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January 28, 1929.

Rev. W. Reginald Wheeler,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Rex:

Yenching University is planning its Spring building program, and accordingly, the maintenance of its present building organization depends somewhat on the quantity of work to be done. We are, therefore, anxious to know whether it is possible for us to receive the balance of the resources for the Chapel and go forward with that building. That is the reason why I am writing you at this immediate moment, hoping that you can let us know within a week or so whether the funds can be paid in soon so that the plans can be completed and the building operation go forward. As you know, our Finance Committee is very averse to undertaking construction responsibilities until resources are actually in hand, - a matter of good judgment of which I am sure you will approve.

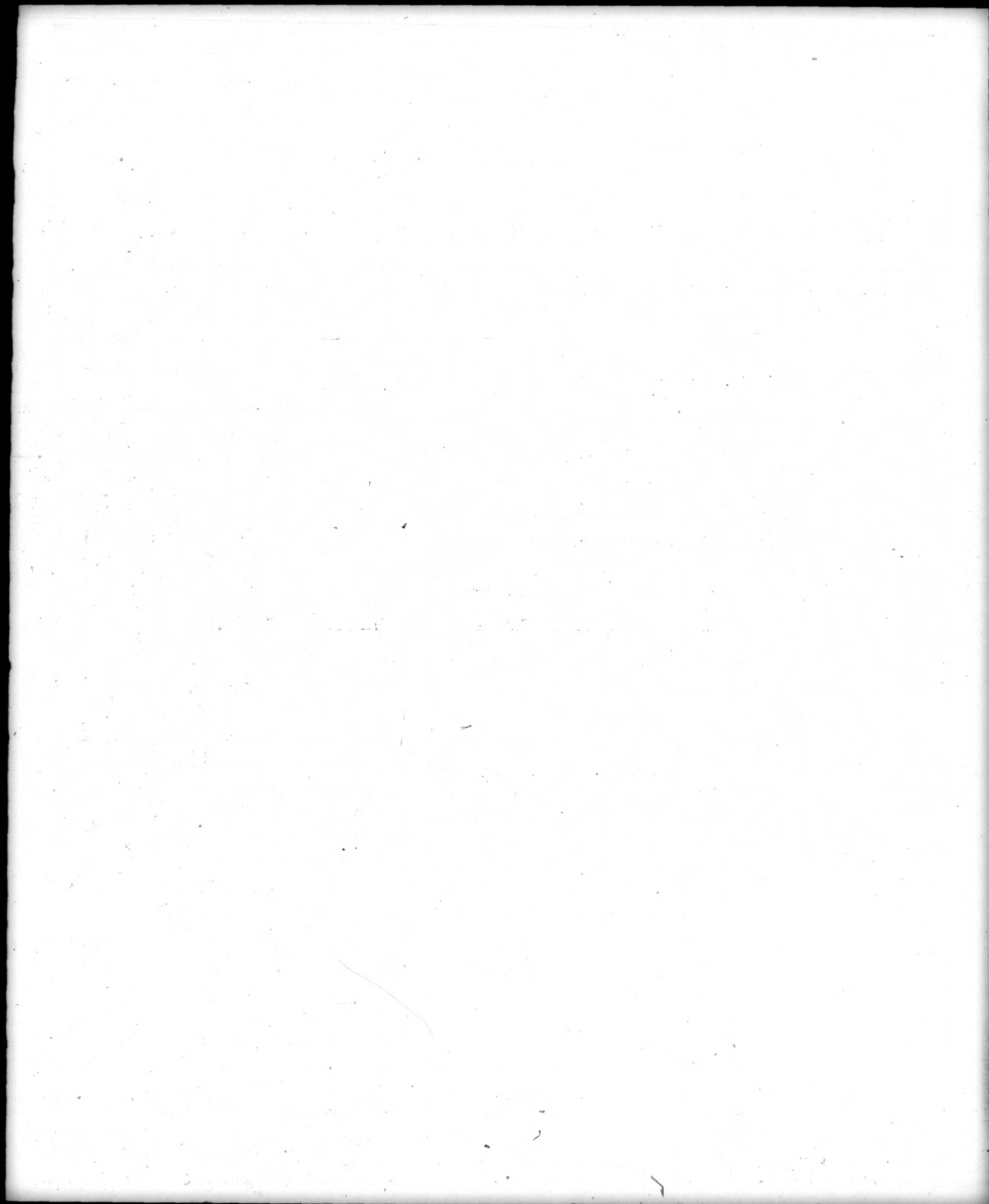
There is another reason why I venture to hope that the funds will be forthcoming; namely, that the Institution is now functioning in a steady and normal way with every assurance of its stability and effectiveness and yet, we do not have on the campus a building that in a sense represents to us deeply the spiritual movement of the enterprise. For the sake of the maintenance and increase of the spiritual resources of the University, we ought to go forward as soon as possible with this building. I might add that the whole new plant of the University is to be dedicated in October and it would mean a great deal to the visiting group from all over China and from the United States to have the ascending walls of the chapel visible as an expression of the heart of the University's spiritual life.

Faithfully yours,

Eric H. North
General Secretary.

ENCLOSURE

05 12



05 13

CABLE ADDRESS: "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

TELEPHONE WATKINS 8191

*Write
to
Eric North*

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

YENCHING

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

ROBERT E. SPEER
ARTHUR J. BROWN
GEORGE T. SCOTT
MRS. CHARLES K. ROYS
W. REGINALD WHEELER
MISS IRENE SHEPPARD

February 1, 1929
(Dictated January 30)

Read to Eric - 1/2
missionary staff

TRANSFER

Mr. Eric M. North
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Eric:

Your memorandum of January 28 has been received. I will send it on to my brother. The Wheelers just now are engaged in skinning the cat to keep ahead of the sheriff, the ones on the West Coast being more closely pressed than those of us in the East, but as we are all tied up together in this timber business, if one is pinched the others will have to get him out of hock, and I am not sure if we can make good on the chapel pledge right now; but I will see what answer I can get. I will be at Endeavor, Pennsylvania, February 10. I doubt if we can get a decision back to you before that date.

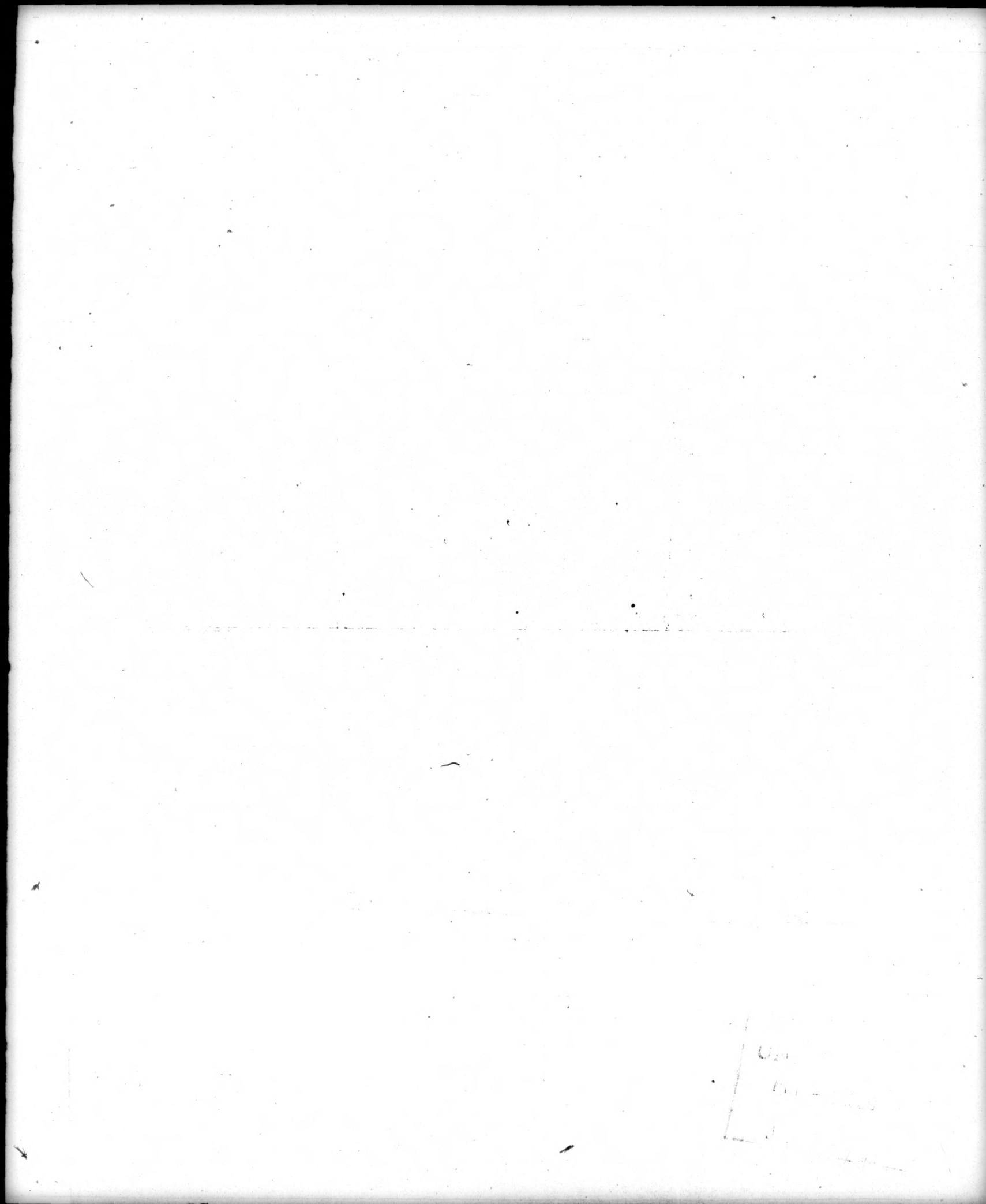
Yours sincerely,

N. Reginald Wheeler

W. Reginald Wheeler

WRW:MAW

05 14



05 15

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

February 14, 1929.

Dr. George T. Scott,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Scott:

Your office several days ago communicated to us the information that Dr. and Mrs. H.S. Vincent are favorably considering returning to Yenching University as affiliated missionaries of the Presbyterian Board. I understand that in this relationship they will provide their own support.

I believe I can assure you quite definitely that Dr. and Mrs. Vincent's return under these conditions will be warmly welcomed by the University. Writing in regard to Dr. Vincent in a letter dated November 13, 1928, President Stuart says:

"In reply to your inquiry regarding the Vincents in case they wish to return to Yenching, I should say that we would be very glad to have them, but could not provide their salary out of our general budget. It may be that they will feel themselves able to come out at their own charge in which case they would, of course, be heartily welcomed. Or, the Presbyterian Board might be induced in view of old associations with this couple and their relatives to increase the present reduced quota of five. In either case the only claim upon us would be the release of the house formerly occupied by them. It might be well to cable if any decision of a positive nature is reached in this matter."

We are grateful to you for the warm interest you have taken in making arrangements for Dr. and Mrs. Vincent's return.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:A

05 16

Yenching University

TRANSFER

February 27, 1929

Dr. George T. Scott
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Scott:

We have just received a cablegram from Yenching University reading as follows:

"WE DESIRE TO HAVE DR. WILLIAM H. ADOLPH IF HE CAN BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.S. A."

This cablegram is sent in reply to a letter we sent to Dr. Stuart about five weeks ago setting forth all the available facts in regard to Dr. Adolph's proposed appointment to Yenching University. Within recent weeks I have had letters from the field indicating that the University is very anxious to have him appointed under the Presbyterian Board and wishes him to come out to the field in the summer of 1929.

I have a letter from Dr. Adolph dated February 18th in which he indicates again his willingness to go out to Yenching University under either Board ~~terms~~ or direct University support.

Adolph
Dr. Adolph's teaching work at the University of Nebraska will be finished by May 31st and his salary will terminate as of that date. He has been asked to take a position in the summer school during July and August, but if he accepts this position, while it provides for his expenses during the summer, it would keep him in America until the latter part of August and it would thus make it impossible for him to get to China in time to begin the work of the autumn semester. He hopes therefore that if the Board decides to appoint him to the position at Yenching it will be willing to assume his salary as of June 1, 1929. This would make it possible for him to get a few weeks of rest during the month of June and to spend July in preparation for his departure for China. He should sail, if possible, about the first week in August.

We sincerely believe that Dr. Adolph is one of the most valuable men we could send out to do Christian higher educational work in

0517

Dr. Scott

- 2 -

Feb. 27, 1929

China. While we regret that it has not been possible for him to see his way clear to return to the position at Shantung Christian University which he formerly occupied and for which a place is still being held open for him, it seems as though the only likelihood of his return to China at this time lies in his appointment to the position at Yenching. Feeling that this is the case, we believe that it would be to the best interest of the work as a whole to have him appointed to this position. We earnestly hope that the Presbyterian Board will find it possible to make such an appointment.

Very cordially yours,

Secretary.

BAG/EH

05 18

CABLE ADDRESS: "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

ROBERT E. SPEER
ARTHUR J. BROWN
GEORGE T. SCOTT
MRS. CHARLES K. ROYS
W. REGINALD WHEELER
MISS IRENE SHEPPARD

February 28th, 1929
(dictated the 25th)

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North
% Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

Dear Eric:

When I was at Endeavor, Pennsylvania, last week, I took up with my brothers the question of finishing up the Chapel Fund for the University so that its completion could be authorized at this time, as you have suggested in your memorandum of January 28th.

I am very sorry to report that it does not seem possible for us to complete these payments at this time. We hope that it may be possible to go ahead with the construction next year, although it is not possible now to make a definite commitment. Might it not be possible to have the corner stone laid when the plant is dedicated next fall, with the idea of continuing the construction in the months immediately following this ceremony?

I miss you very much and wish that I could see you oftener.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. Rex Wheeler

WRW:deh

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Yenching University

TRANSFER

March 6, 1929

Dr. George T. Scott,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr.Scott:

We are grateful to you for the information contained in your letter of February 19th telling of the appointment of Dr.and Mrs.Howell S.Vincent as affiliated missionaries of the Presbyterian Board related to Yenching University.

Some weeks ago when this arrangement was first proposed I wrote Dr.Stuart telling of the suggestion. As yet I have not had time for a reply from the field, but I am quite sure from the general trend of Dr.Stuart's correspondence regarding Dr.and Mrs.Vincent that this proposal will be most acceptable to the field.

We will report this action of the Presbyterian Board to the first meeting of the Yenching Executive Committee or the Yenching Board of Trustees.

Thanking you for the warm personal interest you have taken in these arrangements with Dr.Vincent, I am

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

0521

COPY

YENCHING

March 13, 1929.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric North
Bible House, Astor Place,
New York.

Dear Eric:

With reference to your letter of March 11th, I certainly did not mean to suggest that the cornerstone of the Chapel at Yenching be laid without any prospect of other stones joining it. What I hope is that by next fall we can have things lined up so that there can be definite agreement on a series of payments, and the initial process of cornerstoning can be performed at the dedication of the plant.

My elder brother is on the Pacific Coast now trying to wind up some affairs there. When he returns in about a month I will see if we cannot get some action along the lines suggested.

Sincerely yours,

W. Rex Wheeler

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

YENCHING

June 20, 1929

Mr. Olin D. Wannamaker,
and
Mr. B. A. Garside, ✓
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Mr. Wannamaker and Mr. Garside:

In accordance with the request of the Yenching University Committee on Dedication, the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions at its meeting on June 17th took the following self-explanatory action:

" Learning that the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. George B. Stewart of Auburn Theological Seminary, Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Welles, Jr. of New York City, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Whitford of Buffalo, and Mr. and Mrs. Oliver R. Williamson of Chicago are planning to be in Peking at the time of the dedication of Yenching University, Peking, China in September, 1929, the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions cordially invited them to represent it on that occasion. In the Board representation at this dedication, it was voted to include any Members or Executive Officers of the Board that might be in attendance."

We are writing to each of these four couples identical letters like the copy of the one enclosed herewith.

As intimated in my letters to these representatives, we will expect the Yenching University Office or the University Authorities on the field, or both, to keep these delegates advised of all details in connection with their representation of the Board at the Dedication.

Yesterday Mr. McBrier spoke of some certificate of appointment the University issued and also the possibility of the Presbyterian Board issuing a second similar certificate. As stated to Mr. McBrier yesterday, we believe that the certificate of the University would be sufficient under the circumstances.

Very sincerely yours,

G. T. Scott

George T. Scott,
Secretary

GTS:FB

Enclosure

0524

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK

June 20, 1939

Mr. O. B. Hennrich,
Mr. B. A. Garfield,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Mr. Hennrich and Mr. Garfield:

In accordance with the request of the Yenching University
Committee on Religion, the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions at
its meeting on June 17th took the following self-explanatory action:

"Resolved: That the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. George B.
Plummer of Auburn Theological Seminary, Mr. and
Mrs. Henry B. Wallace, Jr. of New York City, Mr.
and Mrs. A. T. Williams of Buffalo, and Mr. and
Mrs. Oliver B. Williams of Chicago are planning
to be in Peking at the time of the dedication of
Yenching University, Peking, U. S. A. in September,
1939, the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions
officially invited them to represent it on that
occasion. In the Board's representation at this
dedication, it was noted to include any Members
or Executive Officers of the Board that might be
in attendance.

We are writing to each of these four couples to inform
them that the only copy of this resolution is being
forwarded to you for their information.

As indicated in the letter to these four couples, we
will expect the Yenching University Office on the University Authority
on the field, to keep these delegates advised of all details in
connection with their representation of the Board at the dedication.

Yesterday Mr. Morrison spoke of some conditions of
appointment the University issued and also the possibility of the Presby-
terian Board issuing a second similar certificate. As stated to Mr. Mc-
Brien yesterday, we believe that the conditions of the University would
be sufficient under the circumstances.

Very sincerely yours,

George B. Plummer

George B. Plummer,
Secretary

Enclosure
GTS:TB

RECEIVED

TRANSFER

Yenching University

July 19, 1929

Dr. George T. Scott,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Scott:

In accordance with the notation you placed on your vote concerning Mr. Band's appointment to Yenching that you favored such appointment "subject to Mr. Hawkins' satisfaction as to Mr. Band's evangelical faith, I wrote Mr. Hawkins on June 21 reporting your notation. I have received a letter from the London Missionary Society written July 5 and signed by Mr. G. E. Phillips in the absence of Mr. Hawkins, who, as you know, is now attending a Williamstown Conference. Mr. Phillips writes:

"Mr. Band is to travel, via Siberia, starting on September 4th, so that there is really no time for me to make any enquiry of Mr. Hawkins, such as is suggested by Dr. Scott's note. The correspondence, however, gives good evidence that Mr. Hawkins is quite satisfied with Mr. Band's religious experience, and Mr. Hawkins will be attending the Dedication Service at his Church, where, incidentally, the minister is one of the Directors of the L. M. S., who is closely acquainted with our own requirements for candidates. I feel confident, therefore, that Mr. Hawkins would have replied that he is quite satisfied as to Mr. Band's evangelical faith."

I trust that this explanation answers your question on this phase of Mr. Band's qualifications for work at Yenching.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG-H

0526

COPY

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

156 Fifth Avenue
New York

Foreign Department.

October 1st, 1929.

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

MANUSCRIPT

Dear Mr. Garside:-

Enclosed is check of \$12,500. from my mother, Rachel A. S. Wheeler (Mrs. N.P.), of Endeavor, Pennsylvania, in final payment of her pledge for \$25,000. made for the Memorial Chapel at Yenching University.

I hope in the near future to send on checks for \$5,000. from my sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Farley, and from myself.

My mother gave \$12,500. at the time of the campaign for the Women's Colleges, which earned \$6,250. from the Rockefeller conditional fund. Accordingly you have in hand or on the near horizon \$18,750.

It was my understanding that the chapel would cost approximately \$50,000. Two of my brothers do not find it possible at the present to make their cash payments to complete the total desired. They had not made any written pledges for these gifts as had the others of us, but I had hoped that they might be able to come in. Under the circumstances I would like to talk over with you what is the best course to pursue in the erection of the chapel.

The gift of \$12,500., plus the \$6,250., has been in the possession of the University for five or six years and has doubtless been earning income which might be credited to this fund, if your books were set up in this way, but I can talk this over with you at your convenience.

I am sorry that these payments have come in so slowly, but it was not possible to secure them at an earlier date.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

/s/ W. REGINALD WHEELER.
W. Reginald Wheeler.

WRW-AS-Enc.

0527

CC: Promotional Office

Yenching University

October 2, 1929

Mr. Rex Wheeler,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Wheeler:

We acknowledge with the keenest gratification your letter of October 1 with its enclosed check for \$12,500 from your mother in final payment of her pledge of \$25,000 for the Wheeler Memorial Chapel at Yenching. Our Yenching Promotional Office will send a formal receipt for this remittance.

We are today cabling Dr. Stuart, who will shortly be sailing for America, asking him to bring the fullest possible information as to the plans for the Chapel so that immediately after he arrives in New York it will be possible for him to consult with you and with the Finance Committee of the University in regard to the Chapel plans. I presume that no important steps can be taken until he reaches New York.

Inasmuch as the rate of exchange is unusually favorable just now, we have decided, after consultation with several members of the Finance Committee, to transmit at this time the \$12,500 just received from your mother. We were able today to purchase Peking local currency at .3885 which is the most favorable rate we have had for a number of years - probably the lowest point Peking local currency has ever reached. At this rate \$12,500 yielded Peking local currency \$31,367.63. The members of the Finance Committee thought it was wise for us to keep the remainder of the Chapel funds here in New York for a few weeks longer to see what the trend in exchange will be. If there seems to be any likelihood of a material rise in silver they will probably instruct us to transmit the balance of the funds while exchange is so favorable. We are, of course, instructing the field to place the Chapel funds in a special account in the National City Bank or the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and to leave these funds there at interest until the plans for the Chapel have been approved and construction has been authorized.

With sincere appreciation ~~of~~ you for all you have done in this matter over a long period of years, I am

BAG-H

Very cordially yours,

0528

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

ROBERT E. SPEER
ARTHUR J. BROWN
GEORGE T. SCOTT
MRS. CHARLES K. ROYS
W. REGINALD WHEELER
MISS IRENE SHEPPARD

October 22, 1929

Mr. B. A. Garside
Secretary & Treasurer
China Union Universities
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Garside:

Herewith are two checks for \$5,000. each for the Chapel Fund of the Yenching University, one from Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Farley (Mrs. Farley was Rachel Wheeler) and one from myself for the Wheeler Memorial Chapel of the University.

The Finance Committee is of course in close touch with the exchange situation in China. My own judgment is that any time we can get \$2.40 Mex for \$1. Gold it is well to act promptly and make the exchange.

With these checks there is a total of \$35,000. from three members of our family, which with the Rockefeller Fund of \$6,250. makes a total of \$41,250. I am hoping that with the favorable exchange this may be sufficient to erect the Chapel. It is Mother's desire that an inscription be placed in the Chapel reading as follows:

To the Glory of God and
in Loving Memory of
Nelson Platt Wheeler
1841 - 1920
From his Wife and Children

"Blessed are the dead which die in
the Lord; that they may rest from
their labors and their works do
follow them."

Will you send a receipt to Mr. Farley, addressing him at
251 Culver Road, Rochester, New York?

Sincerely yours

W. Reginald Wheeler

W. Reginald Wheeler

WRW:MAW

Encl

Check of \$5,000 fr. W. Reginald Wheeler
" " \$5,000 " J. A. Farley

Dep. 10/23/29

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UNIVERSITIES
OCT 23 1929
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Yenching University

October 23, 1929

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Wheeler:

We thank you sincerely for your letter of October 22 with its two enclosed checks for \$5,000 each for the Chapel for Yenching University, one from Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Farley, and one from yourself.

We are asking the Yenching Promotional Office to send receipts and acknowledgments.

I find that the rate on Peking local currency today is 2.47. This is very good indeed, though slightly higher than it was yesterday. I have tried this afternoon to get in touch with the Chairman, and one or two other members of the Finance Committee to see whether they approve our sending the \$10,000 to Yenching at this time, but found that most of those I called will not be in their offices again until tomorrow morning. I will call them again then and if they approve, will purchase a Peking draft at the prevailing rate of exchange and will transmit these funds with specific instructions to the field to deposit them at interest in one of the conservative international banking institutions in Peking to the credit of the Chapel account on which no drafts should be made until construction of the Chapel has been begun.

We note your mother's desire as to the inscription to be placed on the Chapel. This will at once be communicated to the field.

As I stated to you in our conversation today, we have asked Dr. Stuart to bring with him from China full information as to plans and estimates for the Chapel. I am sure that as soon as he reaches New York he will want to confer with you.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

CC: Promotional Office

0531

YENCHING

Yenching

October 28, 1929

Mr. W. Reginald Wheeler,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. Wheeler,

You will be interested to know that we have today, in accordance with our conversation with you, and with the approval of several members of the Finance Committee, forwarded to the field a draft for the equivalent of G.\$10,000. received from you last week on the Wheeler Memorial Chapel. The amount of the draft was M.\$24,767.80. The total Max. proceeds of the G.\$22,500. received for the Chapel this month has been M.\$56,135.43. The field has been given explicit instructions to deposit this in the National City Bank or the Hongkong Shanghai Bank at interest and in a special fund to be used only for the construction of the Chapel.

Cordially,

0532

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

ROBERT E. SPEER
ARTHUR J. BROWN
GEORGE T. SCOTT
MRS. CHARLES K. ROYS
W. REGINALD WHEELER
MISS IRENE SHEPPARD

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

YENCHING

October 30th, 1929.

TRANSFER

Mr. B. A. Garside,
China Union Universities,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Garside:

Thanks for your letter of October 23rd.

/ In addition to the gifts recently forwarded to you for the chapel, the Trustees, of course, hold the sum of \$18,750. which should be turned into Mex. at the discretion of the Finance Committee. / I have written my own views on making use of the present rate of exchange and the Finance Committee can act as they think best.

Sincerely yours,

W. Reginald Wheeler

W. Reginald Wheeler.

WRW-AS

0533

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

ROBERT E. SPEER
ARTHUR J. BROWN
GEORGE T. SCOTT
MRS. CHARLES K. ROYS
W. REGINALD WHEELER
MISS IRENE SHEPPARD

YENCHING

November 1st, 1929.

TRANSFER

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

Dear Mr. Garside:

Thank you for your note of October 28th in regard to the transfer of the gifts for the Wheeler Memorial Chapel to the field. I am glad you could get the exchange that you did for it. How about the balance of the appropriations already made?

The original guess at the cost of the chapel was \$50,000. gold. This at the average rate of exchange in recent years would produce between 90,000 and 100,000 Mex. The present gifts of \$41,250., at present exchange, would produce about the same amount of Mex., and I hope will help to bridge the gap due to the fact that two members of the family do not find it possible to come in at this time.

Sincerely yours,

W. Reginald Wheeler

W. Reginald Wheeler.

WRW-AS

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Telephone Chelsea 9674

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THE MISSIONARY
REVIEW *of the* WORLD

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

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November 26th, 1929

Mr. Olin D. Wanamaker,
Yenching University,
150 5th Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wanamaker:

I have just received your tentative article about the dedication of the Yenching University together with your covering note of November 25. You have given the essential facts but I would like a little more warmth and color and also some pictures so that I can illustrate the article.

As it is now too late to get the article in the January number, as I want to make a special feature of China in the February number and as I have just learned that President Stuard arrived last week, will you not ask him to prepare an article to supplement yours and will you not send me any pictures you have, or if you do not have them, ask him to send some, so that I can make a selection. I hope that you will feel this is in the interest of the University as well as the readers of the REVIEW to have this important event set forth.

Cordially yours,

Arthur J. Brown

Arthur J. Brown

AJB:MB

0537

Telephone Chelsea 9674

Cable Address "Missrev" New York

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THE MISSIONARY
REVIEW *of the* WORLD

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

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REV. ARTHUR J. BROWN, D.D., EDITOR FOR 1930

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RUTH B. RULE
REV. WILLIAM P. SCHELL, D.D.
MRS. E. H. SILVERTHORNE
MILTON STAUFFER
REV. F. C. STEPHENSON, M.D.
REV. JAY S. STOWELL
REV. MILLS J. TAYLOR, D.D.
JESSE R. WILSON
REV. SAMUEL M. ZWEMER, D.D.

December 3rd, 1929

Mr. Olin D. Wanamaker,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wanamaker:

I have just received your letter
of December 2 regarding the proposed article by
Dr. Stuart.

The length should be about 3000
words and the article should be in my hands before
Christmas in order to insure its publication in
the February number.

Cordially yours,

A. J. Brown

Arthur J. Brown

AJB:MB

Room-1019
Bickman

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

December 20, 1929

YENCHING

Mr. B. A. Garside,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside:

Foreign

The Presbyterian Board of Missions at its meeting Monday, December 16, took action electing "representatives for the respective terms of service beginning January 1 or later in the calendar year 1930 on Boards and Committees at the Home Base of various Union Institutions in China" including the following:

Yenching University, Class of 1933, the Rev. George Duff, Riverdale Avenue and 247th Street, New York, New York

Nanking University, Class of 1932, the Rev. Eben B. Cobb, D.D., and the Rev. DuBois S. Morris, D.D., of 441 Park Avenue, New York, New York as General Alternate.

Mr. Duff will succeed Dr. Arthur J. Brown and we have advised him that you will send him information concerning the University in order to make him conversant with his new duties and responsibilities.

The term "General Alternate" is used to indicate a representative empowered to act for any of the principals of the Presbyterian Board that may be absent from a meeting. Dr. Morris, from his experience in our Kiangnan Mission, will be familiar with the University of Nanking but we have informed him that we have requested you to send him copies of late minutes.

We are sending you an extra copy of this letter in case you need a copy filed under the Founders of each University.

Sincerely yours,

George T. Scott,

George T. Scott.

GTS-G

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Col; also y. H. information

*For pictures & cuts submit
see photograph file sheet*

December 31, 1929.

Dr. Arthur J. Brown
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Brown:

At the request of Doctor J. Leighton Stuart, we are
enclosing herewith the article he has written for the Missionary
Review of the World, as requested in your letter of November 26th.

Very sincerely yours,

KK

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In the early months of 1919 Yenching University was little more than a vision of unrealized potentialities. Two old mission colleges, both chartered as such in 1879, had been united--the Methodist Peking University and the North China Union College at Tungchow, founded by the American Presbyterian and the British and American Congregational Missions of that area. The old plants had been converted into preparatory schools. The capital appropriations of \$50,000 each had all been expended on land in the south-east corner of the City of Peking. The old buildings found on this land were converted into improvised class-rooms, dormitories, etc. Each of the four cooperating Mission Boards had agreed to supply two missionary teachers and \$1000 in cash per annum. There were less than one hundred students, almost entirely drawn from local mission schools and supported on mission scholarships. These were the material assets. But there was the unbroken tradition in the older colleges of forty years of devoted Christian service against all the hardships and handicaps of pioneering struggle; there was the fruitage of this effort in a widely-scattered body of alumni, not a few of whom constituted the backbone of organized Christian work in North China; there was the heritage of idealism, faith, high hopes and happy harmony. These previous imponderables were the real assets--these and the thrilling sense of opportunity and of need for a Christian university broadly conceived in the ancient city which always had been and perhaps always will be even more the educational than the political capital of China.

The new start was made purely as a venture of faith, and whatever results have been achieved are fresh evidence of the practical working of such faith. The first great encouragement was the affiliation of the North China Union College for Women in the spring of 1920 which has enriched the institution in every aspect of its life and has with the years brought steadily increasing integration of aims as of assets. After more than a year a site was secured, what had once been the summer garden of a Manchu Prince, five miles from the city wall out toward the famous Western Hills on the slopes of which cluster so many of the palaces and temples of China's great past. In that lovely and historic environment have been erected buildings which are symbolic of our educational purpose in their blend of Eastern and Western culture. Built of steel and concrete, the exterior reproduces the fine proportions of the slowly decaying palaces and temples around us with their graceful curves and gorgeous coloring, the interior is equipped with all the installations that add to the comfort and efficiency of modern construction in the West. The very architecture thus expresses our desire to preserve the elements of abiding value in China's cultural heritage, while reinforcing these with all the scientific and other knowledge and the spiritual dynamic that we of Western lands seek to share with China in the rebuilding of that nation. The nearly two hundred acres of land, the academic buildings and residences represent to date an expenditure of about two and a quarter million dollars, and there is an endowment of about the same amount.

The Faculty is a further illustration of the blending of cultures. Of its one hundred full-time members, two-thirds are Chinese, nearly all of whom have studied in Europe or America and the other one-third are Western teachers who try to understand not only the Chinese language, but the distinctive characteristics of this ripe old civilization. There are seven hundred and fifty students, from all the provinces and from overseas, from all classes of society, over five hundred and fifty men and nearly two hundred women. The University has been incorporated under the Regents of the University of the State of New York and thus gives degrees which meet

the requirements of that State. It also has been registered under the recently established National Government of China, and thus follows the regulations and has the recognition of the Ministry of Education. The aim of its founders is that as it passes more completely into Chinese control it will steadily maintain the religious character and purpose for which it came into existence.

The new plant was first occupied during the summer of 1926 and had it not been for threatening political disturbance, it would have been formally dedicated the following autumn. A second date was postponed for the same reason, and at last it was determined to hold this ceremony during the autumn of 1929. In many respects this proved to be an advantage. Political uncertainty had been largely removed and our established status under the new Government secured, not only its official endorsement, but a much larger measure of good will from the public. The grounds and buildings ~~were available~~ presented a more finished appearance. The policies and outlook had been further clarified by experience, and the completion of the first decade under the present administration seemed to be in general a fitting time for announcing our existence to the academic world and publicly dedicating our possessions to the advancement of the Kingdom of God in China.

The Formal Opening was planned to continue through four days, Saturday, September 28th to Tuesday, October 1, 1929. Saturday was occupied with inspection of the grounds under student guides, athletics, and an entertainment of welcome in the evening conducted by the students, in which they also gave gratifying expression to their appreciation of their Alma Mater.

The Sunday gatherings were of surpassing significance. In the morning the Dedicatory Service took place in the great Auditorium of the Bashford Administration Building, named after Bishop James W. Bashford, to whose vision and determination the union of the two older colleges was chiefly due. The room was filled with faculty members, students, and guests during a service of rare beauty conducted partly in Chinese, partly in English, by Dean T. C. Chao of the School of Religion, who with Dr. Timothy T. Lew had prepared and printed the outline of service in both languages. Especially impressive was the reading of the lists of buildings by groups and their dedication to God by the whole assembly in responsive readings. The sermon was by Dr. Cheng Ching-yi, General Secretary of the National Christian Council, Presiding Officer of the Church of Christ in China, and probably the most notable, certainly the most eloquent and revered leader of Chinese Christianity. Many persons testified with deep emotion to the sense of reverence and reality felt during this service and to the witness it gave to the Christian character of the University.

That afternoon a conference was held in English on the problems of religious work in a university under present conditions in China and the solutions being attempted at Yenching. This was intended especially to acquaint visitors from America with this situation, but again the room where the conference was held was crowded. In the evening the Bashford Auditorium was filled once more during a Sacred Concert.

Monday was Alumni Day with a large attendance and much enthusiasm in the reunion lunch and meetings. That day and Tuesday morning scientific and other technical papers were read in groups divided according to Natural and Social Sciences, Arts and Letters, Religion, the distinctive aim being to make a record of the attainments of modern Chinese scholarship in these various fields.

On Tuesday afternoon we had the Formal Opening proper in a ceremony of stately dignity and glowing interest. As on Sunday morning, a long procession formed in the buildings flanking the main court across which it proceeded into the Auditorium. This included in addition to the speakers, members of the Diplomatic Corps in formal dress, representatives from other government, private, and Christian colleges, members of the Boards of Trustees (U.S.A.) and of Managers (China), distinguished delegates, the Faculty, etc. The Chairman of the Board of Managers, Dr. W. W. Yen, thrice Prime Minister of China, distinguished as scholar and diplomat, a worthy son of one of the earliest and noblest Chinese clergymen, presided. The President of the Board of Trustees presented the Chancellor of the University with its keys, to which he replied in a striking statement which made it perfectly clear that the first Chinese executive head is as determined to maintain its Christian quality and purpose as any missionary or supporter of missions in the West. Chancellor Wu, after taking the highest honors possible under the old classical examination system, and serving for years in the Ministry of Education, had resigned his position of Vice-Minister in order to become our Chancellor and enable us to comply with the regulations of the new government that the head of every educational institution must be a Chinese. Representatives of the National, Provincial, and Municipal Governments gave messages of good will. The Governor of Shansi, who until a few weeks previous had been governor of our province, made a special trip from his new post to attend, and spoke with unusual earnestness of his approval of Christian education as exemplified in this instance. A Harvard professor represented universities from other countries, and our loyal friend, Dr. Chang Poling, the Christian President of a nearby private university, did the same for those in China.

There were many causes for encouragement in the number and standing of visitors who came specially from America; in the widespread interest and endorsement among Chinese; in the treatment of the event in the Chinese press; in the friendliness of the whole community; in the evidence of lack of anti-foreign or anti-Christian feeling; and for all these reasons in the prospects for the future. The walls and stairways of Bashford Hall were covered with scrolls and other emblems in gorgeous oriental colors and with complimentary inscriptions.

The narrative of this event has been recorded in this detail because of the heartening effect it should have for those interested in the Christian cause in China. Much that appears destructive or discouraging has been happening in that country, and there have been many misgivings as to the future. Yenching University is known among all Chinese as having been founded and now being conducted on a Christian basis. The place it has won in Chinese life as indicated by this Formal Opening may properly be held therefore to register their approval of Christian education when conducted with due regard to national considerations.

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For those of us connected with the institution the supreme satisfaction was in the thought that Jesus Christ was thereby being exalted and an institution of learning being accepted where His truth would be studied and His principles practised, in the hope that faith in Him would be awakened in successive generations of students, and forms of Christian life and worship would be developed in keeping with the Chinese racial genius and the intelligence of our age. Yenching is now committed afresh in the most public declarations to its Christian origin and purpose, not only by its Western founders, but by their Chinese colleagues and successors.

In conclusion, it is an especial joy to quote the following paragraph from The Chinese Recorder by Rev. Dr. F. D. Gamewell who started the little Methodist School over forty years ago out of which one of our constituent colleges was formed and whose participation in our dedicatory exercises was one of the happiest features of the occasion:

"In August 1922, the corner stone of the first building, Ninde Divinity Hall, was laid on the new site of Yenching University, in the Hills west of Peking. September 27 to October 1, 1929, witnessed the Formal Opening of its new plant, an important part of the exercises consisting of the Dedicatory Services on Sunday, September 29, when approximately thirty university buildings and over fifty faculty residences were dedicated to Almighty God for the service of mankind. Vision, courage, an unfaltering faith and persistent well-directed effort and the response of generous donors have brought about this marvelous achievement in material things in an almost incredibly brief period. At the same time there has been gathered at Yenching a Faculty that in ability, training, experience, and, to a large degree, in devotion to the purposes for which Yenching was founded, is even more impressive than its material equipment, remarkable as that is.

We are thoroughly committed to the small college, and believe there is a type of work which the small college will do best. On the other hand there is a certain directing of educational thought which comes from the larger institution, thoroughly equipped as to buildings and all educational facilities, fully staffed as to its various departments, and so placed that it can test out by experimentation the solutions of problems calling for attention.

In the midst of present baffling conditions in the educational field Yenching is frankly experimenting, trying to find the best solutions of perplexing problems, whose immediate solution can only be approximated. Experimentation involves risk and risk begets anxiety, and the friends of Yenching, as it is now fully launched on its efforts to help China, share in this anxiety that it may be guided aright in its difficult undertaking.

It is easy to criticize, it is easy to doubt, it is easy to sit on the side lines and wonder, but the achievement at Yenching, in both material equipment and faculty, carried through in an almost incredibly short space of time, in the face of baffling political conditions in China, and a degree of uncertainty regarding China in western lands, is one that compels the admiration of all who realize the vision, the faith, the almost super-

human effort that alone have made such achievement possible.

In Columbia University, with its affiliated Teachers' College, we have a type of the larger institution, whose influence on the educational thought, not only of America, but of the world, and particularly of China, it would not be easy to estimate. We covet for Yenching University a place in the future educational program of China that will make its influence felt likewise throughout the Chinese nation and in other lands, in rightly directing Christian educational thought.

The Church Pennant, with the cross of Christ, is the only flag that flies above the national flag. May Yenching University keep its Christian purpose steadily above all its multiplied activities, and as President Stuart puts it, find the way of achieving "its unchanging purpose in the midst of constantly changing conditions."

(By Dr. J. Leighton Stuart)