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UBC HEAD ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Yenching
Corres.
Pratt, Mary Seymour
1929-1944

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0046

January 2, 1929

My dear Mrs. Pratt:

When we receive a contribution in this office toward the work at Peking, we feel that a vital connection is established between the generous friends in America and the faculty giving their lives to this work in China. We are happy to keep you informed about the University and to do our utmost to see that your help counts for the maximum benefit with the Chinese with whom we are co-operating.

We are enclosing herewith our official receipt for \$500.00.

With sincerest thanks for your gift, we remain

Cordially yours,

Assistant to the President

Mrs. C. M. Pratt
241 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

ODW:LP

0047

Pratt, Mrs. C. M. (Mary Seymour)
241 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

January 2, 1929

\$500 - 1928 Campaign - Undesignated

Gift received	1-2-29
Receipt clip	2306
Entered in record	✓
" " card	✓
" " class card	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	614 ✓
Pledge attached	—
X file card	
Letter ask. sent	1-2-29
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

0048

Pratt, Mrs. Chas. M.
(Mary Seymour)

241 Clinton Ave.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dec. 11, 1930

\$100⁰⁰ - 1929-30 Camp - Undesig.

Gift received	12-11-30
Receipt slip #	2901
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contrib. list	
Serial No. on L. and card	1103 ✓
Pledge signal attached	—
X-file cards	
Letter ack. sent	12-12-30
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " closed	ML ✓
" " status	Renewal ✓

0049

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt (Mary Seymour)

241 Clinton Ave.,

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dec. 9, 1931.

\$100 - Undesignated

Gift received 12-9-31

Receipt slip # 3100

Entered on control

" " acct. to

" " contr. to

Serial No. on L. and

1228

Pledge signal attached

X file cards

Letter ack. sent 12-10-31

Checked for O L

" " closed ML

" " stand Renewal

In ans. to appeal letter of
Dec. 7, 1931.

燕京大學

To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY during the present critical
collegiate year in carrying forward its Christian educational activity,
I am sending:

A cash gift herewith of \$100.00

A pledge of \$ to be paid by me before June 30, 1932, during one
of the months indicated below:

January ☐

February ☐

March ☐

April ☐

May ☐

June ☐

Signed Mrs. C. M. Pratt

Address 241 Clinton Avenue

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Date Dec. 8, '31

Checks should be made payable to E. M. McBrier, Treasurer
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

0050

12-18-31

241 Clinton Avenue,
Brooklyn.

Dear Mr. Wauwauakee -

May I thank you for speaking to me
of Mrs. Lyman & hoping that we ^{may} meet. It
would be a pleasure, I am sure, as well
as a very interesting experience. But un-
der the conditions of my life, it is not prob-
able. My husband has been an invalid
for many years & I do not go from home.

0051

so have no direct connection with events or
persons beyond a limited number of old &
intimate friends who come to me here.

Appreciating your kind thought, believe me

Sincerely yours -

Mary Seymour Pratt -
(Mrs. C. M. P.)

December 18, '31.


May 27, 1932

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

Within the past few weeks circumstances have arisen which constitute the most dangerous crisis that Yenching University has had to face. President Stuart and the Trustees have placed upon me responsibility for seeing that everything possible is done between now and June 30th to meet this crisis. I am taking the matter up personally with as many of the friends of the University as I can possibly interview. I should be very grateful if you could let me come in to see you regarding the matter.

If on account of Mr. Pratt's illness a personal interview is out of the question, I shall, with your permission, write a statement of the case.

Will you be so kind as to let me know whether I may come and at what time this would be most convenient for you, or whether you prefer that I write you. The matter is a little difficult to explain fully by mail.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Mrs. C. M. Pratt
241 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

ODW:KK

0053

May 31, '32

MRS. CHARLES M. PRATT
SEAMOOD
GLEN COVE, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Baumgardner,

Mrs. Pratt will be unable to have a personal interview, but will be glad to have a written statement of the case involving Yenching University.

Very truly yours,

Caroline B. Dow
for
Mrs. Pratt

0054

June 2, 1932.

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt,
Seamoor,
Glen Cove, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Pratt:

I appreciate your willingness to consider a statement regarding the crisis facing Yenching University. I shall endeavor to make the matter clear in as brief a form as possible.

Just after we had completed a special effort for various divisions of the University in the middle of 1929, the Rockefeller Foundation offered a grant of \$350,000 toward the endowment of the College of Natural Sciences providing we could match this amount by June 30th of the present year. The Foundation continued also until the same date an annual grant of \$12,500 absolutely essential to our work in the Natural Sciences.

In spite of all possible effort, we have not been able to meet this condition. We had expected until recently, that the Foundation would make due allowance for the unprecedented economic depression and would grant us an extension of time. We learned with a shock a month ago that this extension could not be granted and moreover that even the annual appropriation of \$12,500 would be discontinued unless we could meet the entire condition by June 30th.

Such a loss would constitute a staggering blow to the whole division of the Natural Sciences, and we feel that the education of young men and young women in the sciences under Christian influences is probably the most important part of our entire Christian educational program.

In spite therefore of our reluctance to put pressure upon American friends at a time when our own people are in a serious condition, we have felt obligated to leave no stone unturned to meet the condition set by the Foundation. We have now brought the balance required down to \$62,500. I need scarcely say that it will require

0055

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt

2.

June 2, 1932

every effort the Trustees can possibly make to obtain so large an additional fund during this present month. Those members of the Board who have any considerable income, - and that number is exceedingly small - have given within the last few years approximately \$350,000 to the University and can do only relatively little in this emergency. We are approaching as many of our friends personally as are accessible and I am writing to a large number of others.

A pledge, payable over several years, will help us to meet the condition. We shall be deeply grateful for whatever you can do in the emergency.

I shall of course be happy to answer any question you may wish to ask.

Sincerely yours,

ODW.A

0056

June 8, 1932

My dear Mrs. Pratt:

Your generous gift of \$500 has greatly encouraged us. Through the help of many friends we are slowly reducing the balance we still need to insure our holding the Rockefeller gift. We need now about \$53,000.

Gratefully yours,

Assistant to the President

Mrs. Chas. M. Pratt
Seamoor
Glen Cove, N. Y.

ODW:KK

P. S. Our official receipt for \$500 is enclosed

EMERGENCY SUBSCRIPTION

Recognizing the danger which threatens one of the most vital services of Yenching University to China—the training of scientists with a Christian view of life—I hereby offer to give the sum of five hundred ~~500~~ dollars (~~\$500~~) as follows:

- ☐ Cash herewith ~~\$500~~
- ☐ In _____ annual payments of \$ _____ beginning _____ 193...
- ☐ In semi-annual payments of \$ _____ beginning _____ 193...
- ☐ In quarterly payments of \$ _____ beginning _____ 193...
- At my convenience on or before _____ 193...

My local church is _____

Signed Mrs. C. M. Pratt
Address Seamoor, Glen Cove - L. I.
N. Y.
Date June 6, '32

Checks should be made payable to TRUSTEES, YENCHING UNIVERSITY,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.



0057

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor, Glen Cove, L. I.

Gift received Oct. 31, 1933 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 100.00
Pledge \$ ----
Basis of payment ----
Designation Undesignated
Received through Oct. 25th appeal letter
Control record serial number 1655
Entered on record card ✓
Pledge signal attached ✓
Receipt number 3923
Acknowledgment sent 10-31-33
Entered on renewal sheet ----
Checked for office list ✓
Checked for mailing list ✓
Last renewal card entrance (month and year) ----

To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY during the present critical collegiate year in carrying forward its Christian educational activity, I am sending:

A cash gift herewith of \$100.00

A pledge of \$ -----, to be paid by me before June 30, 1934, during one of the months indicated below:

November ☐
December ☐
January ☐
February ☐
March ☐
April ☐
May ☐
June ☒

Signed Mrs. C. M. Pratt

Print Address Seamoor, Glen Cove, L. I., N. Y.

(Former Addr. 241 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.)

Date Oct. 30, 33

Checks should be made payable to E. M. McBrier, Treasurer
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

燕京大學

0058

April 9

1934

MR. E. M. MCBRIER, *Treasurer*,
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
YENCHING UNIVERSITY,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.

Enclosed please find my check (money order) in the amount
of \$100.00, representing my contribution
towards meeting the current (1933-34) operating budget of Yenching
University, for 1 year from date.

Mrs. C. M. Pratt

Seamoor, Glen Cove, L. I.,
N. Y.

0059

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor, Glen Wove, L. I.

Gift received Apr. 11, 1934 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 100.00

Pledge \$ ----

Basis of payment ---

Designation Current Operating Budget 1933-34 "for one year from date" ---
(She crossed off the 1933-34 of the
Received through Yenching News enclosed subscription slip and
wrote the above instead)

Control record serial number 1707 ✓

Entered on record card ✓

Pledge signal attached ---

Receipt number 3983

Acknowledgment sent 4-11-34

Entered on renewal sheet ---

Checked for office list ---

Checked for mailing list ---

Last renewal card entrance (month and year) ---

On cl? yes

Over

H

0060

April 12, 1935

April 12, 1935

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor, Glen Cove
Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

Our expression of gratitude for your gift of \$100. received this morning would be inadequate if we failed to add that it is doubly welcome at this time. We know that the present financial situation makes it unusually difficult for our friends to help us; and contributions coming under such circumstances give us the satisfaction of feeling that these friends have unusual confidence in our work. An official receipt is enclosed.

Very Sincerely,

N. Gist Gee

NGG:GW

0061

62-1024-23
62-1024-23

Mr. E. M. McBrier, Treasurer
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

As a friend of Yenching University, Peiping, China, I wish to have a share in the maintenance of the splendid Christian educational work which they are carrying on, and in consideration of the securing of gifts from others for this purpose, I am sending

A cash gift of One hundred Dollars for the year 1935

A pledge of _____ Payable _____

Signed Mrs. C. M. Pratt

Seamoor, Glen Cove, L. I.

Date April 10, '35 N. Y.

April 12, 1935

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor, Glen Cove
Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

Our expression of gratitude for your gift of \$100. received this morning would be inadequate if we failed to add that it is doubly welcome at this time. We know that the present financial situation makes it unusually difficult for our friends to help us; and contributions coming under such circumstances give us the satisfaction of feeling that these friends have unusual confidence in our work. An official receipt is enclosed.

Very Sincerely,

N. Gist Gee

NGG:HW

0062

January 21, 1936

My dear Mrs. Pratt:

We have received your very generous check for \$100 and note with much pleasure that you hope to be a regular contributor to Yenching University. Our formal receipt for your contribution is enclosed herewith.

As you know, we are now in the midst of an effort to secure a substantial increase in the assured income of Yenching. In addition to seeking urgently needed current funds for this year and next year, we are trying to secure, during the next few months, \$240,000 in endowment. If you have not already seen our list of immediate objectives, the attached statement will interest you. We naturally hope that all our friends who are willing to do so will make regular pledges that we can credit toward some one of these urgent objectives. However, these are details which Dr. Young is handling, and we understand that he has had some conference with you.

Thanking you very much for your check, and for the assurance of your future interest in Yenching, I am

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor
Glen Cove, New York

Encls.

0063

To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY of Peiping, China, in carrying forward its Christian educational activity and in consideration of the securing, by representatives of this University, of gifts from others for this purpose, I am sending herewith:

A cash gift in the amount of \$100.00 *Check herewith*

A pledge in the amount of \$....., to be paid by me in accordance with the plan checked below:

- ☐ In annual payments of \$..... each, beginning..... (date)
☐ In semi-annual payments of \$..... each, beginning..... (date)
☐ In quarterly payments of \$..... each, beginning..... (date)
☐ At my convenience, on or before..... (date)

Signed *Mrs. C. M. Pratt*

Street *Seamoor*

Full name of my local church:

City and State *Glen Cove, N.Y.*

Date *Jan. 5, 37*

Please remit to the order of E. M. McBRIER, Treasurer, Yenching University, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

NOTE:—I shall expect to be reminded previous to due dates..... (yes or no)

Jan. 11, 1937

My dear Mrs. Pratt:

We were very happy to receive your generous check for \$100.00 for the support of the University during the present year. Our formal receipt is enclosed herewith.

We deeply appreciate this new evidence of your continued interest in the work Yenching is doing. Last year was a particularly successful one for the University and they are now actively carrying on for another good year during 1936-37.

With sincere thanks for all your help, I am

Cordially yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor
Glen Cove, New York

Encl.

0064

116 NORTH LINCOLN STREET
HINSDALE, ILLINOIS

January 19, 1938

Feb. 1/24/38

Mr. B. A. Garride
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

My dear Mr. Garride.

I am enclosing my card with
dates for the next annual
meeting. I do not feel, however,
that the work which I have
done this past year has had
any material value to
Genebing and the China College.

0065

3
4
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2

As much as the need for funds
in China is greater than ever,
my feeling is that my expense
money might better be used
in China.

I am anxious to come to the
meeting and will try to make
plans to do so if the Committee
there thinks best.

Am enclosing a small
personal check. Wish it were
many times more.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. C.C.) Charlotte W. Pratt

January 24, 1938

Mrs. C. C. Pratt
116 North Lincoln Street
Hinsdale, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

Thank you for your letter of January 19th and for the information you give as to your availability for attending the annual meetings in spring. We enclose herewith a copy of the notice we are mailing out to the members of the Associated Boards and the individual Boards of Trustees. I am glad to note that the dates chosen for the meeting - the week beginning May 2nd - are among those which you marked as preferred. A little later on we will send you more detailed information as to the dates of the meetings of the Yenching Trustees and the Yenching College Committee.

While we are all endeavoring to reduce our home base expenditures to a minimum this year in order to send the maximum amount to China, I certainly believe that it would be very much worth while to have you come to New York to attend these annual meetings. As you know, the Yenching College Committee has built up over a number of years - largely through economies here and there - an endowment fund of \$20,000 the income of which is used to pay the expenses of the Yenching College Committee, including such items as your travel to and from meetings. So the payment of this travel would not in any sense be a charge against current funds which would otherwise go out to China, but comes from the fund created for this special purpose. In a critical situation like this, it is particularly important to have at least one meeting during the year at which all of our membership can come together to study the situation and to make constructive plans dealing with it.

We are grateful for your contribution of \$10 for Yenching College for Women. We are crediting this to the emergency fund of the College. A formal receipt is enclosed herewith.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MP
Encls.

0067

SEAMOOD
GLEN COVE, LONG ISLAND.

1939

Dear Dr. Barber.

Thank you for
your cordial invitation to Mrs.
Pratt to be the guest of the
Yenching University Trustees for
dinner on February 28th.

Mrs. Pratt will regret being
unable to accept. She is in
California for the winter and
for some time, because of
advancing years, has not
been able to take an active
part in events.

0068

Ms. Pratt would wish to
express her appreciation and best
wishes.

Your letter will be forwarded
to her.

Sincerely yours-

M. Elizabeth Thies

Secretary to Mrs. C. M. Pratt

February 10, 1939.

April 18, 1940

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
"Seamoor"
Glen Cove, Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

We acknowledge with grateful thanks your contribution of \$100.00, and we enclose the treasurer's receipt. Yenching University has been given credit, as you directed.

Under separate cover we are sending you a booklet entitled, "An Impressive Service - The Story of the Christian Colleges in China", in which we are sure you will be much interested.

We feel that never at any time in the history of the Colleges was there a greater need, or a more direct opportunity to serve the Chinese people.

Very sincerely yours,

Treasurer

KEMB:es
Enc.

0070

"Seamoor";

Glen Cove, L. I.

December 15th, 1941.

The Trustees,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Sirs:

Mrs. C. M. Pratt has received your reminder that her annual contribution to Yenching University is due.

Mrs. Pratt wishes me to say that, under the circumstances, she prefers to wait until she is assured that funds will reach their destination, when she will contribute as usual.

Very sincerely yours,

Mary L. Lawrence

(Mrs.) Mary L. Lawrence,
Secretary.

0071

December 16, 1941

Mrs. Mary L. Lawrence
"Seamoor"
Glen Cove, Long Island

Dear Mrs. Lawrence:

Your letter of December 15th regarding the future of Yenching University is at hand.

May I answer your question by saying that all contributions received in the United States represent gifts for the University and are disbursed under the authority of the Board of Trustees incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. Therefore, the Board takes the responsibility for applying gifts toward the on-going work of the University in China. That there has been a temporary disruption of the work is no indication that Yenching will not continue its function.

As far back as 1936, plans were made for moving Yenching University to West China. It never was consummated, but instead the University of Nanking, Ginling College and Cheeloo University, all three moved to West China in 1937 and are working at Chengtu. In 1936, the Trustees stated that Yenching is an institution, not a campus or building. It will continue its work in some place and in some form or other. The Trustees are dedicated to that end and will see that it is accomplished.

At the present moment, budget funds are being held pending instructions from the Field Treasurer and as word is being received from Shanghai that business is proceeding normally, we are confident that Yenching will likewise - either at Peking or some other city in China - continue to carry on.

These days require faith and trust in the future. The investment which the allies are putting into this war is for the future. So far, the Lord has led Yenching, surely still He will lead on.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

0072

May 14, 1943

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

Every mail from West China brings fresh word of the fine accomplishments of our Yenching friends, who have built anew their university in a distant land. We who are holding the home base are filled with humility when we contemplate the obstacles which have been overcome in creating this refugee university.

First there was the problem of escaping from the Japanese, and of keeping alive in a war-torn land. Tales of heroism and self-sacrifice are accumulating. Witness the boy who was one of a group of students who left Peiping on faith, completely ignorant of what plans had been made for the reestablishment of the university. When his small party arrived in free territory they were delighted to discover that Yenching was being reborn in Chengtu. This boy volunteered to risk his life again by returning alone through the battle lines to carry the good news to his friends in North China. We are anxious to hear how he fared.

We feel that the victory of Yenching over all the forces of war and want and destruction, is an encouraging omen of the better world to come. Almost everything worthwhile which we have inherited from the past has resulted from a victory of the human spirit over similar obstacles. It is reassuring to discover that our generation also possesses this creative courage and faith which surmounts all difficulties.

We report to you with pride the accomplishments of Yenching University, which is more than justifying the faith of its friends in America. We solicit your whole-hearted participation in the creation of a strong Yenching in Free China.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
Seamoor
Glen Cove, New York

0073

燕京大學

Chengtu, China,

To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY in carrying forward its Christian educational activity and in consideration of the securing, by representatives of this University, of gifts from others for this purpose, I promise to give to the Trustees of Yenching University the sum of One Hundred dollars (\$100.00) as follows:

- ☐ Cash herewith \$100.00
☐ In annual payments of \$..... beginning.....194.....
☐ In semi-annual payments of \$..... beginning.....194.....
☐ In quarterly payments of \$..... beginning.....194.....
☐ At my convenience on or before.....194.....

Signed Mr. L. M. Pratt

Address "Seamoon"

Date May 15, 1943 Glen Cove, L. I.

Checks payable to TRUSTEES, YENCHING UNIVERSITY
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Gifts are deductible for income tax purposes

0074

May 24, 1943

My dear Mrs. Pratt:

We wish to thank you on behalf of the refugee students and staff members, for your generous gift of \$100.00 to Yenching University. We are enclosing our receipt.

You will be glad to know that all is well on our West China campus. Also, according to the latest information available, our friends interned in North China are reasonably well treated and still are hoping for repatriation.

We shall endeavor to keep you informed of any important developments concerning Yenching University.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. C. M. Pratt
"Seamoor"
Glen Cove, Long Island

0075

July 1, 1944

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

The interest of American friends, like yourself, in Yenching University, is most encouraging and deeply appreciated.

We wish to thank you on behalf of the staff and students of the University, for the share you are having in making the continuation of their work possible during this war period.

Our receipt for your gift is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Charles M. Pratt
"Seamoor"
Glen Cove, N. Y.

0076