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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
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Yenching
Comm.
Spear, Margaret + Bailey
1921 - 1932

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THE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OF BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

Pembroke East
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

November 30, 1921

Dear Mr. Luce,

I am awfully glad that you are going to speak to us on the 1st. If Octavia Howard has not already asked you to dinner, I hope you will have supper with me in Pembroke at half past six. I should like very much to talk to you about just what it would mean for Bryn Mawr to adopt a "sister college" but I'm afraid there is scarcely any chance for us to do it this year, as we have already raised our budget, which is chiefly for the Student Friendship Fund. The Christian Association has had

so many other obligations, that it has not been very enthusiastic about the Oriental colleges, and I am afraid that we have not given them a fair show.

It seems a long time since I've seen either Emmavail or Elisabeth, but I hear very complimentary tales of their behaviour at Wellesley.

Very cordially yours,

Margaret Bailey Spear.

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RECEIVED
ROCKLEDGE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

JUL 24 1930 July 22, 1930

Dear Mrs. Lee, ^{Ans.} _____

I want to report that I am safely in this country and ready to be of whatever service I can to the Yenching College Committee during my furlough. I shall be here until September, and during the winter I shall probably be studying at Columbia but living at home at 24 Gramercy Park.

I left just this day before Commencement at Yenching. The year has been a most successful.

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one and everything at the Woman's
College was in good shape when I came
away. Mrs. Frame seemed well and
there is no reason why she cannot
have a proper vacation this summer.

I do not know whether I shall be
in Boston at all, but if you are
ever in New York, I shall be only too
glad to give you whatever information
I can about the latest conditions there.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Spear

RECEIVED

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

TWENTY-FOUR GRAMERCY PARK

NEW YORK

OCT 2 1930

October 1, 1930

Ans. Oct 2 1930

Dear Mrs. Lee,

You must be thinking we are very neglectful of your letters about Miss Burt. I wrote to Miss Wood as soon I got your first letter, but only had a reply from her yesterday. She agrees that the best plan would be for Miss Burt to go first to Boston and then back to New York and Mt. Kisco. Augusta Wagner and I will meet Miss Burt at the Mauretania on October 10th. Have you sent her word that some one will meet her, or should we send

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her a radio ourselves? If the car
lands early enough in the day, Friday
she could go straight up to Boston
leaving her luggage here. If she
does not get in till afternoon I'll
be glad to have her spend the
night with me and put her on
the train for Boston Saturday morning,
telegraphing you then the hour of
her arrival. Miss Wood will expect
her at MF Kisco on the 13th

In talking to Mrs. Finley on the
telephone last evening I told her of
Miss Butt and I hope we can
arrange a time for Miss Butt to
meet all the gardening college comm. the
people in New York.

TWENTY-FOUR GRAMERCY PARK
NEW YORK

If you have any further plans,
or if there are any changes you
would like to make, will you let
me know?

Cordially yours,

Margaret Bailey Spier

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RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

OCT 18 1930

24 GRAMERCY PARK
NEW YORK, N. Y.

October 16, 1930

Ans. Oct. 28, 1930

L,

Dear Mrs. Lee,

Your letter has just come and
I have sent it on to Miss Beutt, so that
she can communicate directly with Miss Clarke.

Miss Beutt's visit to New York
was cut short, as she found there
was an important meeting of the Friends
Service Council in Philadelphia yesterday,
so she went over yesterday morning on
the train with Miss Woods. We crowded
a great deal into Tuesday, and I think
she accomplished all she wanted to.

She is just the right kind

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of person for yenching. I wish we had
more of her.

Cordially yours.

Margaret Bailey Speer

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

NOV 3 1930

24 GRAMERCY PARK
NEW YORK

Ans. _____

November 1, 1930

Dear Mrs. Lee,

I am glad to know the date of the Yenching College Committee meeting, and of course both Augusta Wagner and I will be there on the eighteenth. We will be delighted to have a chance to talk to you and Mrs. Williamson before the meeting. Your suggestion of having dinner together is very pleasant. I am speaking at a missionary meeting in Englewood on Monday afternoon, but I think I could get to the Prince George Hotel by seven o'clock, if that is not too late for you. Augusta will be glad to come too, as she has probably written you.

I do not know whether Mrs.

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Frank has written you that a very "fine" Chinese woman from Peking, who has been the Secretary of our Yenching Women's College Administrative Committee for some time, is in New York this winter. I think she would appreciate being invited to the Yenching College Committee, and would be able to express the Chinese point of view about many things. She is Mrs. Huang Kuei Pao (Huang is her surname) and can be reached at International House, 500 Riverside Drive, New York.

Looking forward to seeing you on November seventeenth.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Speer

2 copies 16 to 14th

Mrs. ROBERT E. SPEER
24 GRAMERCY PARK
NEW YORK, N. Y.

YENCHING COLLEGE
FOR WOMEN

January 18, 1931

Dear Mr. Garfield.

INDEXED

I have been hoping to have time to come in to see you to talk over the request from Mrs. Frame and Dr. Stuart for authorization to let contracts for a new Women's College Dormitory, but there seems to be no time for that.

I agree with Mrs. Williamson that the committee which was appointed "to consider further building plans and report at the April meeting" can scarcely take upon itself the authority to approve of spending \$32,000 now for a fifth dormitory. Since however the committee must meet sometime before April, I should be in favor of Mrs. Williamson's calling a meeting at an early date, if it is at all possible for her and for Mrs. Rags to come to New York.

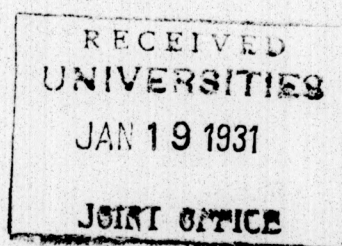
But in the meantime an answer must be sent to Dr. Stuart and Mrs. Frame. I understood at the November meeting that the balance of the building fund for the Women's College was roughly \$28,000 gold. To start a \$32,000 dormitory without any other funds than these and the

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surplus on the field to draw on, would seem to me
the height of folly. But I have been in China
so recently to be willing to turn down coldly
such requests from the field. Is it not possible
to cable that the committee at home cannot
authorize starting building until at least \$32,000
is in hand here, but that we will make every
effort to raise that money as soon as possible?
That may seem like an idle promise, but I
do not see what else we can do.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Speer



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YENCHING COLLEGE
FOR WOMEN

ROCKLEDGE
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

July 3, 1931

Dear Mr. Evans.

Thanks for ordering the copies
of "Oliver Twist" so promptly.

Thank you too for sending
me the information about Mr. Stuckert.
I had heard nothing about him before,
but he sounds all right and if
the people in China want him,
I'm quite willing to take their
opinion. When the Instruction Committee
approves his appointment and everything
is settled, I'd be glad to have his
address so that I could write him.

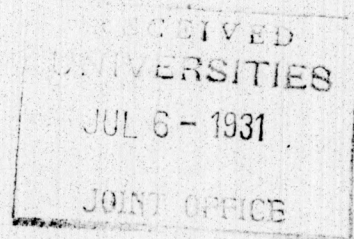
0952

about the general work of the
English Department.

After talking to you the other
day about Miss Waller, I wrote at
once to Miss Kendrick, but my letter
got there just too late, for the
comm.tee had already offered her the
job. So we will have to hope
everything will work out all right
in spite of doubts.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Spear



RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

ROCKLEDGE
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

JUL 18 1931

July 15, 1931

Ans. _____

Dear Mrs. Lee,

I am pretty ignorant about home economics, but from your letter I should judge that Miss Wildman's qualifications for our position at Yenching are a little scanty. Both Caroline Chen and Kung Tan Chen have experience in nutrition work, and in addition have studied Chinese food values, while Miss Wildman would know only of American foods. Camilla has taught classes in the care of the children, the general care of the home, etc. I should think the best plan might be to send a full account

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of Miss Willman's qualifications to Caniller and
ask for her judgment. She will be in
this country in a few days if she is not
already here. Her address is

Mrs. Knight B. Bigstaff
c/o Mrs. E. P. Mills
Forest Grove, Oregon.

Augusta and I are sailing on August 6
from San Francisco on the Tatoula Maru.

It is always hard to say all the
good-byes here, but I am beginning to
want to get back to work. Every letter
from China telling of yearning makes me
more anxious to get back into harness.

Would you add to our Women's College

mailing list the name of
Mrs. Walter R. Wolf
1021 Park Avenue
New York City.

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She has just made a small contribution
which I sent direct to the New York
Office.

It has been a good year at home,
and I am especially glad to have ^{had} a
chance to meet the Yenching College
Committee. I feel well enough acquainted
now with both the people and the
problems to be more helpful and
intelligent in the future.

Thank you so much for all your
interest and friendship.

Cordially yours.

Margaret Bailey Speer

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(copy for Mrs. Lee)

1 Kung Ho Li
Kwang Jen Road
Chefoo

September 28, 1931

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

OCT 30 1931

Miss Myfanwy Wood

Chairman of the Administrative Committee
Yenching College for Women

My dear Miss Wood:

Ans. _____

Your very kind letter dated 22nd inst. is a pleasurable surprise to me. I can hardly express my thanks. Although Dr. Stuart has recently asked me to pay Yenching a visit, yet I have understood that I am to teach a little, and see more of your work from inside. The announcement that I have been officially nominated the Acting Dean of the Women's College is therefore rather unexpected. I must ask you to give me more time for mature consideration.

I deeply appreciate the trust your Committee have in me and consider it a great honour to be thus nominated. The offer is certainly most attractive, especially so in view of the Christian fellowship and service you have in Yenching, but there are a few points which make me hesitate to accept it at once. I-Pang is not yet a thing of the past. I still have hopes of its resurrection. Furthermore, it has been my conviction that small colleges such as I-Pang have a definite contribution to make to Christian Education in China. The larger colleges have comparatively little difficulty in securing the best personnel to be on their staff, while the smaller ones have to be satisfied with what they can get. I feel therefore it more my call to serve where the need is greatest. At the same time I realize that by accepting your kind offer, I shall have a wider scope and more stable conditions for work. With these conflicting merits in my mind, I find it very difficult to form a decision. You will forgive me, I am sure, for postponing my definite answer until I have talked matters over with Dr. Stuart at the Nanchow Conference.

Please convey my thanks, for thus nominating me, to your Committee. With best wishes and thanks to yourself, I am

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) Pao Swen Tseng

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(copy for Mrs. Lee)

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPT. WASHINGTON

OCT 30 1931

October 3, 1931

A meeting of the Administrative Committee of Yenching College for Women was held at the P U M C on Saturday, October 3, 1931 at 10:30 A M.

Present: Miss Myfanwy Wood, presiding: Mrs. Frame, Mrs. Huang, Mrs. Wong-Quincy, Miss Ch'en I, (proxy for Miss Speer), Miss Hodgman, Mrs. Wu, and Dr. Stuart.

Mrs. Slade of the Yenching College Committee in New York was honorary guest of the meeting.

In the absence of both Mrs. Li and Miss Speer, Mrs. Wu was elected temporary secretary.

Miss Wood introduced Mrs. Slade, who presented to the Committee two interesting and valuable proposals:

1. Mrs. Slade's Proposals

1. That a Junior League to the Yenching College Committee be formed in America of younger women to help in the cooperation between New York and the Women's College. It was suggested that Miss Speer consult with Mrs. Slade as to how best to proceed with plans for such a group.
2. That a plan be worked out by which American young women could study at Yenching under two possible plans:
 - a. A year of graduate study in a relation analagous to that of the Harvard-Yenching Institute.
 - b. A year of undergraduate study, perhaps in the Junior year, analagous to the plan now in use in colleges in America whereby students do one year of undergraduate work in a European university.

11. Appointment of Women Faculty on the Field. The next question to be considered was concerned with the housing of the Women's College faculty arising out of vote 453 passed by the Yenching College Committee April 22, 1930, and especially the more fundamental question of the appointment of women members of faculty and staff on the field. After discussion the following action was taken:

VOTED: that the Administrative Committee of the Yenching College for Women appoint a Candidate Committee to recommend women candidates for faculty and staff to General Faculty Executive for appointment. The preliminary procedure shall be that in the event of either the Dean of the Women's College or the Chairman of a Department discovering prospective members of faculty, there will be mutual consultation. After acceptance both by the Department and the Candidate Committee, the name will then be submitted to the G F E for appointment.

It was

VOTED: that the Chairman of the Dean's Acting Committee appoint the Candidate Committee.

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III. Procedure for the Appointment of the Dean of the College for Women

The question next to be considered was the procedure for the appointment of the Dean of the Yenching College for Women. The following extract from the Constitution of Yenching University quoted in Mrs. Lee's letter of August 3, 1931 was discussed:-

"The Constitution of the University Article 9, paragraphs 1 and 2 read:

1. The officers of Yenching University shall be the Chancellor of the University, the President of the University, the Vice-President, the Dean of Yenching College for Women, and such other officers as the Board of Managers may deem it expedient to appoint with the approval of the Board of Trustees.
2. These officers, with the exception of the President of the University, who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, and the Dean of Yenching College for Women, who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees with the advice and consent of the Committee of Yenching College for Women, shall be elected by ballot by the Board of Managers, shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Managers, and shall receive such compensation as the Board of Managers may direct with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

and it was

VOTED: that a small Editorial Committee be appointed to prepare a statement which will embody certain changes in the Constitution necessary on the field, in regard to the procedure in the appointment of the Dean of the Women's College:- this statement to be submitted to the Yenching College Committee in New York for their consideration, with the view to making the required changes in the Constitution. The Chairman of the Dean's Acting Committee to be chairman of this Editorial Committee and to appoint the other members.

IV. Policy - In regard to the policy of the Yenching College for Women it was

VOTED That a Policy Committee be appointed by the chair to study the policy of the College for Women in relation to the financial policy of the whole University, and that this committee present a report at the next meeting of the Administrative Committee.

V. Fifth Dormitory - Mrs. Wu Wen Tsao was called upon to make a report on the campaign for the Fifth Dormitory. Mrs. Wu reported that when two members of this committee called on Mrs. Chiang Kai Shih in the summer, she was absent from Nanking, and that since then the flood disaster makes an approach to her out of the question. Dr. Stuart raised the question of preparing a joint campaign in China, but no action was taken.

Adjournment 12:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Wu Wen Tsao
Secretary Pro tem

N.B. As a result of the above action, the following committees have been appointed.

Candidate Committee

Mrs. Y. Y. Tsu
Mrs. Wu Wen Tsao
Chairman of the Adm Com.
(Dean of Women's College)

Editorial Committee

Miss Ch'en I
Mrs. M. S. Frame
Miss Myfanwy Wood

Policy Committee

Mrs. J. C. Li
Miss Hodgman
Miss M. B. Speer
Miss Myfanwy Wood

部女學大京燕
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

PEIPING, CHINA.

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

October 9, 1931

Office of the Dean

OCT 30 1931

Mrs. L. D. Lee
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass.

Ans. Nov 9, 1931

My dear Mrs. Lee:

Miss Wood wrote you on September 24 of the action taken by the Women's College faculty and approved by the Administrative Committee, appointing a committee of three people to take over the duties of the Dean's Office, until an Acting Dean should be appointed. Miss Wood, Miss Chen, and I are working very happily together, and hope that the division of duties which we have made among ourselves will not involve too many inconveniences for other people. The correspondence with you is part of my share, and I need not tell you what a pleasure it will be to have such an excuse for keeping in touch with the Yenching College Committee.

The purpose of this letter is to send you the minutes of the Administrative Committee meeting of October 5. We have been holding them up for the report of a sub-committee appointed at that meeting, but I think I had better not wait any longer, since I am uncertain of the date of your November meeting, and I want this to reach you in ample time.

We were delighted to have the stimulus of Mrs. Slade's presence at the meeting. Her second proposal will be discussed by the Women's College faculty at the earliest opportunity. After that we can send you a more detailed memorandum of the various possibilities.

Appointment of Candidates on the Field - The action taken in regard to the appointment of women members of the faculty on the field was necessitated by several cases which arose this summer. You will remember that on April 22, 1930 the Yenching College Committee took the following action: "To recommend to the Board of Trustees that hereafter, all women members of the University staff be appointed by the Board of Trustees upon nomination from the Women's College Committee and that their living quarters be arranged by the Dean and faculty of the Women's College," and that you explained that action in your letter of April 25, 1930 to Mrs. Frame. I do not think any questions have arisen since then in regard to candidates sent out from New York. But the procedure in the case of candidates secured on the field has never been regularized. Usually, of course, these are Chinese candidates, but every now and

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then during the summer when there is no time for reference to New York, a department, which is in sudden need of new instructors, finds a foreigner out here who is available for a year or more. Such appointments have in several cases been made by the University without reference to the Women's College until the instructor is nearly on the campus, when the Women's College is suddenly appealed to to provide housing. Since the Yenching College Committee in the action quoted above seemed trying to do away with the old anomaly of women members of the University faculty not connected with the Women's College, it seemed only consistent to make some sort of arrangement for candidates secured on the field.

~~2 copies Here to~~
Procedure for the Appointment of the Dean of the Women's College.
The question of the procedure for the appointment of the Dean of the College for Women was taken up as a result of your letter of August 3, 1931. It is extraordinary how the confusion on this matter in our office came about. Miss Wood, Miss Cummings, and I have been trying to trace it to its source, but it is still mysterious. In your letter of August 3 you quote the Constitution of the University, Article IX, paragraphs 1 and 2, as follows:

" 1. The officers of Yenching University shall be the Chancellor of the University, the President of the University, the Vice-President of the University, the Dean of Yenching College for women, and such other officers as the Board of Managers may deem it expedient to appoint with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

2. These officers, with the exception of the President of the University, who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, and the Dean of Yenching College for Women, who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees with the advice and consent of the Committee of Yenching College for Women, shall be elected by ballot by the Board of Managers, shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Managers, and shall receive such compensation as the Board of Managers may direct with the approval of the Board of Trustees. "

In our office here we have been using the English translation of the Chinese outline of the organization of Yenching University, which was adopted by the Board of Managers on March 1, 1929, in which Chapter IV, section 5, is as follows:

" 14. The College for Women shall elect a Dean.

A. The Dean shall be nominated by the faculty of the College for Women approved by the Administrative Committee of the College for Women, the founders, and appointed by the Chancellor."

It is astonishing that for over two years we have been using as our constitution a different document from the official one you use in America. In most matters there is very little difference in the two documents, I find, however, that some discrepancies, among them this very question of the appointment of the Dean, were noted at the Board of Trustees' meeting on April 11, 1929. Item 20 of the minutes reads:

- '20. Translation of the Outline of the Organization of Yenching University. Several forms of this outline have been sent from the field from time to time. The latest revision of this document is that adopted by the Board of Managers on March 1. The minutes of this meeting are appended as Appendix I. The outline of the organization is appended as Appendix J. The document is in accordance with the Constitution of the University except at the following points:-

(1) (2) -----

- (3) Article IV, Section 5A provides that the Dean of Yenching College for Women shall be nominated by the faculty of the College for Women, approved by the Administrative Committee of the College for Women and the Founders, and appointed by the Chancellor." - The Constitution provides that "the Dean of Yenching College for Women----shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees with the advice and consent of the Committee of Yenching College for Women."

Action Recommended:

- (1) That the Board decide whether it should approve or simply not this document.
(2) That it take such appropriate action, giving special consideration to the points noted above"

Miss Stahl noted this again in her letter to you of May 13, 1929, and asked whether the Dean of the Women's College should be appointed by the Chancellor or by the Yenching College Committee. I can find no answer from you to this letter of Miss Stahl's in our files. Therefore you see you were quite right in assuming in your letter of August 3, 1931 that we on the field have not had the same understanding as the Y C C about the procedure for appointing the Dean.

In taking up the matter of coordinating the two points of view, the Administrative Committee felt that whatever procedure is agreed upon should recognize two aspects of the matter. First, since the Dean of the College for Women is responsible to the Y C C, the Y C C has authority in her appointment. Second, since in the future the

Dean will in all probability be Chinese, the Administrative Committee, as the field representative of the Y C C, will doubtless be in a better position than the Y C C to review the whole field and to find the most promising candidate. An Editorial Committee* was appointed to embody these ideas in a resolution to be presented to the Y C C at its November meeting. Miss Ch'en and Miss Wood have drafted several resolutions, and as soon as Mrs. Frame indicates her approval, their report will be submitted to you. I hope very much that Mrs. Frame's answer will be at hand before this letter is mailed.

To Her
Policy - The Policy Committee mentioned in the minutes is to go into the whole question of the place of women on the University faculty. We have never had a definite policy as to which University departments should have women members, or whether this should be ~~divided~~ by chance, by the precedents of the past, by exigencies of the budget, or by the number of women students majoring in each department.

For example,
The ratio of women instructors to women students is roughly:

in College of Arts and Letters	1 : 7
in College of Natural Sciences	1 : 16
in College of Public Affairs	1 : 25

We will keep you informed of any recommendations the Policy Committee may make.

Miss Tseng - Miss Wood wrote you of the action about Miss Tseng. I am enclosing a copy of her reply, and though her answer is not definite, it is extremely hopeful.

I shall be thinking of you at the November meeting and wishing I might be there as I was last year. No, that is not quite true - I would rather be here.

With best wishes to you and all the Committee,

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Spurr

* Editorial Committee

Mrs. Frame
Miss Wood
Miss Ch'en

Mrs. Frame's answer has not yet come, so the report of this committee cannot go in this mail.

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Air Mail

部女學大京燕
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

PEIPING, CHINA.

Office of the Dean

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
NOV 6 1931
NOV 9 1931

October 17, 1931

Mrs. L. J. Lee
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mrs. Lee:

I hope that this will reach you in time for the November meeting. I could not write sooner, for Mrs. Frame was away in the country until yesterday, and therefore the Editorial Sub-Committee of the Administrative Committee, on procedure for the appointment of the Dean of the Women's College, has only just brought in its report. In accordance with their instructions from the Administrative Committee, as I wrote you in my letter of October 8, they have formulated a statement for the procedure in appointing the Dean to accord as closely as possible with the statement in the Constitution of ~~Yenching University~~ ^{Yenching College}, but at the same time to recognize that the faculty of the Women's College and the Administrative Committee are in a position here on the field to look over and inquire into the qualifications of possible Chinese candidates for Dean. The Editorial Committee suggests therefore the following wording: "That the Dean of Yenching College for Women shall be elected by the Board of Trustees, with the advice and consent of the Committee of Yenching College for Women, upon nomination by the Administrative Committee in consultation with the Faculty of Yenching College for Women, and finally appointed by the Chancellor."

I hope that this will seem as satisfactory a procedure to you at home as it does to all of us here. Please understand that we suggest it in no spirit of wishing to lessen the authority and responsibility of the Y C C, but only with the feeling that in as important a matter as the appointment of the Dean all the groups who care for the welfare of the Women's College, from the faculty to the Trustees, must consult together. If you agree to this wording, I suppose steps must be taken to amend both the Constitution of the University and the Chinese outline of organization, but naturally we shall do nothing more here until we receive further instructions from you.

My last letter was so full of minutes and official actions that I had to leave out all news of the University and of the work of the year. Our minds are full of the situation in Manchuria, and we are waiting anxiously for word of the next steps to be taken by the League of Nations. The students are sick at heart and seem more hopeless than I have ever seen them, but they have been extraordinarily controlled. The natural result of feeling that China's very existence is at stake is that they all want an active outlet for their patriotism. The boys have started military training, and more than half

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the girls have signed up for an intensive course in First Aid and Nursing which Dr. Nutting is offering. We pray that such services will not be needed, but activity of this sort is better than inflammatory anti-Japanese speeches.

Dr. Stuart leaves for Shanghai today where ^{he} expects to see Miss Tseng, and will try to persuade her of our need for her.

With all good wishes to you all,

Most sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Speer

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November 9, 1931.

Miss Margaret Speer
Yenching College for Women
Yenching University
Peiping, China

Dear Miss Speer:

I am herewith enclosing two copies of the minutes of the November 3 meeting of the Yenching College Committee. As you will see there were fewer matters of importance up for consideration than there often are at our meetings. The question eliciting the greatest amount of discussion was the proposal of the Committee on Christian Colleges in China that the Boards of Trustees of the various colleges be merged into one Board and that this united Board should carry the responsibility for administering and financing all the Colleges. This seems to us a very important matter, involving such questions as the comparative value of efficiency and the interest of a larger number of people, and the relation of Boards of Trustees to Mission Boards, especially in the matter of financial responsibility. The Trustees at their meeting on the 4th gave long consideration to this matter and finally passed a vote of approval of meeting with the Trustees of other colleges or universities to consider the matter further. The exact wording of the vote is not before me, as I have not yet received my copy of the Trustees' minutes, but you will have it soon after this letter reaches you if not before.

In the matter of the financial obligation of the Yenching College Committee in the case of Dr. Roberta White, we found ourselves unable to come to any definite decision without fuller information. The letter from Dr. G. A. M. Hall, a copy of which Miss Wood sent us, states that she is probably suffering from "a chronic colitis." Miss Wood says in her letter of September 22 that Dr. White had left for Shanghai, where she would be with her parents for a little while before sailing for America, and that she would probably go to a sanatorium in California. She does not, however, give a California address. Miss Wood further speaks of the desire of Miss White and her fiancé to be married in the summer of 1932 if Miss White's health justifies that, and if Mr. Taylor has by that time a position which

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Miss M. S.--2.

seems to justify their marriage. Under all the circumstances the Yenching College Committee was inclined to doubt the desirability of Miss White's return to Yenching after her period of treatment and recuperation in California. We are not clear that there is an element of nervous exhaustion in Miss White's physical condition, but the letters seem rather to imply that. If that is true and if Miss White is to be married next summer it would seem to us better probably for her to give the year to getting entirely well and to present her resignation to the Yenching College Committee. We hesitate to say otherwise lest it may seem to discourage her, and thus to retard her restoration to health. You who understand her condition better than we can well be able to advise her and us in regard to this point. We understand from Miss Cookingham's letter of October 2 to Mr. Garside that Miss White has received her salary through September and had an advance of \$300. gold. This will perhaps be sufficient to bring her to America. The question of further financial responsibility on the part of the Yenching College Committee can hardly be decided until we have fuller information. Miss White has really given but one year of service in Yenching. If she should not return for even a part of this year and should be married and thus withdraw from Yenching in the summer of 1932 it would seem at least doubtful whether the Yenching College Committee had further obligation. Still, we do all want to do everything possible to enable Miss White to regain her health. I wish we knew whether she has ere this come to California and whether her mother is with her. It would also be of great help to us if we could know whether the family has means sufficient to enable them to meet the cost of Miss White's stay in the sanatorium. Do you agree with us in thinking that it might be well for Miss White to present her resignation as a member of the faculty of Yenching and that this might make it easier to determine the question of the financial obligation of the Yenching College Committee on her account?

Of course a matter of supreme interest to us all was the possibility of Yenching's securing Miss Tseng as acting dean. We shall await further word on that matter with the deepest interest. We are grateful to Miss Wood for enclosing a copy of the letter that went to Miss Tseng, and to you for sending a copy of Miss Tseng's reply. I hope Dr. Stuart was able to see her and that by this time Miss Tseng has signified her readiness to come to Yenching for a period of service, recognizing as we all do the possibility that she may eventually become the Chinese dean for whom we have long been seeking.

Your air mail letter of October 17 reached Boston on November 6, the day after I got home from New York, and of course too late for presentation to the Yenching College Committee. As you will see from the minutes, Mrs. Boyd and Mr. Garside were appointed as a sub-committee to recommend such changes in the by-laws as may be necessary to bring the method of appointing the dean of the Woman's College into line with the requirements of the Department of Education. I am sending them each a copy of your letter as well as of the other correspondence we have had on this subject, and I feel sure the necessary changes can be effected in due time.

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We are very glad indeed that you are taking up the question of the method of appointment of candidates on the field. It is as you recognize, very desirable for the procedure in regard to foreign workers engaged on the field to be regularized and there may be questions also in regard to the procedure in correspondence with Chinese candidates. As you know, Mrs. Frame has frequently written to Miss Kendrick, asking her to get acquainted with Chinese women studying in America, while the appointment of Chinese members of the faculty belongs to the groups in China rather than to us, we are always glad to be of help in this way if it is desired. It is obviously desirable for many reasons for us to know Chinese students in America insofar as that may be feasible, especially those who are being considered for work in China. We shall be most interested in the findings of the Policy Committee, appointed to go into the whole question of the place of women on the University faculty.

Let me call your attention very especially to vote 488 which grew out of the discussions on the functions of the Promotion Committee of the Yenching College Committee. As you know, it has been recognized for several years that direct promotional work for the University must be done as a unit and that it will do harm rather than good for the Yenching College Committee or its promotion Committee to ask for small gifts from people who might in time be interested to do larger things for the University. The discussion of last Tuesday seemed to call forth the conviction on the part of the members of the Committee that the chief function of our Promotion Committee should be to deepen the interest of friends already made and to enlarge the circle of friends of Yenching. It was felt that this could be done far more effectively by communications received directly from China than by printed matter sent out by the Woman's College Committee. In other words, we feel that the days for Yenching College News letters is perhaps passed and that the friends to whom such printed letters have been sent should henceforth receive communications direct from China. The request is therefore, that the faculty formulate a definite plan for the sending of three letters from Yenching each year, to the names on a mailing list which will be sent you very soon. Our thought is that these letters might well be written by different pens and that they should, if possible be on Chinese stationery. The very fact of their coming from China under a Chinese postable stamp will do something to insure their being read. It is not out thought that these letters should definitely solicit gifts, but that they should bring the friends of Yenching into intimate acquaintance with the life of the College, its student body, its faculty, its graduates and their service, and the needs and problems of the College. Reference was made to Mrs. Frame's letters to Mt. Holyoke College, which were spoken of as "literary gems." We think that Mrs. Frame may find it possible perhaps to write one of the three letters suggested above, and you, Miss Wagner, Miss Wood and others were spoken of as writing the type of letters needed. We would like them to be as personal as may be. The purpose is as stated above to deepen the interest of friends the College now has and to enlarge the circle of its friends. Dean Franklin was made Chairman of the Promotion Committee and is now endeavoring to get the mailing list in shape to send you. It was definitely stated that the charge for this

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Miss M.S.----4.

publicity work should be met by an additional grant from the Yenching College Committee. The expense involved would include postage, and any stenographic or mimeographing work that might be needed. Our Committee has, as you know, an expense fund and the expense of these letters will be charged against this fund.

The minutes of the October 3 meeting of the Administrative Committee speaks of Mrs. Slade's proposals. We shall naturally be much interested to have the further thought of the Administrative Committee in regard to her suggestions. We are very glad she could be with you in Yenching.

In closing let me assure you that we will look forward with eagerness to frequent letters from you. I hope you will not be disturbed that your letter of October 17 did not reach us in time for our meeting. The work would have to be done by a separate sub-committee any how so I think it really made no difference.

Please let me, through you, send affectionate personal greetings to other members of your staff. We rejoice that Yenching has been so self-controlled during these difficult days of concern because of the Manchuria situation. We follow the reports of developments as given in our daily papers with some sinking of heart because of the difficulties of the situation. Please be assured that we think of you all and of the Chinese people and Government very prayerfully and sympathetically.

Ever cordially yours,

Mrs. Lucian O. Lee.

EBL:dsk
encs.

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RECEIVED

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

NOV 10 1931

National Board
of the

Yenching Womens Christian Associations
of the United States of America

600 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Plaza 3-4700

Ans. _____

November 9, 1931

My dear Mrs. Lee,

Mrs. Speer wanted you to have the
following paragraph from one of Margaret'
Speer's letters of August 9th.

"When there's another vacancy in the American
Board representatives on the Yenching College
Committee, you might suggest Miss Amy Welcher of
Hartford. She's a remarkably up and coming person
and very active in the Congregational Church.
She is going to be in Peking for a month this
fall, so we can show her Yenching inside and out."

Sincerely yours,

Anna Vogel
Anna Vogel
For Mrs. Speer

Mrs. Lucius O. Lee
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

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January 8, 1938.

Miss Margaret Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

Dear Miss Speer:

The letter which came from you a short time ago in regard to faculty personnel for next year has been handed over to Miss Kendrick and she has, I think, written you. I know you and all the friends at Yenching will rejoice that Miss Kendrick has made so complete a recovery from her illness and is able to take up Yenching work again. I was somewhat disappointed that Miss McGowen felt she could not prolong her stay in China for at least a year. Am I right in understanding that you would be unqualifiedly glad to have her stay on? We at this distance often hesitate to bring pressure to bear lest there may be circumstances in a given situation which are unknown to us. From the little letter Miss McGowen wrote me I have the impression that she might still be open to continuance for another year if she were pressed to stay, at least, the only reason she gives for feeling that she must come home at the end of this school year is the fact that her family is expecting her. There may be family circumstances making that advisable or necessary. In the case of a daughter who is doing independent and responsible work of her own, the family is however, generally ready to be influenced by her own best judgment and desire. I would therefore suggest that if you really feel that Miss McGowen's continuance in Yenching for another year is desirable, you talk the matter over very earnestly with her. In the meantime, Miss Kendrick is taking up correspondence with the other two young women whose names you suggest.

As to Miss Veghte, is she quite unwilling to consider more permanent service in Yenching? She has fitted into the department very well has she not, and has done excellent service. Even if she feels that she should come home at the end of her three year term I hope she will be willing to consider returning for another period of service. If she comes next summer without the question of further service having been raised, the natural thing for us to do will be to consider that she has fulfilled her engagement and is now unrelated to Yenching or the Yenching College Committee. That would mean that she would at once get a position of some kind in America. Will you not talk it over with her again? I should personally be very glad if she were willing to apply to the Presbyterian Board for appointment as

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Miss M. S.--2.

a missionary and for the Board to assign her as one of its quota on the Yenching faculty.

Yesterday evening Nancy Cochran came to see me and we had a very nice little talk. Immediately on receipt of your letter I wrote to Dr. Scott, asking what the attitude of the Presbyterian Board would be toward Miss Cochran's return under the Yenching College Committee, but I have not yet had a reply. I also raised with him the question whether in case Miss Cochran's relation should in the future be to the Committee rather than to the Board her support would go with her. This is another one of the questions to which we have not yet an answer. I will doubtless hear from Dr. Scott before long and we will keep you informed as developments take place. Miss Wood's cablegram of December 15 asking for the speedy return of Miss Stahl and Miss Cheney came duly and I at once wrote to the two young women. You will have heard from them by the time this letter reaches you. Miss Cheney has explained to me that her delay is on account of her mother's health and that while she has done considerable speaking during the time she is in America the W.F.M.S. has not held her for the sake of the speaking. Her present hope is that she can sail in the spring, probably late April or early May, and reach Peiping in time to get in touch with College affairs so that she can lift a large part of the responsibility for summer work. I am sure the decision not to go earlier has been a hard one for her to reach and she has been and is very conscientious in trying to find out what is the right course for her.

Miss Stahl writes that although she is distinctly better she has not quite reached the place yet where she can return to China. She hopes that she may be well enough to go at the same time Miss Cheney does in the spring. Personally I should doubt the wisdom of that as she is evidently still yet not really well. Unless there is some urgency in regard to her return of which I do not know it would seem to me much better for her as she has been obliged to wait so long, to continue in America until next August and then get back in time for the opening of the College year. Just what it is right for her to do she and the W.F.M.S. will naturally determine, but she is very keen to get back to Yenching and needs to be held in check rather than to be urged to go.

To go back for a moment to the subject of the Physical Education work. I have not seen Miss Marjorie Holt since your letter came. It will, I am sure, be a great disappointment to her to be told that we have not work for her in Yenching. The judgment of those who have come to know her seems, however, to be quite unanimously that she is not the one for the position.

We think of you constantly these days, especially because of the anxiety and problems you are inevitably meeting in connection with the accretion of the Japanese in Manchuria and now south of the Great Wall. This morning's papers printed a pronouncement of our Government which calls upon Japan and China alike to ~~live up~~ ^{live up} to the conditions of the Kellogg pact, and declares that our government cannot countenance acts contrary to the requirements of that pact. We are glad that such a statement has been made and only wish it might have been done two weeks earlier.

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Miss M.S.--3.

We feel that the Yenching students have on the whole shown admirable restraint, but we are sure that the times are difficult for you all.

With very special greetings to the different members of the faculty and love to you and Augusta Wagner, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Lucius C. Lee.)

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學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peking China

Department of English

January 18, 1932

Mrs. Lucius O. Lee,
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass.

FEB 15 1932

Feb. 23/32.

Dear Mrs. Lee,

I hope you will forgive both the long delay since my last letter and the fact that I am somewhat stumbly typing this one myself. To-day is the first day of our mid-winter vacation and I am making the most of it to do some of the things that have been most on my conscience. I have found to my sorrow that the immediate demands of the English Department have left even less time than I expected for the less tangible but no less important work of the Women's College.

We read with interest the minutes of the November meeting of the Yenching College Committee and of the Board of Trustees. The question of a Joint Board of Trustees for all the Christian Colleges in China will of course be finally decided by people at home who have at heart the same interests that we do. To most of us out here it seems an experiment of doubtful value. The saving in efficiency would seem at the cost of too great a loss in personal interest.

The new method for promotion publicity suggested by the YCC meets with great favor. We shall do our best to cooperate and shall send out a letter as soon as Dean Franklin's mailing list reaches us. You will send us very frank criticisms and suggestions about the material we send out, won't you?

We quite agree with all that you said in your letter of November 9 about Roberta White. After leaving here in September she joined her family in Shanghai. Although she gained in weight during two months there, the doctors still felt she needed care which she could only get in America. So early in December she and her mother left for California. Miss Wood has discussed the question of Miss White's return very fully with Mr. Taylor, Miss White's fiance. They are most anxious to be married next fall, but Mr. Taylor is not yet sure of a position. If it should not be possible for them to be married then and if Miss White is fully recovered in health, she would naturally want to return to Yenching next fall. The question in our minds is whether in view of the threatened cuts in the budget, Miss White is really needed in the Psychology Department. Asking Miss White to resign would, I am afraid, make her feel that she had no ties left to cling to. Considering her on indefinite leave of absence without salary would be kinder treatment. I think there will be definite actions by the Department of Psychology and the Budget Committee in a few days which will help us to reach a final decision. *Her present address is 129 West 103rd Street, Upland, California.*

As you know Miss Milam was here with us for six weeks before Christmas. Her interest in the Department of Home Economics is invaluable. She

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Mrs. Lee 2

學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peking China

Department of English

was frankly disappointed that the department had not made more rapid strides in the eight years since she first established it. It is only natural that she should find it hard to realize the inevitable discrepancy between a small struggling department here and her own well supported school of Home Economics in Oregon. I feel that our department has been doing manfully with the resources at its disposal. Miss Chen has cheerfully shouldered her new responsibilities as chairman and Miss Mary Katherine Russell, lent to us by the WFMS, is showing great interest though she is required to spend half time in language study. The most pressing need of the department is an additional instructor. We have set our hearts on Miss Kung Lan Chen, one of our former students who is now in New York. As you will remember there was some correspondence with Miss Kung last year but she wished to stay on in America to finish her Ph.D. I have written to her and told her that you would probably get in touch with her. I told her of our desire to have her join the department next fall, but I did not mention actual salary arrangements. As a matter of fact, according to our present scale she would rank as an instructor, but just where her salary falls within the limits of LC 140 - 200, depends partially on whether or not she gets her Ph.D. Her address, in case you do not have it, is

Miss Lan Chen Kung
International House
500 Riverside Drive
New York City

It has just occurred to me that perhaps I should be sending this information directly to Mrs. Finley, but since you probably have some correspondence about Miss Kung in your files, maybe you would be good enough to pass this on to Mrs. Finley.

I see no way to provide Miss Kung's salary without adding it to the budget, but she is such a necessary addition to the Home Economics Department and it is so essential that the Women's College take every opportunity to add capable young Chinese women to its staff, that we hope the YCC will find some way of squeezing out the money.

We have been bitterly disappointed that Miss Tseng on account of ill health has not been able to accept our invitation to come to us for the second semester. We do not know at present whether there is any hope of her coming next year. The present committee is reluctantly continuing until June. Miss Wood is carrying the bulk of the responsibility and doing it splendidly. But she goes home in June. We hope that if Ruth Stahl and Monona Cheney are able to return before the summer we may have more light on the right course for next year.

There are lots of other things I want to tell you but this must catch to-day's mail. In the comparative leisure of the next two weeks I shall hope to write a more leisurely letter.

Cordially yours,

Margaret Bailey Spurr

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部女學大京燕
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA.

Office of the Dean

RECEIVED February 18, 1932
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Mrs. L. O. Lee
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass.

MAR 9 1932

My dear Mrs. Lee:

On Saturday Miss Wood sent you a fat envelope containing the proposed budget, the minutes of the Administrative Committee meeting on February 5th, and several other enclosures. I am including in this letter a copy of the minutes of the Board of Managers meeting, for your file.

BUDGET - The center of all our deliberations for the past few weeks has of course been the budget. The minutes of the Administrative Committee tell what actions we have taken. Miss Cookingham is writing to Mr. Evans about several details, and I shall try to enclose a copy of her letter with this. Mr. Garside's letter to Mr. Ts'ai, which quite casually indicated a drop from G \$11,797. to G \$7,400.1 in our income from the Yenching College Committee, came as a great blow. We had naturally expected that in view of conditions both in America and China our income would be cut, but we were not prepared for a 25% reduction. You will see, however, that we have done our best to make corresponding adjustments in the budget. Some of the changes we have suggested may need a word of explanation.

USE OF SCHOLARSHIP SURPLUS - The sum of L C \$1192.00 is a surplus from scholarship funds contributed by Oregon Home Economics clubs, and scholarships regularly received from Wheaton. Since all our students who need scholarships have been granted them, it seemed to us that for this year the surplus might be used for current expenses. We have written to Miss Milam and to Wheaton asking for their permission for this.

ROBERTA WHITE'S SALARY - It is with the greatest reluctance that we have struck Roberta White's salary off the list. Since there is uncertainty about her ability to return next fall, and since the Chairman of the Psychology Department reports that the work of the department can be carried without her, we did not feel justified in keeping the amount of L C \$2,921.25 in the budget.

DEAN'S SALARY - When we had made every cut we could think of, there still remained a deficit of G \$2,433. To meet this we have suggested four possible sources of saving. The first is a saving on the salary of the Dean. Apparently Miss Tseng cannot be expected next year, and no other Chinese woman of the type we need

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seems available. We shall keep on searching, but if we do not find one by autumn, we shall have to get along next year in a makeshift manner.

ANNE COCHRAN'S TRAVEL - You at home will be more closely in touch with the negotiations about Miss Cochran than we are here. A recent letter from her and a letter from her uncle to Dr. Stuart have made us think that there is hope of Mr. Cochran's contributing her travel and outfit allowance, even if he cannot undertake the regular responsibility of her salary. If some such arrangement could be made, it would take care of more than L C \$2,000. The English Department is counting on Miss Cochran's return, and feels that the work she is doing at Radcliffe this year will fit her for a term of even greater usefulness than before.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT - The saving on the salary of a new member of the Education Department is a saving we hope not to have to make. Our only representative now in that department is Miss Tseng, whereas formerly we had three women. If, however, there is no money, we cannot continue our search for a suitable woman for that position.

FIELD SURPLUS - To meet the deficit which would still remain even if these savings could be effected, the Administrative Committee voted that a sum up to one-quarter of the field surplus might be used. Though it is a questionable policy to meet current expenses by using up the surplus, you can readily see that drastic measures had to be taken if the cut in our income is really as great as Mr. Garside seemed to think. In 1931-32 the income we received from the Y C C was G \$13,920; this year it was G \$11,797; and the predicted amount for next year is G \$7,400. A cut of such proportions in a budget as small as ours is not easy to meet.

RELATION OF WOMEN'S COLLEGE BUDGET TO UNIVERSITY - A question which has occurred to us is whether, under the circumstances, it is fair for all gifts to the University proper to continue to go to general University expenses, without any share going to the Women's College. For example, funds are continually received for the University, which are given to it as a co-educational institution, yet these all go to general University expenses, and the Women's College is left to its own resources. If a share of such funds is ever to go to the Women's College, directions for this must be given in New York, for out here we cannot ask for anything which has not already been designated at home for the Women's College. Or, to look at the matter from another angle, is it desirable that the Women's College instructional staff should be more and more curtailed, while the share of operating expenses and home administration that the Women's College has to pay, remains constant? At present our share of the operation of the Power Plant amounts to

about one-fourth of our total budget. We cannot cut this item, but if we go on cutting instruction, eventually the Women's College will be two-sevenths of the Power Plant, and nothing more. Please do not think this is a complaint. We realize the difficulties that the Y CC, along with all other missionary organizations, is facing; but we regret to see the Women's College staff, which is already less than a fifth of the total University staff, shrinking still further.

BUDGET ITEM - 12 A 1 - So far I have filled this letter with problems of budget readjustments. Perhaps there are actual items in the budget which need explanation. Under 12 A 1 we have made no provision for travel for the Dean's secretary, since rearrangements on the field are under consideration.

322 - Under 322 we have put down a new instructor in music, for though we are still hoping to persuade Miss Veghte to stay, she has not finally consented.

33 A - Miss Russell's name does not yet appear under 33 A, because her Mission has not yet formally approved of her staying on here another year.

333 - You will notice that the amount for Home Economics Department expenses is larger this year than last. Miss Milan felt, and we agreed with her, that more money was needed here. If Miss Kung comes back, we do not want to handicap the research that she is so well fitted to do.

The final item of L C \$300 for language study is this year entered as a lump sum instead of being divided among the people who are entitled to take advantage of it.

Under Income the quota vacancy of four salaries from the American Board is assumed from the fact that next year Gertrude Wood will be the only representative of the American Board on the field. We have had no final word of the arrangements about Grace Boynton, but are expecting that after one year of furlough the Board does not consider that her second year's leave is at the expense of the Women's College.

This is surely enough for one letter. Mr. Gamble, who is returning to America this week, is good enough to take this to mail in California, so we hope it will reach you without delay.

While Shanghai is in a state of practical war, and Nanking waits uncertainty for a similar fate, Peiping continues undisturbed. We have this week taken in eight or ten guest students from Ginling, who were evacuated from Nanking, and could not go south to their homes in Canton.

With affectionate greetings to all the Y C C,

Sincerely yours,

Marjant Bailey Spur

February 20, 1932.

Miss Margaret B. Speer
Yenching University
Peking China

Dear Miss Speer:

Your very welcome letter of January 18 reached me two or three days ago. It is not at all difficult to understand that there are many demands upon you in your work in the English Department and I accordingly appreciate every letter that you find time to write.

I am glad you in teaching like the proposed new method for promotion publicity. As there has unfortunately been delay in mailing the revised mailing list to you, Mrs. Franklin has asked Miss Boynton to write the first letter. She has done so and we hope it may be mailed now within a few days. I will try to learn very soon whether Mrs. Franklin has actually sent you the list. If it has not gone I hope it can very soon and that you will see that some one is appointed to write another letter which can be mailed probably in April.

I am glad to have what you say as to Miss Roberta White and the possibility of her giving any more service in teaching. As her sister assured me that she and the family felt that Yenching had been very generous in its treatment of her and that she had no thought of asking for further financial help I think it probably best to let the whole question of her possible return to teaching lie on the table for the present. I really hope that the young people can realize their desire to be married next summer and in that case there will be no problem for us.

I am glad too to have what you say about the Home Economics Department and Miss Milam's disappointment that it had not made more rapid progress. I am sure you are right in feeling that it is very difficult for any one not familiar with the limitations of a mission institute and of all kinds of institutions in China at the present time quite to understand the difficulties in the way of rapid development of such a department. I am very glad that Miss Chen is doing such satisfactory work this year and that Miss Russell is there to help. I am

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Miss M.B.S.--2.

glad too that you have extended a definite invitation to Miss Kung Lan Chen and I assuredly hope she will accept. It happens that I am to be in New York on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week for another meeting of those interested in the China Colleges on the question of the proposed joint Board. I will try if possible to see Miss Kung while there and in any case will write her, expressing the hope that she can accept your invitation to join the staff of the Home Economics Department at Yenching next year.

You suggest that possibly letters in regard to candidates, whether American or Chinese should be written to Mrs. Finley. I am sure you know before this that Miss Hendrick is back and although not as strong as we could wish, seems able to carry a moderate amount of work. She is therefore, again taking up the candidate work for Yenching.

You will be interested to know that Nancy Cochran has come to see me two or three times and that we are at present looking forward with considerable confidence to giving her appointment to Yenching at the time of the Annual Meetings of the Yenching College Committee and the Trustees in April. If President Stuart comes, as we understand from Mr. Garside he still plans to, we will have an opportunity to talk with him about this and other matters before the dates of the April meetings. While I am on the subject of recruits I want to tell you of a thought that has occurred to me. You probably know, at least by reputation, Mr. Alden H. Clark who is one of the Foreign Secretaries of the American Board, and who has had a distinguished career as a missionary in India. He has a very charming daughter, a Smith graduate who I think holds also an M.A. degree from that college. She has served too as a secretary for the Student Volunteer Movement. She is not only good to look upon but a young woman of peculiarly attractive manner and personality and of a deeply spiritual nature. She is applying to the American Board for appointment as a missionary, preferably for work in India. It may seem right to send her to one of the two or three vacancies we are trying to fill in that country, but no one of them seems to offer exactly the type of work Mary Clark craves. The thought came to me the other day that it would be wonderful for Yenching to have a young woman of just this type. I pass the thought on and although she said nothing at all definite it seemed to me that the possibility attracted her. The subjects in which she has majored are, English and Sociology, but she has considerable gift and training in music. I wondered whether if Miss Veghte insists in coming home at the end of the current year the need for another teacher in the Music Department at Yenching might be filled by the appointment of Miss Clark on the understanding that she should give part time to Music work and part time to English teaching. Grace Boynton has been in this morning and I made the suggestion to her. She had met Mary Clark in Radcliffe a few days ago and at once said that she thought Yenching particularly needed to add to its faculty one or more young women of just this type. She also seemed to think that some additional help in English might be very desirable and that one person's combining some work in English and some in Music would not be an impossibility. I pass this suggestion on to you for what it may be worth and shall hope to have your reaction to it at as early a date as possible. Of course it is quite possible that Mary Clark will have accepted one of the two positions in India which she is considering even before my letter can reach you.

Of course we share your deep disappointment that Miss Tseng could not accept Yenching's invitation. Do you know what progress she

Miss M.B.S.--3.

is making toward health? I have had nothing further from Ruth Stahl or Monona Cheney since I wrote you last. I think Miss Cheney is quite definitely hoping to sail for China in the spring, but still think that it may be wise for Miss Stahl to delay going until summer.

This letter has grown long and I have said no word about the political situation. You know I am sure, how deeply concerned we all are over the momentous events that are taking place in China. We still cling to the hope that arbitration may be possible. We are proud of the Yenching students that they have on the whole kept their heads so well and given themselves faithfully to their college work in spite of all the excitement about them.

With the kindest of personal greetings, not only to you but to your fellow workers, and assurance of our loving interest in everything connected with Yenching, I am,

Cordially yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

0982

RECEIVED (Copy)
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

APR 25 1932

c/o Mr. J. C. H. Tseng,
Maritime Custom House,
Chefoo.
March 23, 1932.

My dear Miss Wood,

I thank you for your renewed invitation to work in Yenching, as proposed in your letter of the 18th inst. It is impossible to express in words my feelings. You have honoured me by your patience in waiting for my recovery. I read a letter which is full of sympathy and consideration over my illness, yet it carries with it an atmosphere of urgent appeal. You are anxious not to "embarrass me" even when a clear-cut definite answer from me would greatly simplify matters for you. All I can say is you have won my admiration more completely than ever.

It is true I have made much headway towards complete recovery. But my pulse and temperature are not yet normal, and I cannot be too careful in my convalescence. I did not allow myself sufficient rest before attending the Biennial Conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations, and the result was I nearly killed myself. It would be extremely unwise for me to run the risk of again taking up work too soon after apparent recovery. My physician's orders were that I am to rest for at least one year even if I feel quite well. I am afraid therefore I will have to disappoint you once more, and deny myself the privilege of working amongst you. I earnestly hope you will turn your attention elsewhere for your new dean, as your work is too important to be kept waiting on my uncertain health.

I trust you will have a very successful term and assure you of my deep interest in you all. It is really more my misfortune than yours that I cannot take part in your great adventure for Christ and China.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Pao Swen Tseng
(Miss Pao Swen Tseng)

Miss Myfanwy Wood,
Chairman Dean's Acting Committee,
Yenching College for Women,
P E I P I N G

0983

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

MAY 2 1932

CABLE SENT TO MRS. LEE ON MARCH 29, 1932

Lee

Mrs. Lucius O. Lee

Fernstalk

Boston

Kunglan Chen

Kung Lan Chen

yfruj

We recommend your urging (Miss Kung) to

khiln

accept the invitation

jahus

Household Economics

amaib

Almost all

epifw

regular courses in

imuyz

foods

alwin

Can make an allowance

otuvl

\$500 local currency

knybm

laboratory

Speer

0984

March 30, 1932.

Miss Margaret B. Speer
Yenching University
Peiping, China

Dear Miss Speer:

Your cablegram of March 29
reached us yesterday. We have
translated it to read:

We recommend your urging Kung
Lan Chen to accept the invita-
tion Household Economics almost
all regular courses in foods
can make an allowance of 500
Mexican laboratory.

I am glad to tell you that a letter I received from Miss Kung some
little time ago told me that she had definitely accepted Yenching's
invitation and that she is planning to go back to Peiping this summer.
I have written her this morning quoting the cablegram. I judge some
of the information you give is probably in answer to questions she
may have asked. I am glad indeed that Yenching is to have Miss Kung's
help in its Home Economics work next year.

You will be interested to know that President Stuart was
with us yesterday. I had a long visit with him in the morning after
which he went out to Cambridge. In the early afternoon he spoke
to the Prudential Committee of the American Board and after that
had a good visit with Grace Boynton and Miss Kendrick. In the even-
ing he shared in a very informal conference some of us, mostly of-
ficers of the American Board had, on the subject "What makes a
College Christian?" I was so glad that he could be here and that
a number of our staff could get better acquainted with him. It will
be a great thing also to have him at the Annual Meetings in New York
week after next.

On budget and other matters it is not worth while for
me to write until we have something definite to say. The question
of Nancy Cochran's appointment by the Trustees will be taken up at
the April 13th meeting.

We do think of you much these days as we realize that
it is strenuous business to be living in China just now. May you

0985

Miss M.B.S.--2.

all have strength given you according to your need.

I was pleased to have Dr. Stuart speak so appreciatively of what you are doing in the line of lifting the standard of work in the English Department.

With the best of wishes to you all, I am,

Affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBI:dsk

0986

(copy)

RECEIVED

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

APR 25 1932

March 31, 1932

Dr. J. L. Stuart
Care of P. L. Wills
7515 De Long Pre Avenue
Hollywood, California

Dear Leighton:

A special meeting of the Women's College Faculty was called last evening to consider a further letter from Miss Tseng. I have kept constantly in touch with her, and we were unanimously resolved to "nominate" (if that is to be our part of the step to secure our Dean) her as soon as there is any indication of her recovery of health. This letter from her now - together with a private note to me - definitely disposes of our hope for at least two or three years - her recovery will be such a slow process.

This is a great grief to all of us for we had all come to desire to have her as Dean.

Another suggestion was brought forward. You may remember the name of Miss Netta Ssuhuh who has taught for several years at Nankai and been Dean of their women students. Several of our Chinese faculty know her well. Caroline Ch'en and Kit King Louis have been her students, and they are very enthusiastic about her. In the past I know that Mrs. Frame felt that her lack of Chinese background was an insurmountable obstacle to our inviting her. But now that we cannot get Miss Tseng we feel strongly that Miss Ssuhuh has so many of the qualifications that we desire to move in the direction of securing her. It is not yet clear what our part is to be constitutionally - whether we nominate or what not - but whatever that part is, we took it last night, and this morning a cable is being sent to you, reading as follows:

"Yenching New York Stuart -Tseng cannot accept any appointment - can you arrange an interview - Netta Ssuhuh - will she consider call dean - if you are satisfied - and - Yenching College Committee - we send a hearty invitation - telegraph if this is possible - Wood"

0987

- 2 -

Our thought is that you will talk over the matter with the Yenching College Committee and that as you go west you will stop off at Michigan and see Miss Ssuhu. Our information is that she finishes her Ph. D. at Ann Arbor this summer. Nankai has invited her back, but she has not committed herself to them.

We feel sure that your cooperation and personal talk with her is our very best approach and we just trust the matter to you.

We wish there had been time for this letter to reach you before you leave New York, but there is not, so this will reach you in the west, after you have had, we hope, the interview with Miss Ssuhu.

All goes as usual, and we look forward to your return in May.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

- 3 -

0988

ALLEGEDLY

ALLEGEDLY

IN MAY

ALLEGEDLY

ALLEGEDLY

ALLEGEDLY

ALLEGEDLY

部女學大京燕
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA.

Air Mail

Office of The Dean

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

March 31, 1932

Mrs. L. O. Lee
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass.

APR 25 1932

Ans. _____

My dear Mrs. Lee:

This is just a sort of a stop-gap letter because we find there is a mail going today, and we want to report the latest development about the dean.

Copy At our last regular faculty meeting in March we made another attempt to get Miss Tseng, but as the enclosed copy of her letter will indicate there seems to be practically no hope of her coming. Last night we held a special Women's College faculty meeting and discussed another candidate, Miss Nettie Soohoo, who is now working for her Ph. D. in Ann Arbor, and with whom Miss Stahl has been in touch. She was born in San Francisco, where her father was a Chinese Christian minister, is about 37 years old, came to China ten years ago to teach in Canton, and later came to Nankai University, where she taught in the English Department for several years, and was later Dean of Women for two years. Three years ago she received a Barbour Scholarship, and now expects to receive her Ph. D. from Ann Arbor this June. Ruth Stahl knows her well and can give you more information about her, and we will write more in detail later. We hear excellent reports about her from all sides, and feel that we should be very fortunate in securing her as Dean. She has been invited to return to Nankai, but as yet, I believe, has not given them a definite answer. *To her*

As a result of our faculty meeting last night, today we are sending Dr. Stuart the following cable:

"Yenching New York Stuart - Tseng cannot accept any appointment - can you arrange an interview Netta Ssuhu - will she consider call dean - if you are satisfied - and Yenching College Committee - we send a hearty invitation - telegraph if this is possible - Wood"

0990

- 2 -

We trust that he will get in touch with you and Miss Ssuhu, and give you the result of his conference with her. If you feel after talking with him that Miss Ssuhu is satisfactory, we hope very much that you will appoint her as Dean. The matter has not been brought to the Administrative Committee as yet, because we feel that since Miss Ssuhu is in America, and Dr. Stuart is in a position to see her there, we should not take a more formal action at this end until the Y C C and Dr. Stuart have consulted together. The Women's College faculty, however, is unanimous in wanting Miss Ssuhu as Dean next year.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Pheer

0991

April 26, 1932.

Miss Margaret B. Speer
Yenching College for Women
Peiping, China

Dear Miss Speer:

I herewith send you a copy of the Minutes of the April 13 meeting of the Yenching College Committee. You will have a more detailed copy of the budget as approved from the New York office. As you will see, the appointment of Miss Anne Cochran as a teacher in the English Department at Yenching was recommended to the Trustees. The Trustees the following day made the appointment and we are expecting Miss Cochran to go out late this summer. I do not yet have detailed information as to her time of sailing.

Miss Kendrick is corresponding with a number of women in regard to the need for a director of Physical Education. She or I will let you know as soon as we have anything definite. It is surprising how many lines seem to lead nowhere as we follow them up. We very earnestly hope that Miss Veghte may consent to stay on for another year. We shall hope to hear her decision before very long.

You will at once recognize the action taken in vote 502 as the most important action of the meeting. We all felt keenly the necessity of meeting the conditions of the Rockefeller Conditional gift to the College of Natural Sciences if it is at all possible to do so. Every trustee is asked to help in this effort. I know that many others are feeling as I am, greatly puzzled as to what we can do. In my own case the needs of the American Board work are so many and so urgent that we already seem to have approached every possible giver. However, we will all do the best we can and the Woman's College Committee is glad to help to the extent of assigning its endowment funds toward the securing of further money for the College of Natural Sciences on the conditions named in the vote.

Your air mail letter of March 31 reached me on April 25. We of course did not have it before our meeting of April 13

0992

Miss M.B.S.--2.

but Dr. Stuart had received, and had shared with us the cable-gram you sent him telling of Miss Tseng's inability to accept the position of Dean and of your desire that he meet Miss Ssuhu. He had not been able to see her when I saw him in New York, but I am sure he hoped to do so later. I will if possible get in touch with him again by letter and will confer with him as to steps that should be taken in regard to securing Miss Ssuhu for Yenching. My general feeling would be that she should be invited to come as a member of the faculty rather than Dean for at least a year, but you will know better about that than I. We will keep you in touch with any developments.

It was good to see the members of the Yenching College Committee and I was impressed again as I have been so many times by the keen and vital interest of all in the College. Mrs. Slade is going to be a real addition to our Committee I am sure.

With the very best of greetings to you each and all, I am,

Most cordially yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

enc.

0993

學大京燕

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

PEIPING, CHINA.

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MAY 2 1932

April 4, 1932

Dear Mrs. Lee, ~~Mr. Lee~~ ^{we} are all so distressed to hear a little while
ago of your great sorrow. You have been continually in
our thoughts and prayers.

Always affectionately yours,

Margaret Bailey Spencer

0994

學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT

April 4, 1932

Mrs. Lucius O. Lee
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Mass.

MAY 2 1932

Dear Mrs. Lee,

I seem fated to send you only hasty notes. The one last week was sent off in a great hurry just as a group of the Laymen's Inquiry Commission had arrived, but we wanted to send you immediate word of the cable we had sent to Dr. Stuart.

Earlier in the week we sent you a cable about Kung Lan Chen, a copy of which I am enclosing. We had had a letter from her asking questions about courses and an allowance for laboratory work and since she was most anxious to have an answer before April first we resorted to a cable.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have just written to Miss Kendrick, indeed it sounds more like an inventory than a letter. The point about Miss Cookingham needs further explanation. As you know she came out on a three year term. She has said that she would be glad to extend her contract for two years on the understanding that she be given a furlough in 1934-1935. We have replied that we are referring the matter to the YCC. Our own recommendation would be most favorable to this. If this were done there seems every indication that Miss Cookingham would return to Yenching in 1935. She does not wish to commit herself now however because she does not feel she has had sufficient experience in her new position of Associate Treasurer for the University to enable her to make a decision so long ahead. This is the first year that she has held this position and I think she has found the work very much to her liking. Mr. Tsai, the Treasurer, is to be on furlough next year, so that will not be a normal year in the office. After he returns I think Miss Cookingham will feel in a better position to commit herself for a longer period. It would seem to us quite fair to give Miss Cookingham a furlough in 1934. Although the ^{new} present regulations give furloughs every six years, if she had come on a long term instead of a short one she would have come under the old regulations and would have been entitled to a furlough at the end of five years.

Your letter about Mary Clark sounded very promising, but as you will see by my letter to Miss Kendrick there does not seem to be a place for her now. There is a bare possibility that we may need a new person in English and I shall let you know at once if we do.

We are having a week's spring vacation. Miss Wood has taken her sister down to the country station where she spent her first years in China. I am off to T'ai Shan this afternoon. Dr. Nutting is going to hold the fort until we get back.

With most affectionate greetings to you all,

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Bailey Spence

0995

May 3, 1932.

Miss Margaret B. Speer
Yenching College for Women
Paiping, China.

Dear Miss Speer:

Your letter of April 4 with enclosures came yesterday. In the evening Miss Kendrick telephoned me telling of the receipt of your letter to her with its definite word that she need not continue her search for a music teacher to go out this summer. My understanding is that Ruth Stahl is quite definitely expecting to be able to go and that you may count on her being with you by the beginning of the fall term.

We are delighted that Miss Hight is ready to consider permanent work in Yenching. I hope she will keep us in touch with her plans on reaching America. Her hotel is on the Pacific Coast I think. Please ask her to be sure to let us know the date of her arrival and any plans she has for her months in America. It is generous of her to be ready to go back in less than a year if there is need.

Miss Kendrick is doubtless keeping you in touch with developments in her search for a physical education director. The Miss Paton of whom you write is definitely out of the picture I understand. At present the best possibility seems to be a Miss Edson who is to marry a young man who is to go to China as a Yenching fellow this coming year. This arrangement would be temporary only but it seems a possibility at least as a makeshift until some one more permanent is found. As yet we know little of Miss Edson, but what we know sounds good both as to training, experience and personality. Miss Kendrick will keep you informed as the correspondence proceeds.

The special purpose of this letter from me is to call your attention to vote 499 of the last meeting of the Yenching College Committee. In that vote the Administrative Committee is requested "to study the financial policy of the Women's College in relation to the faculty and to make recommendations to the Yenching College Committee." This action grew out of a discussion as to the number of faculty members who should be counted as

0996

Miss M.B.S.--2.

members of the Woman's College Faculty. Now that the Woman's College is not a distinct department from the academic point of view we all think of the group of women students and teachers as constituting the entity we continue to speak of as the Woman's College. Obviously, however, the Woman's College budget cannot carry the responsibility for all the women teachers. Just where should the line be drawn? Our hope is that the women faculty members will all of them continue to feel a special interest in the girl students and that a feeling of oneness and common responsibility for extra-curricula duties can be fostered. How can this best be done? Will you see that the matter is, in accordance with the vote given consideration by the Administrative Committee and a report made to us in time that it can be given to the next regular meeting of the Yenching College Committee.

I should perhaps refer to one other matter, and that is the letter from Yenching that should be mailed to the entire Yenching College mailing list this spring. I think Mrs. Franklin some time ago sent you a copy of the mailing list and I trust that a letter has by this time been prepared and sent. To make sure that there has been no slip up in this regard I wrote Mrs. Franklin yesterday. If we should unhappily find that the list was not sent I will see that you have one immediately and hope that you in turn can as promptly as possible get a letter off to all the people whose names are on the list. If you will report the cost involved in this work I will see that Mr. Garside credits the Woman's College budget with an amount sufficient to cover the cost. We realize that there is no provision for such work in the budget as it stands.

I still have no word as to what, if anything, President Stuart was able to do in getting in touch with Miss Ssu Hu, but I shall doubtless hear in due time.

Thank you very much for your personal word of sympathy to me. Please let all those who joined you in this word know that I greatly appreciate the remembrance.

Always affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius G. Lee.)

P.S. I should have told you that Mary Clark has decided that she prefers India as her field of service and that she will probably have one more year of study in America before going anywhere.

LSL

0997

Miss M.B.S.--2.

belonging to the Woman's College. Now that there is no longer a separate Woman's College from the academic point of view we think of the entire group of women, students and teachers, as constituting the entity we continue to speak of as the Woman's College. Obviously, however, the Woman's College budget cannot carry the responsibility for all the women teachers. Just where should the line be drawn? Our desire is to further any arrangement that will help the women faculty members to feel a special interest in the women students and will promote a feeling of unity and common responsibility for extra-curricular duties. How can this best be done? Will you see that the matter is, in accordance with the request contained in the vote, given consideration by the Administrative Committee and report to us by the next regular meeting of the Yenching College Committee?

I have on my mind another matter. It is the letter from Yenching that should be mailed to the entire Yenching College mailing list this spring. I think Mrs. Franklin some time ago sent you a copy of the mailing list and I trust that a letter has by this time been prepared and sent. If you will report the cost involved in this work I will see that Mr. Gerside credits the Woman's College with an amount sufficient to cover the cost. We realize that there is no provision for such work in the budget as it stands and that postage on so many letters counts up.

I still have no word as to what if anything, President Stuart was able to do in getting in touch with Miss Sau Hu, but I shall doubtless hear in due time.

Thank you very much for your personal word of sympathy to me. Please let all those who joined you in this word know that I greatly appreciate the remembrance.

Always affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

P.S. I should have told you that Mary Clark has decided that she prefers India as her field of service and that she will probably have one more year of study in America before going anywhere.

EBL:~

0998

June 23, 1932.

Miss Margaret B. Speer
Yenching College for Women
Peiping, China

My dear Miss Speer:

This morning's
mail brings me a letter from Miss Soo-Hoo
which reads as follows:

"My dear Mrs. Lee, with your kind letter of the 14th and Miss Stahl's of more recent date, I am beginning to feel much more sure of the prospective work at Peking. Dr. and Mrs. Wolfers have also told me of the splendid opportunities for service at Yenching, and have urged me to accept the invitation to act as Dean of the Woman's College there. I have thought the matter over carefully, and although I realize the difficult nature of the responsibilities attached to the office, I am willing to try and be of use to your excellent work. I wish that you would communicate to Yenching in Peking my final decision, and inform me of further details should they be forthcoming in the near future.

Thanking you for your helpfulness in this matter and anticipating a pleasant period of service in Yenching, I am,
Most sincerely yours, (Signed) Nettie Soo-Hoo."

You will probably be hearing from her about the same time this letter reaches you. In the meantime I am today sending you a cable reading simply, "Soo-Hoo Accepts." I know something of the tremendous relief it will be for all of you at the Woman's College again to have a Dean. We hope and pray that Miss Soo-Hoo may prove to be just the right person for that responsible position and that she may serve not one but many years and with ever increasing effectiveness and devotion.

In a previous letter Miss Soo-Hoo asked as to her salary and whether the College could pay traveling expenses. I did not attempt to give her an exact figure as to her salary but explained the principles in accordance with which salaries were determined in

0999

Miss M.B.S.--2.

Yenching and assured her that she would receive ample to enable her to live. I spoke also of the beautiful Dean's residence. The question as to travel I feel unable to answer but did pass onto Mr. Garside the suggestion that if Miss Soo-Hoo is to pay her own expenses eventually the Yenching College Committee might perhaps advance such amount as she needs to her on the understanding that it be paid back in installments as she draws a salary. I have as yet had no reply from Mr. Garside to that suggestion and in this letter of acceptance Miss Soo-Hoo does not raise the question. It is of course, not customary for the Yenching College Committee to pay traveling expenses for Chinese members of the faculty who have come to America on their own motion and who would naturally pay their own return travel. I speak of this now only that you may know what has been said to Miss Soo-Hoo in case the question should come up again. In my letter to her I am asking when she is to sail. I hope she will keep in close touch with you.

I trust that you yourself are to get away for some vacation. We have not yet heard of Miss Wood's leaving but she has probably by this time started for England.

With very kind greetings to you each and all, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Lucius C. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA.

July 3, 1932

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Dear Mrs. Lee.

Will you forgive a scumble from the hospital? I am
deadfully chagrined that I have not got a letter off to
you this last month. But just when the work of Commencement
& getting our people off on furlough was over and I thought
I'd have time for a proper letter, I ignominiously came down
with dysentery. However I hope to be out again soon, and in
the meantime I am in good company. For there are Yenching
people all around me and Mrs. Frame is in the next room.
I am asking Augustus Wagon and Miss Cheney to enclose
with this the minutes of several meetings which will be self explanatory.

✓ I cannot tell you how overjoyed we were when ten days ago your cable came saying that Miss Sothos had accepted the invitation to become Dean. It is all a long story, but I'll try to give you the bare outlines of it. We were aghast to find out when Dr. Stuart got back a month ago, that he had not secured Miss Sothos and that through some misunderstanding he had not called to us. The faculty met at once and we were all agreed that if there were one chance in a thousand of getting Miss Sothos, we must not let it slip. & consequently decided to cable you & her at once. The next day the cables went off, including one to Ruth Stahl since we thought through her friendship for Miss Sothos she would make an effective advocate for Yenching. As many members of the Administrative Committee as were in Peking were telephoned to before the cables were sent, and all of them heartily approved. Since you knew of our earlier attempt to get Miss Sothos through Dr. Stuart, and since he told us you had talked about her at the April meeting, we felt you would approve. We realize

學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

of course that it might be more completely satisfactory to wait until we had all seen her at work for a while out here, but all reports of her are so very satisfactory, and it is so important to get a Chinese Dean at the earliest possible moment that we all felt we must go ahead.

However, many people felt that our chance of getting Miss Soohoo was very slight, since it was so late in the year, and since Lingnan, Shanghai College, and Nankai were all trying for her too. It seemed therefore that before summer came and we were all separated that we had better decide on an alternative arrangement for next year in case Miss Soohoo could not come. Much to my dismay the faculty voted to ask me to be Dean if Miss Soohoo should refuse. This placed

me in a most uncomfortable dilemma. for I was painfully
conscious of my deficiencies in the qualities a Dean should
have and I was most reluctant to leave the work in the
English Department. However after a great deal of discussion,
I decided to accept the invitation. You can imagine therefore that
it was with a very special sense of thanksgiving that I heard that
Miss Sothoo will really come. But personal feelings aside, I feel
that this is the best possible year for a Chinese Dean to
begin work. It is a year since Mrs. Frame left; the Committee
has created no precedents, we are all anxious for one person
who can be a leader, and every one of us is ready to
give loyal support to Miss Sothoo.

I don't know whether you said anything to her about
salary. We did not mention it in the table for we
had nothing to go on except the figure in the budget
which you also had. We have some general University
regulations which I will send you, but I am not sure that they
will cover Miss Sothoo's case. If you agreed with her on
any particular sum I am sure it will be all right.

With best wishes to you all.

Very sincerely yours, Margaret Bailey Spicer

July 12, 1932

Miss Margaret B. Speer
Yenching College for Women
Pei ing, China

Dear Miss Speer:

This morning's mail brings me a letter from Miss Myfanwy Wood and also a reply from Mr. Garside to my question about traveling expenses for Miss Soo-Hoo. Perhaps the simplest way for me to share with you what Mr. Garside says in regard to traveling expenses is for me to enclose a copy of the letter which I am this morning writing Miss Soo-Hoo. You may have discovered that she is a rather slow correspondent. I have written her twice in regard to traveling arrangements but as yet have no word from her even as to whether or not she wishes us to engage her passage. It happens that three members of the American Board's North China Mission, Miss Chapin of Pekingfu, Miss Ruth Van Kirk and Miss Constance Buell are sailing on the President Jefferson, the same boat by which Miss Stahl also has her sailing. Our Treasury Department is holding tentatively an additional berth or two* and I have told Miss Soo-Hoo we can let her have one of these if she wishes us to do so. No doubt I will hear from her soon. I most sincerely hope that there may be no slip in regard to her going.

The paragraph in my letter to Miss Soo-Hoo which relates to her traveling expenses is, I think, all I need say about that point to you. You in consultation with others will know what is the right procedure. If Miss Soo-Hoo should indicate her feeling that this point must be settled before she sails either Mr. Garside or I will cable you. If a cable should go it will doubtless reach you before this letter does.

Miss Wood's letter speaks of the joy you have all experienced in welcoming Miss Cheney back and of her hope that definite word will have been received from Miss Soo-Hoo before the meeting of the Administrative Committee planned for June 18. Unfortunately I had not had a reply from Miss Soo-Hoo in time to cable you before that date, but I trust the cable did arrive in time to set your mind somewhat at rest.

* on the boat

1005

Speer --2

One paragraph in Miss Wood's letter I do not quite understand. She says, "The School of Religion has emphasized its need for me and so in all probability I shall return to them in the fall of 1933." Am I right in understanding this remark to mean that on her return from furlough, Miss Wood will be considered a member of the staff of the Yenching School of Religion and not a member of the Woman's College faculty? I cannot but wonder whether anything special lies behind this change. Miss Wood encloses a copy of her annual report as chairman of the Acting Dean's Committee and also writes in regard to the use of the American Board grant from the Higher Education Endowment Fund for the school year 1931-32.

You know that I always like to have you write freely in regard to anything connected with Yenching, even the problems as they inevitably arise. With love to you and the hope that you are surely to have some real vacation, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee)

L:O

1006

October 31, 1932.

Miss Margaret Speer
Yenching College for Women
Peiping, China

My dear Miss Speer:

I have just written to Miss Ssu-Tu enclosing two copies of the minutes of the October 28 meeting of our Yenching College Committee and discussing with her several important items. I will not repeat what I have said as I feel sure that she will confer with you and other members of the Womans College faculty.

The primary purpose in this letter to you is to tell you of a letter I have this morning received from Mr. Garside in regard to Miss Roberta White and her desire to return to Yenching for at least the second semester of this academic year. I enclose a copy of her letter to Mr. Garside, of his reply and of a letter I am writing Miss White this morning. I write of this matter to you rather than to Miss Ssu-Tu largely because you were in Yenching when Miss White broke down and know the circumstances as she naturally cannot. Will you talk the matter over with Miss Ssu-Tu, Dr. Stuart and any others who should be consulted and let me know as soon as you conveniently can whether there is a real need for such service as Miss White is fitted to render and whether you think the health question should definitely bar her return. In his letter to me, Mr. Garside expresses his thought that the salary could probably be provided "without any very serious strain on the budget" in case it is desirable from other points of view for Miss White to return.

We were sorry that your mother could not be with us at this meeting of the Yenching Committee. The attendance was good however, and the interest manifested on the part of all the members was as keen as it has always been. Dr. Gee was present with us and seemed much interested in getting acquainted with the Committee. Additional money for a Woman's College dormitory is one of his first objectives in the line of gifts, but with financial conditions as they still are, he feels and the Trustees quite agree with him, that the present effort should be to enlist and increase friendly interest rather than to solicit funds. It pleased us that Dr. Eric North who is

Miss M.S.--2.

always a busy man and belongs to another Board which was meeting at the same time our Committee meeting was held, elected to attend our meeting rather than the other. He has always been a very loyal and valuable member of our Yenching College Committee.

Miss Kendrick and I came home from New York together and she told me that she had written you asking for a statement asking as to the new faculty members Yenching is likely to need in the fall of 1933.

I was so sorry for you to have been ill in the summer, but hope you are entirely well now.

Mrs. Avann told me that Monona Cheney's family had felt it necessary to ask her to come home on account of her mother's health. I am exceedingly sorry for this as she seems to be so much needed in the College. If she is still with you when this letter arrives, please tell her how deeply we sympathize with her both in the anxiety she must feel on her mother's account and in her disappointment in having to leave her work.

With the best of wishes and affectionate greetings to you all, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

1008

November 10, 1942.

Miss Margaret Speer
Yenching College for Women
Peiping, China

Dear Miss Speer:

I am in receipt of another letter from Miss Roberta White. She tells me that she has decided to return to China in time to spend Christmas with her father in Shanghai. He is alone as her mother has been ill and is with the daughter in Indiana. Miss White thinks that if there is no work for her in Yenching she may be able to secure something in Shanghai and thus be with her father. She is expecting to sail from Vancouver December 3 on the S.S. Empress of Asia, third class. That third class does not seem very good to me as I fear it may mean discomfort which in turn may undermine her health. I suppose she is going that way because of scanty funds. She gives her address as the University of Shanghai, Shanghai, China. She asks whether she is on arrival to communicate with Yenching and I am advising her to do so. You will by that time have had all the information we have and will also be able to judge as to Yenching's need for such service as Miss White can give and as to the possibility of providing her a salary. She asks also whether we will require her to have a new medical examination and refers to the fact that she has had so many such examinations in the past two years that she doubts whether a new doctor could find anything of significance. I am suggesting that some one of the doctors who has recently examined her give us a statement as to her general health and fitness.

Miss White is evidently very eager to return to Yenching if a right way for her to do so can be found. We shall of course look forward to hearing from you as to the judgment of the College administration in regard to this matter.

Cordially yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

1009

December 1, 1932.

Miss Margaret Speer
Yenching College for Women
Peiping, China

Dear Miss Speer:

One more letter on the subject of Miss White's possible return to Yenching. A letter received from her this morning says that she has received a cable from her father advising her not to leave America until she receives a letter he was just mailing her. She does not know the contents of that letter or what light it may shed on the question of her return to Yenching. She has however, postponed her sailing and now hopes to sail December 17 on the Empress of Canada. That will mean her leaving her sister's home in Indiana on December 12.

Miss White's letter encloses the report of the medical examination we asked her to have. It shows her to be in a very satisfactory health condition. The doctor rates her as excellent both physically and nervously. Dr. Ward, the American Board Medical Secretary has put his O.K. on the paper so I think there is no reason for hesitating about using Miss White from the point of view of health. As funds for a salary for a few months could apparently also be provided the question of her return to Yenching seems to be narrowed down to the need of the College for her help. It is of course possible that her father's request that her sailing be delayed may have had in mind a change of plan as to the date of her marriage and that she may not be available for work in Yenching. We will keep you informed as we get any further light.

You will be in the midst of holiday activities when this letter reaches you. May I send to you all my very best greetings and good wishes?

Cordially yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk