this information by cable to the American Consul in Tientsin. I understand that the Consul would hesitate to accept a cable sent by a university or an individual because it would be difficult, and perhaps impossible, for him to ascertain the authenticity of such a message received by wire. Coming from the Department of State there could be no question.

While the Department of State has on several occasions transmitted such cables for us, they have always objected to the procedure as not in accord with their regulations. They have pointed out that if they were to accept such commissions without rigid limitations they would soon be flooded by requests from all quarters. The Department has strongly urged us to make such arrangements for the admission of students early enough to permit the clearance by mail of such details as this.

In the case of Mr. Li's admission, however, there will not now be time to send a letter to the American Consul in Tientsin if Mr. Li is to reach America early enough for the autumn semester. It appears, therefore, that we have no other alternative than to request the State Department to send this message. Perhaps you have already taken steps in that direction

0751

G.T. Moore-2

8-19-50

immediately after receiving our day letter but if not we would appreciate it if you would at once take up the matter. The one to whom we usually write is Mr. Willys R. Peck, Division of Far Eastern Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D.C.

I am not sure what financial arrangements Dr. Stuart may have made with you covering such a request as this. If either your office or the Department of State is involved in expense which you do not have funds to meet, our office will be glad to reimburse you.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

BAG-H

Enc.

P.S. Since the above was dictated the Western Union has informed us that your telegram was forwarded to Woods Hole, Mass. We are, therefore, sending this letter to that place. I hope that this inquiry will not too greatly interrupt the vacation which I presume you are now having.

0752

C O P Y

YENCHING
TRANSFER

June 11, 1930

My dear Dr. Moore:

Following out the conference I had with you at the Gardens last May, I am happy to report that a cable has just been received from Yenching University in reply to a letter of inquiry sent by me, that there is a suitable student available for the coming year and that the general plan meets with the hearty approval of our Biology Department. I feel strongly that if we can put into effect the plans discussed at all, there will be a certain advantage in beginning while the matter is fresh in our minds, and have only wanted to be sure that a good fellowship student could be found.

If it would be possible to make the necessary appropriations taking effect with the coming autumn, I suggest that we proceed on this basis. As then pointed out, it would be quite possible for money to be advanced by Yenching to be repaid when your next year's budget is drafted, if this would simplify matters for you.

I shall arrive in Peking before the end of July which would give time for final decision regarding the individual student. As I am leaving New York on the 18th, it would be quite a help to hear from you before that date if at all possible. Otherwise, could you have a letter for me at my steamer? I am sailing on the S.S. President McKinley, July 4th, from San Francisco.

With pleasant remembrance of my visit to St. Louis and the hope that this will lead to developments of mutual benefit, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. George T. Moore
Missouri Botanical Gardens
St. Louis, Missouri

0753

C O P Y

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

ST. LOUIS

YENCHING

June 14, 1930

TRANSFER

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

Dear Dr. Stuart:

I am in receipt of your letter of June 11th and am naturally pleased to learn that there is a suitable student available for the coming year and that the plan we discussed meets with the approval of the Biology Department. I must confess, however, that you moved a little rapidly for me, since the man from whom I expect to get the money cannot be seen until July. It is barely possible that I may be able to wire you, to your steamer before July 4th, but I doubt this. I haven't the slightest doubt in my own mind that we shall be able to secure the money and, under the circumstances, since Yenching would be willing to advance the traveling expenses, to be repaid by us not later than the first of the year 1931, I see no reason why you should not proceed with the matter.

My understanding is that you will provide a graduate student of Yenching University who will come to us to take his Ph.D. degree and will agree to stay with us for the time necessary to acquire this degree. The minimum number of years for this will be three and whether it will take longer will depend upon the preparation of the student.

We are to provide a fellowship of \$1000 a year, beginning September, 1930, and any money advanced by you is to be repaid out of the first \$1000 made available, in such manner and at such time as you may indicate.

I hope very much that you can provide a student of the type of Mr. Hung and although he may not at the present time be interested in horticulture, that he will be capable of having such an interest aroused, since one object to be accomplished is, upon his return to China to have him represent us there. It would be my hope that he could secure new plants suitable for growing in the United States and that possibly through some cooperative arrangement your University and the Garden could organize exploring expeditions for this purpose.

Registration in Washington University is on Monday, September 22nd.

0754

Dr. George T. Moore

June 14, 1930

- 2 -

Feeling sure that if you send us the right man the arrangement will be to the mutual benefit of the two institutions, and looking forward to receiving the student next fall, I am,

Yours very truly,

/s/ GEORGE T. MOORE
DIRECTOR

0755

Charge to the account of ~~CHINA UNION UNIVERSITIES CENTRAL OFFICE~~

Form 1228 A

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

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

GEORGE T. MOORE DIRECTOR
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
SAINT LOUIS MISSOURI

NEW YORK AUGUST 19, 1950

FOLLOWING CABLEGRAM RECEIVED FROM PRESIDENT STUART OF YENCHING QUOTE
REQUEST MOORE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN CABLE AMERICAN CONSUL TIENTSIN
LI CHIEN FAN ACCEPTED WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY UNQUOTE AIR MAIL LETTER
FOLLOWS

B. A. GARSIDE

YENCHING
TRANSFER

0756

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Woods Hole, Mass
Aug. 20. '30

My dear Mr. Garside.

I found your wire and letter both awaiting me upon my arrival in Woods Hole this afternoon, I having stopped off in Boston a day.

I have written Mr. Peck as head of the Shan School of Botany of Washington Univ. and Director of the Garden, that Mr. Li Chin-fan will be admitted as a graduate student. Bring away from my office, records etc. This is about all I can do. I of course offered to submit any thing further if required, and suggested I could come to Washington if it would facilitate matters.

I gather from your letter there is no point in my cabling the consul at Tientsin. At least I will not do so until I hear from Washington. I may be addressed here for at least the next two weeks and possibly longer. If there is any thing further I can do, don't hesitate to let me know.

I am very truly yours
Lancelotti Moore

0757

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITY
AUG 22 1930
JOINT OFFICE

0758

YENCHING

TRANSFER

August 22, 1930

Dr. George D. Moore,
Woods Hole, Mass.

My dear Dr. Moore,

Thank you for your promptness in dealing with Mr. Li Chien-fan's case. It is indeed a shame to interject such matters into a vacation which at best is too quickly over.

I have taken the liberty of writing a letter to Mr. Peck, expressing the hope that the cable may go forward to the American Consul in Tientsin without delay. Since I am not sure whether the method of meeting the cost of such a cable has been cleared with Mr. Peck I told him that if this had not already been cared for in your letter, our Yenching University office would assume responsibility for meeting this item of expense.

I trust that the State Department will now be able to transmit the cable without delay. If any difficulty should arise in which we might assist, please let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG/G

Secretary

0759

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

August 29, 1930

Mr. George D. Moore,
Woods Hole, Mass.

My dear Dr. Moore:

The State Department in Washington has sent me a copy of the letter they wrote you concerning Mr. Li Chien-fan.

I am interested to note that they suggest you cable directly to the American Consul at Tientsin, and imply that there is no likelihood of his refusing to accept such a cablegram as sufficient evidence on which to base approval of Mr. Li's admission. I hope you have been able, without too great inconvenience to yourself, to send such a cable direct to Tientsin. As I have already stated, if there is any expense in connection with such a cablegram to which the funds you have available for Mr. Li cannot appropriately be applied, our office will be glad to assume such an item of expense.

I am very glad to have this statement from the State Department as a guide to our future policy in dealing with such cases where information must be cabled to the American Consul at Tientsin in order to secure the admission of our Chinese students. It has been my understanding in the past that the Consul would be unwilling to accept cablegrams coming from individuals and institutions through the ordinary channels, due to the fact that it is so easy for anyone to send a cablegram, signing the name of the institution or individual whom he has no right to represent.

I am very sorry indeed that you have been so greatly troubled by this matter during your vacation at Woods Hole.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

0760

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

ST. LOUIS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

YENCHING

September 13, 1930

TRANSFER

Mr. B. A. Garcide
Central Office Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Garcide:

Dr. Moore has asked me to request from you a copy of a catalogue of Yenching University and also a copy of whatever record you may have of students from Yenching who may have been admitted to educational institutions in this country. We wish to know on what basis such students have been admitted and what their standing has been in American universities.

Thanking you, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Mrs) Katherine H. Leigh

Assistant to the Director

0761

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

St. Louis

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

September 13, 1930

Mr. B. A. Garbidge
Central Office Yenching University
180 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Garbidge:

Dr. Moore has asked me to request from you a copy of a catalogue of Yenching University and also a copy of whatever record you may have of students from Yenching who may have been admitted to educational institutions in this country. We wish to know on what basis such students have been admitted and what their standing has been in American universities.

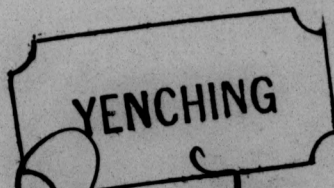
Thanking you, I am,

Yours very truly,

Assistant to the Director

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
SEP 15 1930
JOINT OFFICE

0762



Woods Hole, Mass.
Aug 30 - 30

Dear Mr. Lardner.

TRANSFER

Immediately upon receipt of the letter from the State Department, I cabled the American Consul at Lintani and I hope every thing will now go smoothly.

The expense of the cable will be borne by the U.S. Botanical Garden, as I presume there is nothing further to do, but await some advice concerning the arrival of Mr. Li Chin-fan. I expect to leave for St Louis on Sept 8th. I am
Very truly yours, J. H. Moore

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
SEP 2 - 1930
JOINT

0764

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

September 17, 1930

Mr. J. Moore
Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh,
Assistant to the Director,
The Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Mrs. Leigh:

I have your note of September 13 with its request from Dr. Moore that we send you a copy of a catalogue of Yenching University, and also a copy of whatever record we may have of students from Yenching who have been admitted to educational institutions in this country.

Under separate cover I am sending you copies of two of our Yenching bulletins "Announcement of Courses, College of Natural Science 1929-30" and "Announcement of Courses, Graduate Division, 1929-30". We do not have any up-to-date general catalogue of Yenching University, but I trust these two bulletins will supply the information you need.

We are also sending under separate cover a copy of our "Directory of the Yenching Alumni Association in U.S.A., 1929-30". The Yenching staff members and alumni in America change so rapidly that such a directory as this speedily gets out of date. You will note we have made a number of pencil corrections on the copy we are forwarding you. I trust, however, that this directory will give you a general idea of the number and location of our former Yenching students who are now studying in the United States. You will see that they are distributed quite widely among the leading universities of America. While there have been some exceptions, as a general rule the standing accorded to such students in American universities has been equal to what they would have received if the work done at Yenching had been done in an American university.

As you probably know, Yenching is incorporated under the educational laws of the state of New York and its undergraduate and graduate degrees are conferred under authority of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. For many years Yenching has succeeded in maintaining very high academic standards, and while it is not possible to make an absolutely exact comparison between a university doing its work in China and a university here in America, I believe it is generally recognized that students from Yenching are fully qualified to receive full credit for work done in Yenching when admitted to institutions here in America. Most of the Yenching students who have studied in America have made very fine academic records here.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

0765

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1201 5

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WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

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DL = Day Letter
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1930 DEC 17 PM 12 52

NP342 23=STLOUIS MO 17 1135A

B A GARCIDE .CENTRAL OFFICE YENCHING UNIV=
150 5 AVE=

YENCHING

TRANSFER

INDEXED

PLEASE WIRE ME AT ONCE NAME AND ADDRESS OF CHIEN FAN LIS
UNCLE IN WASHINGTON DC IF YOU CAN POSSIBLY SECURE IT
URGENT=

GEO T MOORE.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

0766

Charge to the account of

China Union Universities

Form 1228 A

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
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NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

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December 18, 1930

George T. Moore,

Missouri Botanical Garden

St. Louis, Mo.

YENCHING

INDEXED

TRANSFER

Unsuccessful attempts obtain name address Chiens uncle Shall we
cable inquiry Peiping

B. A. GARSIDE

0767

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NP181 9=STLOUIS MO 18 943A

YENCHING

1930 DEC 18 AM 11 01

B A GARSIDE=

AN ANSWER DATE MS= 150-5018
TRANSFER

NOT NECESSARY CABLE PEIPING HAVE LOCATED

UNCLE IN WASHINGTON=

GEO T MOORE.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

0768

December 18, 1930

Mr. Y. C. Mei
Director, Chinese Educational Mission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As the only representative of Mr. Chien Pan Li's family in America known to us, and realizing that you will want as full details as we can possibly furnish regarding his affairs since his arrival in St. Louis, the Director has asked me to send you the following report:

Mr. Li, as you probably know, arrived in St. Louis on the evening of October 6th and was met at the train, at the Director's request, by Dr. Woodson, a member of our staff. The next day, October 7th, he reported at the Garden and met Dr. Moore, other members of the staff and the graduate students. He was registered within the next day or so in the Graduate School of Washington University and immediately, after conference with various members of the staff, his schedule was arranged and he settled down to work.

After a day or so he told me that he had decided to move from the room which we had reserved for him into a less expensive room and did so about October 15th, living at the house of Mrs. Helen Leahy, 4244 Shehandeah Ave., where he also took his meals. This is about one block from the Garden. His object in making the change was in order to live more cheaply and thus be able to make summer trips.

I may say here that Mr. Li was a general favorite among the students and in fact was unusually well liked by everyone with whom he came in contact. We have never had at the Garden a foreign student who has been so popular. Almost at once he became especially friendly with Mr. J. A. Moore of Indianapolis who took him sight-seeing throughout the city, on Sunday trips to the country, and took him home to Indianapolis with him for the Thanksgiving holiday. From the first it was recognized by the members of the staff, especially those professors under whom he was taking work, that he had an unusually brilliant mind and while there were certain branches of botany lacking from his earlier training, it seemed that with three prospective years ahead of him there would be no difficulty whatsoever in his filling in the gaps. In fact, everyone here was delighted with him and he fulfilled in every respect the unusual recommendations which we had received from Yenching University and from Professor Hu of the Fan Memorial Institute.

Until about the first of December everything seemed to go quite well with Mr. Li, when he seemed to rather suddenly lose his gaiety and withdraw into himself, becoming very quiet and appearing not to be feeling very well. We, however, attributed ~~it~~ largely to homesickness accompanied by all the natural difficulties of adjusting himself to new conditions, new associates, etc.

0769

On December 11th Mr. Li asked me if he might come to my office and talk to me and we spent an hour discussing his affairs. He complained of severe headaches and the impossibility of concentrating on his work and said several times he feared his brain was failing. Since his left eye seemed to be bothering him, I suggested that he first see an oculist and perhaps a change of glasses would solve the difficulty. I at once made an appointment for him with Dr. John Green, one of the best known oculists of the city and he went to have an examination on Saturday afternoon, the 13th. Dr. Green found that his glasses were not what they should be and gave him a new prescription which he took to an optical company for grinding. Dr. Green tells me that though he was very much depressed on his arrival, after talking together for a while, Mr. Li seemed much more cheerful and even joked with Dr. Green about the American oculist in Peking who it seems had furnished his former prescription.

After returning to the Garden Saturday afternoon, Dr. Edgar Anderson knowing of his depression and thinking to make things more cheerful for him over Sunday, asked him to go home with him for the night and Sunday. He was unable to read or study owing to the drop treatment still affecting the pupils of his eyes. Dr. Anderson reports that Mr. Li was very downhearted and morose and it seemed impossible to rouse him to anything like his usual cheerfulness and fun. On Sunday the two of them, with another of the graduate students took a long walk to Osage Hills, a hilly wooded section of the country, through which the Meramec River flows. On Monday it was still Dr. Green's advice that he not try to use his eyes until his new glasses were ready. He asked me about consulting a neurologist and I told him I would arrange for him to see Dr. Schwab and have an examination whenever he wished. On Monday afternoon Mr. Li suddenly appeared in the door of a classroom where a number of students and a professor in charge were engaged in work and said in a loud voice "Ladies and gentlemen, I have come to the end of my life; I cannot go on!" Dr. Linder, the professor in charge of the class, at once took him to his office and after a sympathetic talk he seemed to regain his self control and went to his room, coming down to dinner that night as usual, though he was extremely nervous and restless.

On Wednesday morning, the 17th, he was to appear for a quiz in one of his courses and did not come. On calling his landlady we were informed that he told her he was going for a walk on Tuesday morning, that she prepared a lunch for him which he took and said he was going to Osage Hills where he had been on Sunday, that he would take the day in the country and see if he would not feel better. Before he left the house, however, he walked back and forth for quite a while, stopping now and then and gazing at his face in the mirror and smoothing his head violently. Then he became very ill and after that was over he said to Mrs. Leahy that he believed he would go to his uncle in Washington until after Christmas. She replied that it would cost him probably \$65 and that she would be glad to have him here for Christmas if he would like to stay. He then replied he would stay here and left the house saying he would go to Osage Hills.

In a few moments, however, he came back and took with him his suitcase, saying that there were books in it which he would take to the University. On investigating Wednesday morning we found that he did not come home Tuesday night but Mrs. Leahy had not been alarmed, thinking he had perhaps gone again to Dr. Anderson's home. As soon as we began to realize that he had disappeared I went to the Manchester Bank and found that he had withdrawn fifty dollars. He went to a teller who had never waited on him and after leaving the window with the money stood for a long time at the door of the bank looking out. His behavior was so strange that two of the tellers watched him and finally saw him take an eastbound car from in front of the bank. This gave me the idea that he had gone to Union Station and following him just twenty-four hours later, I was able to find a ticket agent at the station who remembered selling a ticket to Washington to a man answering his description, the previous day. This ticket seller told me he had a "red cap" carrying his bag which was longer than American suitcases and was black and smooth in appearance. I interviewed two of the "redcaps", one of whom said he had noticed him because he was Chinese and his bag looked foreign. I learned that the next Pennsylvania train to Washington left at six o'clock and was due to arrive there at 6:35 on Wednesday evening. I returned to the Garden at once and telephoned to you, getting your address from the Chinese Legation in Washington.

I must go back a little and say that the first thing we did was to notify the police department, and a full report of everything we knew of his movements was given to them, including a full description of his appearance, clothing, etc. A report from the police this morning states that they have been able to find out nothing about him, no trace of him in any institution in the city or the surrounding county.

After receiving your telegram stating that Mr. Li did not arrive in Washington on the 6:35 train Wednesday night, we reported his disappearance to the Federal Immigration Department here and were told they would have their Chinese interpreter make a thorough search of the Chinese quarter, and would put a man on the case to learn from the train crew whether Mr. Li left here Tuesday night on the Pennsylvania six o'clock train. I have just talked with the immigration officer again and he says they have nothing definite to report as yet. The train which we thought Mr. Li had taken does not go straight through to Washington but divides at Harrisburg, Pa. Since, so far as we can discover, he did not buy Pullman accommodation but simply a railroad ticket he would probably have been compelled to leave the day coach and take another one in order to go on the Washington section. In buying his railroad ticket, Mr. Li (in case it was he) first ordered it and then did not take it but asked to be excused while he sat down for a while, saying "Wait, I see, I see". He then came back to the window and paid for the ticket. It was only this fact and the fact that he was of foreign appearance that made it possible for the ticket seller to remember the occurrence. While it may possibly be a coincidence, it scarcely seems probable that another Chinese man of exactly the same appearance and same baggage would have been buying a ticket to Washington at an hour which exactly corresponded to the time it would have taken Mr. Li to go from

the Manchester Bank to the Union Station.

A great many of the details written above are sent you in the hope that they will give you an insight into Mr. Li's mental condition. He told me that he had had a nervous breakdown a few years ago which it took a year to recover from. I asked him all the questions I could think of that would bring out the cause of his trouble. He said that the study of German seemed very difficult and on reporting this to the professor in charge he was told he could give up German until a later time. I tried in every way to be sympathetic and to make him feel that we would do everything in our power to help him. His obsession in talking to various people seemed to be that he had accepted this fellowship here under false pretenses, that he had disgraced his family, Yenching University and the Garden and that he must get back to China where he would be "sent to jail for the rest of his life". He declared that his brain had given out and he could not think. In spite of this he has been making the highest marks in his classes and his record here is of the best. I told him this but over and over he would insist that he was a fraud and when it was found out he would be deported. We have interviewed practically all of the graduate students and they all report the same general trend to his conversation for the last few days prior to his disappearance. He was very happy over the fact that Mr. Moore of Indianapolis had agreed that his son and Mr. Li and one of the other students could take a car of his next summer for a collecting trip through the south, and all his plans were for the future, spending a part of the time at the Arnold Arboretum, in Massachusetts, etc. So I think it will be evident to you that he has suffered a sudden and severe nervous breakdown. Whether or not he was sufficiently in command of himself to change trains at Harrisburg, or to keep from getting off the train at Baltimore, we, of course, cannot know. It seems that both possibilities are worth investigating.

I hope you will feel assured that if you should decide to come to St. Louis we will aid you in every possible way to locate your nephew, and in any case will report to you at once by telegraph any clues that can be discovered here. We are all distressed over this sad affair and wish to extend our greatest hope that you may be able to find Mr. Li and that he may be speedily restored to health.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh

Assistant to the Director

0772

3 5 5 1 5 2 00 21

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
DEC 29 1930
JOINT OFFICE

0773

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL - Day Letter
NM - Night Message
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1201 S

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Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City

YENCHING

1930 DEC 19 PM 3 50

NT90 50=STLOUIS MO 19 235P

B C GARCIVE, CENTRAL OFFICE YENCHING UNIVERSITY=
150 FIFTH AVE=

INDEXED

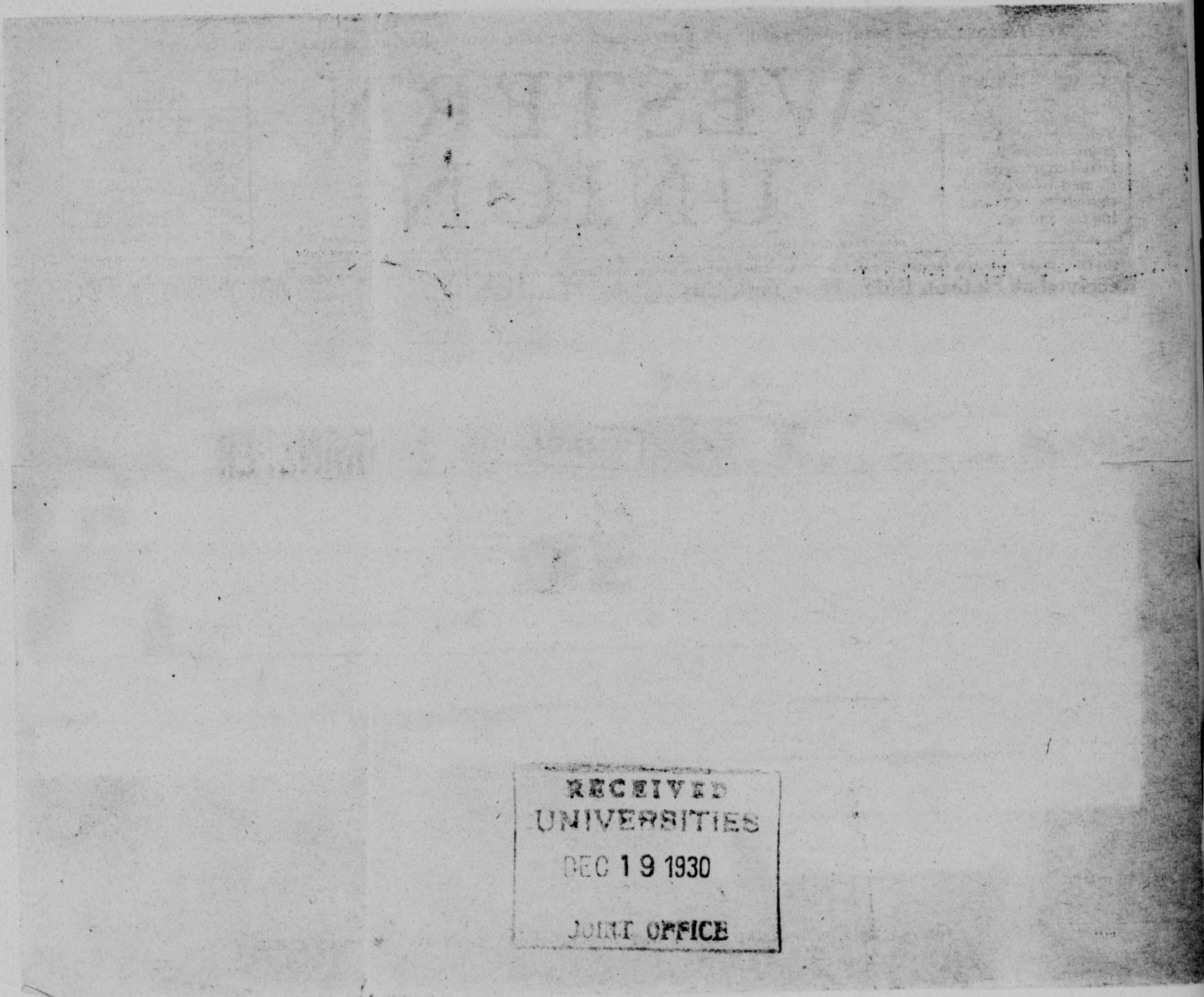
TRANSFER

MR LI MISSING SINCE TUESDAY BODY FOUND TODAY APPARENTLY
SUICIDE DUE TO TEMPORARY INSANITY HAVE BEEN IN
COMMUNICATION WITH HIS UNCLE Y C MEI CHINESE EDUCATIONAL
MISSION WASHINGTON DC SINCE WEDNESDAY AND AM WIRING HIM TO
COME TO STLOUIS STOP ANY COMMUNICATION TO PRESIDENT STUART
SHOULD BE THROUGH YOUR OFFICE=

GEORGE T MOORE.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

0774



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PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL - Day Letter
NM - Night Message
NL - Night Letter
LCO - Deferred Cable
NLT - Cable Night Letter
WLT - Week-End Letter

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

YENCHING

1930 DEC 23 PM 5 54

AB277 36 NL=STLOUIS MO 23

B A GARCIDE, CENTRAL OFFICE YENCHING UNIVERSITY=

150 5 AVE NEWYORK NY=

TRANSFER

UNCLE ARRIVED SUNDAY LEFT MONDAY EVENING WILL ADVISE US
LATER AS TO WHETHER BODY MAY BE BURIED HERE OR MUST GO TO
CHINA HE WAS SATISFIED THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE HAD BEEN
DONE AND IS WRITING STUART=

GEO T MOORE.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

0776

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Form 1228 A

Charge to the account of CHINA UNION UNIVERSITIES CENTRAL OFFICE

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

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

YENCHING

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 23, 1930

GEORGE T. MOORE
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
ST LOUIS MISSOURI

TRANSFER

HAS UNCLE TAKEN CHARGE LYCHINGFAN BODY WHAT DISPOSITION MADE WE WILL CABLE YENCHING

B.A. GARSIDE

0778

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

December 23, 1950

Dr. George T. Moore,
Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Dr. Moore:

Needless to say, we have all been greatly shocked and grieved to learn of the death of Mr. Li Chien-fan. It is indeed sad that a life so filled with promise should have ended so tragically. We appreciate too the fact that you yourself must have been placed under a great strain as a result of this most unfortunate affair.

Our office is cabling a report of the matter to Yenching University, but before sending the cable we thought it desirable that we obtain as much information as possible as to the way in which Mr. Li's uncle, Mr. Y. C. Mei has handled the matter, and the disposition that has been made of Mr. Li's body. Therefore we sent you this morning the wire of which a confirmation copy is enclosed.

With the season's greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG- h

Enc.

0779

return to *W.H.S.*

YENCHING

December 24, 1930

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University
Peping, China

INDEXED

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. Stuart:

By this time you have undoubtedly heard of the tragic death of Mr. Li. I am enclosing copy of a letter to his uncle in Washington which gives the history of the case up to the time of the finding of the body. His uncle, Mr. Y. C. Mei, arrived in St. Louis on the 21st of December and seems to feel that it may not be necessary to send the body back to China. He says that several students who have died in this country have been buried here and he thinks that is the thing to do in this case. Mr. Mei expects to take it up with his wife when he returns to Washington and see if she will take the responsibility of saying whether or not burial can take place here. In any case, the body has been properly prepared for shipment and will be held in a receiving vault until we are informed as to just what is to be done.

Mr. Mei tells us that a few years ago Mr. Li had a nervous breakdown and that on another occasion he was found unconscious, so that it is possible his mental condition was the result of some deep-seated trouble.

No student we have had here in years has made a better impression on his instructors. His work was far above the average and everyone of us felt that he was destined to take a very high place in the botanical world. The students received him as one of them; he entered into all their plans for recreation and amusement arranged from time to time and we have no cause for regret through lack of attention paid to him.

Mr. Mei took charge of Mr. Li's personal effects, including his watch, clothing, etc., and his passport was turned over to the U. S. Immigration Officer in St. Louis. Mr. Mei directed that his notebooks and botanical subjects which he had purchased be sent to Yenching University, together with several volumes which obviously belong to your library. We are likewise sending some of his lecture notes and drawings which will give you an idea of the excellent work he was doing. This box is now being packed and will go forward by freight since it is rather heavy and there is no particular need for haste.

Mr. Mei assured me that he would write to you and I am depending upon him to give you his impressions and any additional information that I have neglected to include. I would only ask you to express to Mr. Li's parents the high esteem in which we held their son and our heartfelt regret that his mind became unbalanced to an extent that he did not know what he was doing. I do not need to add my personal regret at the outcome of an experiment from the results of which we both expected so much. Will you please show this letter, with enclosures, to Mr. Hu and to anyone else whom you think should be informed as to

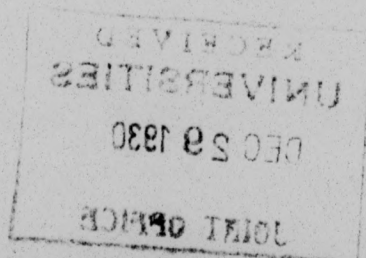
0780

the particulars. I do not feel that I can at this time write more than this single letter, although of course I shall be glad to supply additional information to any who might have the right to request it. I think that after the holidays some of the students will wish to write to Mr. Li's parents, if for nothing more than to express their admiration for him as a student and companion. Their plans for the Christmas holidays in which he had been included are being abandoned out of respect for his absence.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

George T. Moore
Director



0781

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I am,

Yours sincerely,

George L. Moore
Director



0782

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THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

ST. LOUIS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

YENCHING

January 9, 1931

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

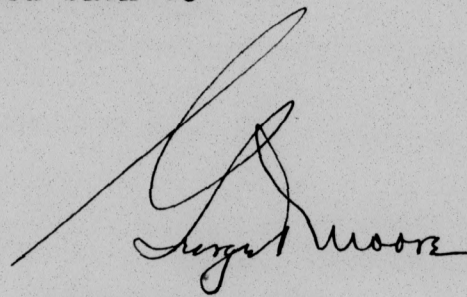
Dear Mr. Garside:

I have to-day received from Mr. Charles R. Crane a check for \$507.00 which Mr. Li reported was the amount advanced him by Yenching University for his traveling expenses to this country. President Stuart some time ago informed me that when this money was received it was to be paid to you and credited to Yenching University. I am accordingly enclosing the check herewith.

We have had no further advice from Mr. Mei at Washington as to the final disposal of the body. All of Mr. Li's personal effects were taken charge of by Mr. Mei, and his books, drawings, notes, etc., were, as instructed by Mr. Mei, shipped back to Yenching University.

I am,

Yours very truly,



George T. Moore
Director.

cc. to President Stuart
Yenching University

\$507. - check encl.

Dep. 1/15/31

0783

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0784

YENCHING

TRANSFER

January 14, 1931

Dr. George T. Moore, Director
Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Dr. Moore:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 9 with which you transmit a check for \$507, being the amount received from Mr. Charles R. Crane in payment of travel funds advanced by Yenching University to Mr. Li Chien-fan to cover the cost of his recent journey from Peiping to St. Louis.

We are at this time transmitting this remittance to the field Treasurer in Peiping, and are informing him of the source and purpose of the gift.

With appreciation of your courtesy in caring for these final details of this most tragical affair, I am

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

CC: Promotional Office

0785

YENCHING

Chinese Educational Mission
TSING HUA UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS
BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION IN U. S. A.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TRANSFER

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

2645 CONN. AVE. N. W.

April 8, 1931

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

My dear Mr. Garside:

I am writing to ask if your office should have received any word from Peiping regarding the disposal of the remains of Mr. Ching-Fan Li, a Yenching graduate, who came to such tragic death at St. Louis last December. My wife who is an aunt of the deceased, recently got a brief cable message from home saying that his mother would want to have the body moved back to China but nothing was said about the arrangements for it. So we wondered if detailed information may have been sent from Yenching University to the authorities of Missouri Botanical Garden through your office. We shall be very much obliged for any information you can give us concerning the matter.

I have heard that President Stuart is now in this country. Will you please tell me his present address and also if he will ^{be} in New York toward the last part of this month.

With kind regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Y. C. Mei
(Y. C. Mei)

0786

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APR 9 - 1931

JOINT OFFICE

0787

more
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

not yet
ST. LOUIS

YENCHING

*point
G. H. L.*
May 4, 1931

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

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside:

Dr. Moore has asked me to write you further concerning the case of Mr. Chien-fan Li who, you will recall, committed suicide here on December 16th. Mr. Li's body is still in the temporary vault of the mortuary at Kirkwood, where it was taken when found. The undertaker wrote to us on April 2nd asking what arrangements were going to be made regarding the disposition of the body and I wrote Mr. Li's uncle in Washington, sending him a copy of the undertaker's letter. This was on April 9th and we have had no reply from Mr. Mei.

In a previous letter from Mr. Mei, however, dated February 4th, he stated:

"Shortly after my return from St. Louis my wife has written home contriving a way, the way that may cause lesser pain, to break the news to Chien-fan's parents. That is, we try to make them believe that the young man died of some disease at a hospital in St. Louis, hoping that this may spare them the greater agony than if the truth were all known to them. The development of such a story would necessarily require a little longer time; hence the decision by Mr. Li's parents with regard to the disposal of his remains will also be somewhat delayed. However I trust we would hear from them in another month, or perhaps a little later; it is also possible that they may cable over direct to your office, or to Yenching office in New York, or to my place when they can decide on the arrangement for it. Meanwhile I presume the casket is kept in a vault at the undertaker's place, as I understood from our conversation then. We should like very much to be informed if it should be necessary to remove it to another place or to have anything done to it."

0788

Dr. Moore felt that you should have this information and would like to know if you have any advice to offer in the matter. I have just called the undertaker and he states that he has had no direct communication from Mr. Mei, but that he is sending him a bill for accrued charges at the rate quoted Mr. Mei namely \$20 per month. We, of course, do not want the Garden to become in any way responsible in the matter, and in case you have any suggestions to offer, hope you will let us hear from you.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs) Katherine H. Leigh
Assistant to the Director

0789

V
G. I. Moore

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

June 23, 1931

Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh,
Office of the Director,
The Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Mrs. Leigh:

Some weeks ago you wrote with regard to the final disposition of the body of Mr. Chien-fan Li whose tragic death occurred last December. Since receiving this last communication from you I have talked with President Stuart and others in regard to the matter but have not been able to accomplish anything very constructive.

As some time has now elapsed since we last heard from you, I hope that you have already been able to arrive at some satisfactory solution of this unhappy affair. In case, however, the situation is still the same as when you last wrote, we will be glad to continue our efforts to obtain information as to the wishes of Mr. Li's parents and other relatives. I am surprised that his uncle, Mr. Y.C. Mei did not act more promptly in response to your letters to him, but I hope that ere this he has been able to take charge of the matter.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

0790

G. J. Moore

YENCHING

Yenching University

July 1, 1951

TRANSFER

Mrs. Katherine M. Leigh
Office of the Director
Missouri Botanical Garden
St. Louis, Missouri

My dear Mrs. Leigh

This morning we received a cable from Dr. J. Leighton Stuart of
Yenching University which decoded as follows:-

"INFORM MOORE BOTANICAL, ST. LOUIS LI CHINE-PAN VAULT CHARGES SIMPLE
INTERMENT IS AUTHORIZED QJRSO CONSULT Y. C. MEI WASHINGTON"

We are also sending a copy of this cable to Mr. Y. C. Mei at Washing-
ton.

Very sincerely yours

Assistant Secretary

GAB:MS

0791

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

ST. LOUIS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

YENCHING

July 15, 1931

China Union Universities
Central Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

TRANSFER

Gentlemen:

On July first we received a letter from Mr. C. A. Evens stating that your office had been authorized to pay \$250 towards the funeral expenses, etc. of Mr. Chien-Fan Li; also that the same information had been transmitted to Mr. Li's uncle, Mr. Mei, of Washington. To date no instructions have been received from Mr. Mei and Dr. Moore has instructed me to write you asking when and how the \$250 is to be transmitted. The expenses have now reached a total of \$360, which amount is being increased at the rate of \$20 per month, and we are preparing to proceed with the interment of Mr. Li's body, in the absence of any instructions from his family.

Hoping that we may have an early reply, I am,

Very truly yours,

(This) Katherine N. Leigh
Assistant to the Director

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Chinese Educational Mission

TSING HUA UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION IN U. S. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

YENCHING

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

2645 CONN. AVE. N. W.

July 25, 1931

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

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Garside:

I have on hand your letter of July 22 and also Mr. Evans' note which reached here while I was away.

I have also received communication from Dr. Moore's office at St. Louis about the matter of Chien-fan Li's interment, and he asked me if Li's family will pay for the additional cost, that is \$110, beyond the amount indicated in Dr. Stuart's cablegram, to which I have replied in the affirmative. It seems that it will be best to have the burial take place as soon as possible. The latest information from St. Louis says that the date for the interment has been set for Monday August third. As I am going out to Denver next week, I am trying to arrange to be there then.

As to the money question, I shall send Dr. Moore a check for the additional \$110, and if your office will advance the \$250, they will be in a position to proceed right away.

Yours very sincerely,

Y. T. Lin

0794

Office of the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

July 25, 1931

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter of July 23, 1931, regarding the matter of the proposed visit of the Japanese delegation to the United States. I am sorry that I cannot give you a more definite answer at this time, but I am sure that you will understand the necessity of further investigation in this matter.

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THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

ST. LOUIS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

G. I. Moore

YENCHING

TRANSFER

July 27, 1931

Mr. B. A. Garcide
China Union Universities
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Garcide:

After the exchange of several telegrams with Mr. Mei during the past week, the interment of Mr. Li's body has been finally set for the afternoon of Monday, August 3rd, when Mr. Mei is to be in St. Louis and attend to the arrangements personally.

In his telegram to me of July 23rd Mr. Mei stated:

***** "Mr. Li's family will pay balance expense."

and it is on this statement that we are proceeding with the arrangements. In case your office agrees, I would suggest that the draft for \$250 authorized by Dr. Stuart be made payable direct to Louis H. Bopp, Funeral Director, of Kirkwood, Mo., and mailed to me to be turned over to Mr. Bopp on the date of the interment. Or, if you prefer to mail it direct to Mr. Bopp, it may be sent addressed as above indicated. It seems probable that the Garden will have to take care of the remaining balance of \$110 expense unless Mr. Mei is prepared to pay it when he arrives. In any case, it seems best to proceed with the interment at this time rather than incur additional expense. The interment will be made at Oak Hill Cemetery, Kirkwood, Mo., in case you wish this information for your files for possible future reference.

Thanking you for your attention to the matter,
I am,

Very truly yours,

(Mrs) Katherine V. Leigh
Assistant to the Director

0796

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

St. Louis

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. regarding the matter of the purchase of the book "The Missouri Botanical Garden" for the University of Chicago. I am sorry that I cannot inform you that the book is not available for purchase at the present time. It is, however, possible that it may be available in the future. I will endeavor to keep you advised of any developments in this matter.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. L. Gentry

Thanking you for your attention to this matter,
I am,
Sincerely,
W. L. Gentry

W. L. Gentry
Director

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JOINT OFFICE

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G. T. Moore

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

July 28, 1931

Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh,
The Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Mrs. Leigh:

We have at last received a letter from Mr. Y. C. Mei in which he gives us approval to the proposals in President Stuart's cable with regard to the interment of the remains of Mr. Chien-fan Li.

Accordingly we are enclosing herewith a check for \$250.00 as directed by Dr. Stuart.

I understand that interment will probably take place on August 3, and that Mr. Mei is trying to arrange to be present at that time.

We are grateful to Dr. Moore, and the others who have shared the difficulties growing out of Mr. Li's decease, for all the care and trouble they have taken in the matter. I hope that the unfortunate affair will now shortly be closed up, with all the expenses connected therewith properly met.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

CC; ~~Miss~~ Promotional Office

Yenching check to the order of George T. Moore

0798

YENCHING

TRANSFER

July 22, 1951

Hon. Y. C. Mei,
Chinese Educational Mission,
2645 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Mei:

On July 1 Mr. Evans sent you word of a cablegram received from Dr. Stuart of Yenching with regard to the interment of the remains of Mr. Li Chien-fan. This cablegram also authorized us to advance \$250 on account of the cost of such interment. However, the cablegram instructed us to consult you.

Dr. Moore of the Missouri Botanical Garden has asked us to advance the \$250 as promptly as possible so that these last rites in connection with Mr. Li's unfortunate decease can be carried out without further delay. He informs us that expenses have already reached a total of \$360, and that this will continue to increase at the rate of \$20 per month until final disposition is made of Mr. Li's remains.

Before sending the remittance to Dr. Moore we would like to have some word from you. Have you any different suggestion or instructions?

May we hear from you at once so that we can either accede to Dr. Moore's request for this remittance or give him some explanation for not doing so?

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

Secretary

0799

J. Moore

YENCHING

Yenching University

July 22, 1931

Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh,
The Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, Mo.

TRANSFER

My dear Mrs. Leigh:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 15.

It is quite surprising that Mr. Mei has not written either to you or to us, with regard to the disposition of Mr. Li's remains.

Our office will be glad to make a disbursement to you of \$250 authorized by Dr. Stuart without any further delay, except for the fact that I should like to have some word from Mr. Mei since Dr. Stuart's cablegram in authorizing this disbursement instructed us to consult him. I presume that Mr. Mei will not raise any objection to Dr. Stuart's suggestion for a simple interment, and that he will not modify in any way the failed's authorization to disburse the \$250 in this connection, but from an accounting standpoint we are somewhat reluctant to make the actual disbursement without completing the instructions Dr. Stuart gave us.

I am today writing Mr. Mei again urging him to give us some indication of his wishes. If he continues to ignore our request I presume that it will soon be necessary for us to proceed with the interment as directed by the field, and the disbursement on account of the \$250 authorized. I note that your expense in connection with this unfortunate affair has already reached a total of \$360 and is now being increased at the rate of \$20 per month. In reporting this fact to Dr. Stuart I would be glad to give him any information I can as to how it is planned to meet the balance of this expense. I presume that Yenching University will not be able to do any more than advance the \$250 already authorized.

BAG-H

Very cordially yours,