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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Yenching
Corres.
Stahl, Ruth L. 1932-1948

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0445

1932

January 5, ~~1931~~.

Miss Ruth Stahl
Alliance
Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

I was glad indeed to have your letter of December 29 and to know how things are going with you. I am so glad you feel that you are really making progress toward health, and I fervently echo your hope that you may be well enough to return in the spring.

I have had a good letter from Monona Cheney. She explains that it is her mother's condition that has kept her in America for a time. She thinks that she may be able to go in the spring so as to relieve others during the summer. I am sure both you and she will see your way clear as the time draws nearer. In case it should not seem wise for you to go as early as April or the first of May I hope she can go any how. It would, I am sure, be a mistake for you to push yourself too much. Going in May you could hardly be of any help in this year's work and under those circumstances it might be better for you to wait until summer. Of course I want to be kept in touch with developments.

Yes, this is a difficult time for all those who are dealing with students in China. I do not at all blame the young people for being very much excited over the Manchurian matter, although probably many of their demonstrations are far from wise. On the whole I think Yenching has done very well. We read in the paper of the difficult time the Methodist Mission in Tientsin had gone through, but I did not realize your sister was one of those who had to evacuate. I hope things are more normal there now. Mr. Chandler wrote us quite an account of the very intense feeling in the city for a number of days.

Please write me from time to time. I hope you are having some good times and experiences of inspiration during these days when you must necessarily give much attention to your health. I shall appreciate your writing as fully and as freely as you care to.

Affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

0446

June 1, 1932.

Miss Ruth Stahl
Alliance,
Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

I am sure you know from Miss Soo-Hoo herself that she has accepted Yenching's invitation to become Dean of the Woman's College. The correspondence I have had with her indicates both an able and a well balanced young woman. She certainly has an unusual command of English. That is perhaps not strange inasmuch as she grew up and was educated in America. I am very hopeful that her going to Yenching will prove to be just the right thing.

I write today especially to ask you when you sail. I am saying to Miss Soo-Hoo that the Treasury Department of our Board will I am sure be willing to make reservations for her in case that would be a help and am suggesting to her that a party of our missionaries consisting of Miss Chapin of Paotingfu, Ruth Vankirk of the Bridgman Academy faculty and Constance Buell of Tientsin will be sailing from Seattle on August 6 on the S.S. President Jefferson. I do not know whether you are going earlier than that. It would be wonderful if you should be on the same boat. If you have other plans will you let me know whether there is any chance that Miss Soo-Hoo could go with you? I am anxious that she should reach Peiping in time for the pre-sessional faculty conferences as I am sure they will be of great help to her. Suggestions of any kind will be gratefully received. I do hope your own health has materially improved and that you are looking forward eagerly to a return to your work.

Most cordially yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

0447

RECEIVED
STATE DEPARTMENT
JUL 7 1932

Alliance, O.
July 6, '32

Ans. July 9/32

My dear Mrs. Lee: Received your letter this morning. I am so happy that Miss Soo-Hoo has decided to accept the deanship at Yen Ching. I feel sure there must be great rejoicing in Peking. We have looked for a dean for our Women's College for so long.

As it happens, I have a reservation on the S.S. President Jefferson, sailing August 6. It would be wonderful if Miss Soo-Hoo could travel with

0448

me. I think that it is quite important that she should attend the Pre-sessional Conference if possible.

I am pleased to hear that Constance Buell and Ruth Vassits will be on the same steamer.

Thank you, I am feeling very well indeed and much thrilled to be returning to China so soon.

I hope that you may have a pleasant Summer vacation.

With love to you,

Ruth Stahl

0449

July 9, 1932.

Miss Ruth Stahl
Alliance
Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

Thank you for your letter of July 6. I am so glad that you are to be on the President Jefferson. I wrote again yesterday to Miss Soo-Hoo asking her to let me know whether she would like to make use of one of the reservations the American Board is holding on that boat. It would seem a very happy thing if she could make the journey with the rest of yourNorth China people. I am so glad that you can speak of being very well and if I do not write you again before you sail please be assured that I shall be wishing you all success and happiness as you again take up your work at Yenching. You know how glad I will be to hear from you at any time and you also know how necessary it is that the more experienced workers on the faculty should some times write in an informal and if need be confidential way of happenings or trends about which we at this end could otherwise not be informed.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

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July 15, 1932

Miss Ruth Stahl

Alliance, Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

You writes you oftener than I these days? I need information on two points and think perhaps the quickest way to get it is to ask you. Can you tell me whether Miss Soo-Hoo did secure her Ph.D. this summer at the University of Michigan, and if so, in what subject did she specialize.

My second question is about Adeline Veghte. She is coming home this summer, isn't she? Does she expect to spend a year in this country or is her though merely of a comparatively brief visit and an early return to Yenching. I have had a question from the Presbyterian Board as to her plans, which I am unable to answer.

It will be a great help if you will answer these two questions as promptly as you can.

Affectiona ely yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee)

L:b

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0451

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
JUL 20 1932

Alliance, O.
July 18, '32

Ans.

My dear Mrs. Lee: Received your letter of July 15th this morning.

Miss Soo Hoo did not secure her Ph. D. this Summer. Her thesis is still unfinished. I am hoping that she may be able to complete it after she returns to China. There is some material that she may be able to secure there. I hope that the duties of her position as Dean may not prevent the completion of her thesis for a degree is quite important in China. She has been specializing in English.

Adeline Veghte arrived home last

0452

work. Her address is 1390 New York Ave. Pasadena, Cal. I am planning to spend a day with her on my way to Seattle. I will be in Pasadena August 1st. If that is not too late, I can send you information after I have visited with her. My impression from letters has been that she expects to have a full time furlough, but could return earlier if necessary. However, I think that she feels that Mr. Wright and I can manage without her for a year with the assistance of one of our graduates.

I am always glad if I can be of assistance to you.

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl.

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0453

July 20, 1932

Miss Ruth Stahl

Alliance, Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

Thank you for yours of July 18 just received. I echo your hope that Miss Soo-Hoo can complete the work on her thesis and eventually secure her Ph.D.

The reason for my question about Miss Veghte has chiefly to do with the question of what financial obligations the Yenching College Committee should assume on her account. She went for a three year term and has completed that term. The Committee will, therefore, naturally pay her return travel. She is not, however, formally entitled to any furlough allowance as theoretically her connection with the College and the Yenching College Committee ceases on her arrival at her home. Inasmuch as she has been counted one of the Presbyterian representatives on the Yenching faculty, it is probably that Board rather than the Yenching College Committee which should correspond with her in regard to a second term of service and should make all financial arrangements. If Miss Veghte's family is sufficiently well to do that she does not need any grant during a furlough year, that question need not be taken up at all. I will not ask you to write us again on the subject unless there is something you feel we should know, but will write to the Presbyterian Board giving her home address and suggesting that they handle the question of Miss Veghte's having a second term of service in Yenching.

Again thanking you for your help and with the very best of good wishes for your journey and for the work upon which you will soon be entering, I am

Affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee)

L:b

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It was July 11th when we began to make preparations for possible emergencies, clearing out the basement of the Boyd Gymnasium as a possible place of refuge in case of bombing, organising fire drill, and so forth. Fire drills were practised both by day and by night, and from this time there was an atmosphere of preparation in case of emergency.

On Tuesday evening, July 27th the students seemed somewhat tense, and I decided to move into the dormitory with the girls, and to ask all the remaining girls, about 25, to sleep downstairs in the ground floor rooms. My room was on the south wing, and early on the morning of the 28th I was awakened, and suddenly as I lay there I heard the ominous sound of aeroplanes. I knew that there was a difference; the quality of the sound was different from that of the pursuit planes, a heavier and deader sound. I rushed to the window to see what was coming over, and there were four evil looking planes in formation, flying straight in our direction. To me they looked like four dragons, or huge scorpions with their turned up tails ready to strike. I realised that this was something serious and attempted to dress before calling the girls out. I am sure it was less than two minutes from first seeing the planes before the first bomb crashed, followed by the popping of machine guns. The girls in the adjoining rooms called to me, and I answered "Yes, I'm here", and we all rushed to the living room, the girls buttoning up their garments as they ran. We were inexperienced then in the sounds of bombing, and we thought that the bombing must be on the campus, for they seemed very near. From our position we could not see much of the campus or the other buildings, and were sure the bombs must be falling in our grounds. Later, we could actually see the planes over the Western Barracks, and we knew that that was where the bombardment was going on. Through all this the girls were remarkably calm. We did not make any attempt to go over to the gymnasium basement because we realised that the bombing was not meant for us then.

During the day some girls went into the city. On the evening of the 28th everybody was very nervous and apprehensive, and there were rumours that the enemy was using poison gas bombs. The girls spent the evening preparing gas masks, and the matrons and cooks all helped. They were much elevated during the evening when they had the news, false as it turned out later, that Lang Fang had been retaken by the Chinese troops. They were jubilant and encouraged, to think of the successful stand being made by the troops, despite their own precarious position. During the day and evening they had repeated conferences with the men students as to their plans for the night. There was a suggestion that all the students should be together in a basement on the campus, but the girls decided to stay together in the dormitory as the safest place. They organised into one hour shifts to keep watch the whole night, with about seven people in each shift, to listen for aeroplanes, and to be able to dole out the chemical for the gas masks. Everything was well organised and the girls took responsibility remarkably well, and seemed glad of the opportunity for some activity.

At four o'clock next morning they were all up ready for a possible return of the aeroplanes and another morning's bombardment. Aeroplanes did fly over, but there was no bombardment.

By Thursday night there were rumours that the campus was surrounded by Japanese soldiers, and that the villages were full of soldiers, and again as the night before, we all slept together on our mattresses on the sitting room floor. By that time everyone was exhausted, and slept very well and no watch was kept. Part of the exhaustion was due to the terrible reaction of the day on hearing that Sung Cheh-yuan had abandoned Peiping to the enemy, and the high spirits of the day before dissolved

0455

in despair. It was a natural reaction, but on the whole, the girls showed wonderful control and ability to meet the situation.

We advised all who could to return home, and for the rest of the summer had only about a dozen girls left in the dormitories.

Ruth Stahl
Acting Dean, Women's College

VW

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0456

Alliance, Ohio - August 3, 1938.

Miss Elvina Van Sciver
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

My dear Miss Van Sciver:

I shall be in the States for a year. Will you kindly put my name on the list for bulletins, letters, etc. giving news of Yenching? I know that President Stuart writes frequently and I should like to receive news. Thank you so much.

Margaret Speer spent one day with me as she crossed the continent to take the Empress of Russia. We had a good visit.

Thanking you for your kindness,

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl.

2147 South Watson Ave.
Alliance, Ohio.

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0457

September 7, 1938

My dear Miss Stahl:

Upon my return from vacation yesterday, I found your letter of August 13th. I am so glad that you had an opportunity to go over with Miss Speer matters relating both to work on the field and in this country.

Your name has been added to our list here and I will see that you receive a copy of all letters, bulletins, etc., giving news of Yenching. One letter, -I believe a copy of Dr. Stuart's letter of July 29th - has already been sent to you.

In preparing our list of possible speakers during the coming year, we are collecting information about Chinese alumni studying in this country. Can you send me the names and addresses of any with whom you have sufficient acquaintance to tell us something about their ability as speakers before large groups, also before small groups. We need such speakers in all parts of the United States and want our files as complete as possible.

I hope you may be in New York before very long and that we may all have the pleasure of meeting you.

In the meantime, I wonder if you are in need of any printed matters, to be used in discussing Yenching with anyone interested? If you could find use for a supply of folders "The Story of Yenching . . . Her Past and Her Future", I will send them to you. This is the latest pamphlet prepared for Yenching, and Miss Speer and Mr. Ts'ai both worked on it last spring.

Please let me know if my office can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Elvena Van Sciver

Miss Ruth Stahl
2147 South Watson Avenue
Alliance, Ohio

0458

Alliance, Ohio
Sept. 12, 1938.

My dear Miss Vautrin:

Thank you for your kind letter of September 7th. I was glad to receive D. Stuart's letter of July 29th and shall look forward to the arrival of other instructions.

Since writing you my address has been changed from Watson Ave. to 1226 South Linden Ave.

Just at present, I do not know of any Chinese alumni studying in America who would qualify as good specimen. Perhaps later I may be able to suggest some names.

I would like a few copies of the folder prepared by Miss Speer and Mr. Tsai. Thank you very much. Sent 9/13/38

Very sincerely yours,
Ruth Stahl

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0459

September 14, 1938

Dear Miss Stahl:

Thank you for sending us your new address. I have notified the Administrative Office, and think it will reach all of those who will be communicating with you.

In a letter from Miss Speer, written while she was en route to Yenching, she asked me to send you some Yenching letterheads. We have just put these in a package and it is on its way to you. When you need more, I shall be glad to send them to you. The folders went to you yesterday.

Miss Speer also mentioned two needs for the Women's College - a Victrola for the Boyd Gymnasium and $100 for books and periodicals for physical education work. I will pass these suggestions on to the Yenching Women's College Committee and hope they can be taken care of.

Robert Barnes is due in New York any day now, and I am eager to discuss with him the latest news from the field. I am handling the Princeton-Yenching promotional office, as well as the Yenching, and am therefore particularly anxious to get his ideas.

Sincerely yours,

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden Avenue
Alliance, Ohio

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0460

Alliance, Ohio.
September 20, 1938.

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

Dear Mr. Garside:

Thank you for your letter of welcome and cordial invitation to attend the Conference to be held on Thursday, September 22nd. I am extremely sorry not to be able to attend this meeting - Unfortunately, I am too far away from New York.

I shall be glad to help Yearbook in any way possible from this distance. I may visit New York some time later in the year.

Sincerely yours,
Ruth Staal

1226 South Linden Ave.
Alliance, O.

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0461

150 Fifth Avenue New York City

21 September 1938

Dear Miss Stahl:

Mr. Garside has let me see your note of yesterday. I wish you might be here tomorrow.

As Miss Van Sciver has told you, we will look forward to having your comments on the ability of any of the Yenching students who are in America this year. It always takes a few weeks at the beginning of a session to get this list anywhere near accurate and complete.

There is a matter of personal interest to me on which I should be glad to have your help at your convenience. I met a year ago a very delightful sister of the Headlands who were once in North China. The sister lives in Windsor, Ontario. A few weeks ago, I wrote to Mrs. Headland, hoping to receive not only news of Mrs. Alexander Gow in Windsor, but assurance that the Headlands, themselves, are well. Do you ever see them?

Sincerely yours

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

EBM:E

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden Avenue
Alliance Ohio

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Stahl

Alliance, Ohio.
Sept. 29. 38.

My dear Mrs. Macmillan:

I received your letter of September 21st. I was indeed sorry not to be able to attend the meeting held in New York last Thursday.

Regarding the Hendlands, Dr. Hendland called on me recently. He seemed to be in excellent health. He is teaching a Course in Greek Mythology at Mrs. Union and because of the connection between Greek myths and certain Constellations, he told

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me he had been getting my car any hours of the nights to see the stars. I have not seen Mrs. Haviland. I understand she is about as usual. I do not think she has been strong for a good many years.

Most of the students that I know in America have had no experience in ranching. Mrs. G. P. Lee is in Oregon. She would be excellent. Her husband has been Chairman of our Peace Committee at Yochow. If you have any questions to ask about any of our students, please

0464

let me know.

It was nice to have one day with Margaret Speer before she sailed for China. I am very eager to hear all about the opening of school this autumn.

Very sincerely yours,
Ruth Stahl.

3528
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0465

150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

October 11, 1938

Dear Miss Stahl:

I am very anxious to see you and get acquainted with you and learn more about Yenching. Several members of the Yenching College Committee have met in New York and are planning to have a larger meeting early in November as you will see by the copy I am enclosing.

Mrs. Macmillan will, no doubt, be writing you about the meeting. I am writing at this early date to make sure it will be possible for you to meet with our group on either November 8th or November 10th. Will you let me know which of the two dates is preferable to you?

Sincerely,

Mrs. C. C. Parlin

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 S. Linden Avenue
Alliance, Ohio

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0466

Stable

Alliance, Ohio.
October 13, 1938.

My dear Mrs. Macmillan: It is my
friend of the Teaching College
Committee to pay my expenses
for a trip to New York — I
have made no engagements for the
week beginning November 7th, so
either Tuesday November 8th or
Thursday November 10th would suit
me. Tuesday night is slightly
preferable but there is no great

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difference. I can arrange to go for either date.

I am very glad to have the opportunity to meet with the members of the Yenching College Committee - It will also be very pleasant to see Gan Chen Ch.

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl

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0468

18 October 1938

Dear Miss Stahl:

We have been successful in securing Mrs. Speer as the presiding genius of the luncheon in November. We were obliged to set the date on the tenth, in order to secure her; and in fact the eighth was a poor idea in any case because it is Election Day. You will be receiving other news in due course, but I wanted you to know at once that the date is settled.

Sincerely yours,

EBM:E

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

Miss Ruth Stahl
2147 South Watson Avenue
Alliance Ohio

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0469

150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

October 26, 1938

Dear Miss Stahl:

Now that the tenth has finally been chosen for the day of the luncheon, in order to secure Mrs. Speer as chairman, we hope that you are making your plans to come east for several days at that time. Miss Kao Chun-che (Mrs. Wu) was in this morning, and is very eager indeed to have a chance to see you. I am asking Mrs. Parlin and Mrs. Timothy Pfeiffer to draw up a time schedule for the speeches and the other business of the luncheon, and we will let you know what their decision is as to the length of what you are to say.

I am suggesting the following topics:

1. Anne Cochran - "The Yenching Women's College as a Personality in the University Family."
2. Mrs. Wu - "Opportunities for Social Service in Occupied Territory."
3. Miss Stahl - "The Women's College Responsibility [illegible] in the University Curriculum."

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. T. D. Macmillan)

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 S. Linden Avenue
Alliance, Ohio

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0470

Alliance, Ohio
Oct. 29, 1938.

My dear Mrs. Macmillan:

Thank you for your letters of October 18th and 26th. I shall plan to be in New York for several days during the week of November 10th and I hope to see many of my Yenching friends at that time.

I am glad that Nancy Cochran will be at the luncheon - and I am glad that she is taking part in the program.

The topics you suggested for the meeting are very interesting - I hope that you are not expecting a very long or prepared address from me. I am a retiring speaker - I shall be most interested in all discussions and glad to give any information about Yenching that I can - but please do not expect too much of a speech.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl.

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1226 South Linden Ave.
Alliance, Ohio.
June 12, 1939.

My dear Mrs. MacMillan:

I was deeply grateful to be permitted to attend the Yenching meetings held in New York last May. It gave me a much better understanding of the loyal group that makes it possible for us to carry on in China. I just wish that I had been able to make more of a contribution to the meetings.

3528
5428
0472

Because it was necessary to
travel at night, my bill is
steeper than it was last autumn.

Travel -	$23.60
Hotel -	2.00
	$25.60

Paid 6/14/39
no 509

It was nice seeing you and
I appreciate your favors.
I hope that you may have a pleasant
Summer's vacation. &c.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl

3528
5428
0473

Original mailed 9/9/40
Confirmation mailed

6 September 1940

Dear Miss Stahl:

Eleanor Mead, who spent the summer at Silver Bay, had some volumes of classical music given to her for your department in Yenching. We had word of this gift from Mrs. Mead away back in July, and urged that the books come forward to us immediately, so that we could turn them over to those of your colleagues who were setting off for Peiping. Eleanor did not, however, find it possible to mail the package promptly and it was finally postmarked August 26 in Silver Bay. We will, however, see that it gets on its way as soon as possible.

The volumes are Czarny's School of Velocity, Grieg's Pianoforte Album, Bach's Well Tempered Clavichord, Beethoven's Sonatas, Schubert's Fantasias, Impromptus, Moments Musicaux, and Forty Selections by Chopin.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

Miss Ruth L. Stahl
Yenching University
Peiping China

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0474

Yenching
October 29, 40

Dear Mrs. Macmillan:

The music reached Yenching last week - We are delighted to have it, especially the volume of Beethoven Sonatas - We can use all kinds of piano music - elementary as well as more difficult - Our teaching material has been rather scanty this year -

We are sorry to lose Miss Wolfers who has been teaching piano this year - She and Gertrude Jacobs are the only two Americans remaining from Yenching - It seemed advisable for both of them for health reasons - The rest of us are hoping that conditions may not

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because too happiness -

Thanking you for sending the music -
and thanking the donors and Eleanor Read,

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl

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February 15, 1944

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden
Alliance, Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

Enclosed find a letter from Dr. Y. P. Mei.

Presumably you will be writing Dr. Mei and, if so, we shall be glad to enclose your reply in our China mail which leaves the office weekly.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

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UNIVERSITIES
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JOINT OFFICE

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February 25, 1944

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden
Alliance, Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

We are trying to clear up our financial obligations to members of the faculty of Yenching University who returned on the Gripsholm. Miss Cookingham has told me that the Japanese authorities allowed two salary payments to be made to the Mission Board supported members of the faculty which amounted to $1,000.00. Can you recall how you stand with the University now? The letter which Dr. Galt sent to New York dated May 13, 1942 indicates that you are entitled to receive some money from the University, and Miss Cookingham thinks the amount due you is about $258.87.

Since it was impossible to bring any financial statements from Peking to America it seems best to settle these accounts in accordance with the figures each member of the faculty can recall or estimate. If later some adjustments are necessary they can be made if and when we are able to procure our records in Peking.

Sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

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RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
FEB 28 1944
JOINT OFFICE

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0480

Alliance, O. March 13, 1944

Ack
3/22/44

Mr. R. A. Evans
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Thank you for your letter of February 15th enclosing a letter from Dr. J. P. Mier. You suggested that I send the reply through your office. Should I send it in an addressed Envelope or do you send a packet of letters? What is the amount of postage?

In reply to your letter of February 25th, I think Dr. Galt is crediting me with more money than I thought I had. The only figure I have is $218.87 - and I thought that was the balance before the second salary payment of $500.00 had been made - Whatever you and Mary Corrington agree upon is

satisfactory with me. I know it would be difficult clearing the Yachting accounts.

Sorry to be so tardy answering your letters. I had written a letter last week and today discovered it under the flower bushes in our front yard! Either the postman dropped it or it blew from our mail box.

Very sincerely yours.

Ruth Scott.

$218.87
Paid 3/17/44
70 10972

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0482

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
MAR 16
JOINT OFFICE

March 22, 1944

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden
Alliance, Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

I have studied your letter of March 13th and have discussed same with the Special Committee of Yenching Managers cooperating with the Trustees and we are accepting your understanding of the situation.

Accordingly, we are enclosing check for $218.87 to cover this transaction. If at a later time you find that this is not the proper amount, we shall be glad to open the case.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENC.

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MAR 23 1944
JOINT OFFICE

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0485

Alliance, Ohio.
March 29, 1944.

File

Mr. R. A. Evans.
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Thank you for your letter of March 22nd, enclosing check for $218.87.

I am enclosing a letter for D. of P. Mei. Will you kindly send it with the weekly mail to Chengtu and please send me the bill for postage? Thank you.

Very sincerely yours.

Ruth Stahl.

RECEIVED
UNITED STATIONS
MAR 30 1944
POST OFFICE

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0486

April 6, 1944

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden Avenue
Alliance, Ohio

Dear Ruth,

Here is a check for $6.02 together with a copy of a letter from Mr. Evans to me dated November 17, 1941. I never saw the letter in Peking so I am sure you did not receive the money. No doubt you can use the money now as well as earlier.

Paid 4/6/44
No 797

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

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0487

May 31, 1945

Miss Ruth Stahl
1226 South Linden Avenue
Alliance, Ohio

Dear Miss Stahl:

A recent letter from Mr. A. C. Hausske, Treasurer of Yenching University in Peking, China contains the following paragraph:

"From the Ministry of Education we have recently received N.C.$100,000. This is for faculty members who have served for a number of years and is in the nature of a special grant. In talking this matter over with Dr. Mei, it was thought that the equivalent in U. S. currency be kept in New York. With that in mind will you kindly credit U.S.$32.25 to each."

You are included among the names listed and we are glad to enclose herewith check for $32.25 representing your share in this distribution among ten honored people on the staff of Yenching University. You will be interested in knowing that Dr. Stuart was named and also Dr. Ph. DeVargas, both of whom are still in Peking, but under widely different circumstances. They are, however, under conditions which make it necessary for us to credit their accounts for the time being.

Very sincerely yours,

E. M. McBRIER, Treasurer

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peiping, China

April 26, 1948

Dear Friends:

When Yenching re-opened in September, 1946, it was a keen disappointment to all that Miss Margaret Speer, Dean of the Women's College, was detained in the United States. I was asked to act as dean for one year with the hope that Miss Speer would be able to return to China in the summer of 1947. Again, we were disappointed, and I am still carrying on, although it has not been a highly satisfactory arrangement because of my responsibilities in the Music Department. It has been necessary for me to give about half time to the teaching of music as there has been no other teacher of piano, and the students majoring in music must take piano as a credit course. We have investigated the possibility of securing a Chinese Dean. Thus far, we have not been successful in finding a candidate who seemed to have all the qualifications which the Chinese members of our faculty regard as essential in order to fit in with our organization and set up. They feel that the Dean of the Women's College should have academic standing, - that in addition to the administrative responsibilities, she should teach at least one course and be a member of one of our major departments. This seems especially desirable and important in view of the fact that the Dean of the Women's College is ex-officio a member of the Faculty Executive Committee, the Dean's Committee, and the University Council. In searching for such a candidate, however, we have met two difficulties. One, that some of the most competent women are already married and have responsibilities to husband and children, and the second that when we approach a department with a proposal for a part-time member of that department, the answer is that because of our present retrenchment policy, the department is unable to expand or increase the budget. In addition, our Women's College budget would have to be increased which is also a matter for serious consideration. Consequently, I am still a pinch-hitter, very eager for the permanent dean to be found.

And now a few facts about the Women's College.

Women's College Faculty. Our list of more than 40 women members of faculty, staff, and assistants may appear tremendous compared with previous years. It can be explained by the fact that there are a great many faculty wives doing part-time teaching. The wives of foreign missionaries contribute their services, which is a boon to our budget during this period of financial stringency. Moreover, the supplementing of salaries of Chinese faculty by engaging their wives for half or part-time teaching helps them solve their financial problems. It is interesting to note that quite a number of the faculty wives are Yenching graduates and their continued participation in our academic program and contact with students helps to bind us all together in closer unity. There are only 12 single women on the faculty list, 7 Westerners and 5 Chinese. The remainder are all married. In all departments there have been more assistants than formerly, due to the fact that the number of highly paid professors must be restricted. This is true of both men and women.

Women Students. The number of women students has been increasing at an alarming rate considering our acute housing problem. In the original plans for the University the ultimate number of women students was expected bo be about 300, that is, about one third of the total student body. Space was set aside for six Women's Dormitories, each to accommodate 50 girls. Four of these were erected before we moved to our new campus in 1926. At that time, only two dormitories were needed for the girls and the other two were temporarily loaned to the Department of Education

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for a Practice School. Later, our dormitories were filled to capacity and faculty suites were relinquished to be used for student bedrooms. This last autumn when it was necessary to provide places for 310 girls, we converted two dining halls into bedrooms, crowding all the students into the other two dining halls for their meals. With the probability that next autumn may bring us even more girls, we are faced with a serious problem as we seem to have exhausted all possible places for an overflow. This is the general situation all over China, that more and more girls are going to college. You may wonder why it is impossible to control the number of accepted candidates. It is complicated by the fact that the same standard must be maintained for the admission of men and women. Thousands of students sit for our examinations each year, but many of them take the Government examinations also. Then, if successful in both institutions, many of the men are likely to go to a Government university because of the free tuition. An allowance must be made for such shrinkage when determining the passing mark necessary for entrance. It is important that we should have our full quota of men students, filling the dormitories to capacity. On the other hand, a larger percentage of girls admitted actually come to Yenching. That may be due to our long established reputation. Our Yenching Women's College was the first college for women in China, and Yenching University was one of the pioneers in co-education. It is well known that we make a special effort to look after the welfare of women students. Parents prefer to have their daughters in a university where such attention is given. Consequently, we draw girls from some of the outstanding families, and students of high scholastic ability.

Our dormitories lack some of the comforts of pre-war days. There is no running hot water, so that all girls are compelled to go to a bath house for their baths. This bath house was built by the Japanese during their occupation. As there are only three showers, the girls must wait their turn for a bath or shampoo. There is a stove in the students' laundry room in each dormitory, where water is boiled for drinking. The girls bring their thermos bottles or other containers to be filled. They also bring their wash basins for a little warm water with which to wash their faces on cold winter mornings.

Since the Japanese occupation there has been a shortage of screens. Last year we were able to secure enough screening for the kitchens and dining rooms. Many of the student rooms are exposed to flies and mosquitoes, which is unfortunate when malaria is so prevalent.

In curtailing our budget, we have reduced the number of servants, which has an educational value as the girls must take more responsibility in the care of their rooms.

During the year 1946-47, we were greatly distressed over the dormitory food. It was most inadequate. This year, however, with a government flour subsidy, students can afford to pay for better food. They now have more vegetables and some meat every day.

There is great poverty among students, but a determined purpose to acquire a college education. Some students whose college course was interrupted during the war, have now returned to complete their undergraduate work. A few of them have been married in the meantime. One young woman came from Tientsin last autumn and graduated in January. She had been married and had twins which she left in the care of servants while she completed her work for a degree. One registered this semester who has two children with a third one eight months on the way. This urge for a college degree is enormous.

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The varied interests of our women students is shown by the choice of major departments. The following list indicates the number of students in the most popular departments. Of the upper three classes (freshmen not yet having chosen their major subjects), there are 37 in Sociology, 30 in Western Languages, 25 in Education, 26 in Journalism, 18 in Pre Medicine, 14 in Home Economics, 13 in History, 10 in Music, 10 in Economics, and surprisingly enough, there are three girls in the Industrial Training Course studying textiles. 25 girls are specializing in Child Welfare, majoring in one of the three departments, - Education, Home Economics, and Sociology. Fortunately, we have a well organized Child Welfare Center located in the village just outside our East Gate, where students may get their practical experience. The funds for that project have been provided by the U. S. C.

We are proud of the scholastic record of our women students. On the Honor Roll for 1946-47, one half of the students were women, and of the 8 seniors elected to the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society, 7 were women.

Miss Ch'en I, Chairman of the Home Economics Department, has done a superb piece of work in the rehabilitation of the Home Management House. She is very artistic in designing furniture and household conveniences, some of which were made out of packing boxes. The six senior girls now living in the house are enjoying the experience tremendously and we are all delighted to have another one of our pre-war projects restored.

Girls continue to be interested in athletic activities under the auspices of the Department of Physical Education. Last year, we could afford neither a tennis court nor tennis balls. This year we have restored 2 tennis courts. The girls have recently competed in soft ball games against teams in Peiping universities, on one occasion victorious and another time losing by one point.

In all extra curricular activities on the campus, our women students take an active part. They hold responsible positions in the Self Government Organization and are prominent in dramatic performances. They are dependable and capable, showing evidence of executive and leadership ability.

It is with great pride that we listen to reports of our graduates who hold responsible positions in all parts of China. I think of Miss Hsueh Cheng who is Principal of McTyiere School in Shanghai and Miss Yuan Yung Chen who has done an outstanding piece of work in the development of the Girls' Middle School at the Presbyterian Mission in Peiping. Then there are quite a number of our graduates engaged by the P.U.M.C. which plans to reopen on May 1st.

It is a great privilege to be able to have a share in the education of Chinese girls here at Yenching University.

In the name of the Women's College Faculty, I wish to send cordial greetings to all the members of the New York Committee and ask for a continued remembrance of us in your prayers.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Stahl

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