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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Yenching
Corres.
Thompson, William J. + Mary
1924-1935

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December 16, 1925

Mrs. M. J. Thompson
Hotel Leonori
Madison Ave. & 63rd St.
New York City

Dear Mrs. Thompson:

Thank you sincerely for your delightful note and the check for \$100.00. I am sending you two lions and you can have a couple more of the little beasts if you want them.

We ought to have some literature on this trip within the next couple of weeks and I will send it to you. The Finance Committee definitely decided a few days ago that the Dedication must take place next fall even though the buildings will be just completed and the grass will not have much time to grow.

Do you have any special afternoons at home? I would like to come up some time, particularly if Dr. Thompson is going to be there, and find out how you all are.

With warm greetings of the season,

Very sincerely yours

Replied to Lion Letter of
Oct. 28, 1925 - Gave

Mrs B.

Send another lion

0417

Thompson
May 27, 1926

Professor William J. Thompson
Hotel Leonori
New York City

Dear Professor Thompson:

We are drawing toward the close of the current year in Peking and unfortunately find a deficit in the current expense budget. I am writing several friends of the University, including some of the Trustees, asking whether they would be willing to contribute toward the elimination of this deficit. I recall that at one time you suggested to me that you and Mrs. Thompson might wish to contribute toward this and my recollection is that you hoped that your gift might approximate \$1,000.00.

Dr. Stuart writes that they are eagerly looking forward to the removal to the new buildings this summer. Of course, we will all be glad to have that take place as it will inaugurate the real University program toward which we have so long been working. Surely this will justify the efforts which we have all put forth in making possible this achievement.

With warm personal regards,

Very sincerely yours

0418



HOTEL LEONORI,
MADISON AVENUE AND 63RD STREET
NEW YORK

My Dear Mr. McPher:

Will you kindly
accept the enclosed
and give me a receipt
for the same for
the year 1921. Dated
at Dec 31.

Yours truly

Wm Thompson

Dec 30, 1921

(\$100)
Totally Receipt #28
cash book 12-31-21

04 19



HOTEL LEONORI
MADISON AVENUE AND 63RD STREET
NEW YORK

Dec 11/25

Replied to Lion Letter of
Oct 28, 1925 - Gay

My dear Mr. Lewis

We have been thinking
a bit about that China
trip. If you have
any literature giving
dates & details - you
might send it in here.

Enclosed is a response
to the appeal - Sincerely yours
in the Thompson

0420



HOTEL LEONORI
MADISON AVENUE AND 63RD STREET
NEW YORK

Thompson
Saur

26

My dear Mr. Saur -
Whatever you said
to Mr. Thompson on
the train from Phila-
delphia two months
ago about a trip
to China stirred
his interest and we

0421

have wanted to know a few things about
the plan. Who can tell anything & how
soon? First when it starts - how
long it takes - what does it cost?
Then what sort & size is the ship &
who are going? We do feel we
will probably not go, but if we do not
we must ~~straightaway~~ engage other

rooms for the Summer.

I called at your office
just about Christmas
Day but you were
not in.

Hoping all of your
family have started
the New Year happy.

Sincerely

Wm. H. Thompson

Thompson



HOTEL LEONORI,
MADISON AVENUE AND 63RD STREET
NEW YORK

by: Q. S. ref

My dear Mr. Davis -

Mr. Thompson asks
me to send this check
in response to your letter
& conversation.

With kind regards

Max de S. Thompson

June 6/26

Received	6/7/26	1,000
Entered		✓
Cash receipt no.		✓
Pledge card		✓
Follow up card		✓
Checked on list		✓
" " Stop		✓
Ans. rec'd		
(List sent)		

Receipt No #1654

0424

Thompson
July 1, 1926.

Mrs. William J. Thompson, (Mary McF.)
Hotel Leonori,
Madison Avenue & 63rd Street,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Thompson:

Thank you most sincerely for your check for \$1,000.00 which came in to the office during my absence. Mrs. Dean wrote you apologizing for my not making a personal reply.

Unfortunately I have been out of the office practically all month due to the illness and death of my little boy. I am back again now however and happy to report that the word from President Stuart is more encouraging, as to current events in China, than we somewhat feared last spring.

Ever sincerely yours,

0425

December 29, 1927.

My dear Prof. Thompson:

Before leaving for a brief rest in the South,
Dr. Leighton Stuart asked me to discuss with you your generous
pledge of \$1,000 toward the salary of Prof. Terman. I am
writing to ask at what time it may be convenient for you to
see me. I can call at your home at almost any time, provided
I have a little notice in order to adjust my engagements. Will
you do me the kindness to have your secretary telephone me,
calling Chelsea 2130, asking first for Peking University and then
for me personally?

Sincerely yours,

Prof. William J. Thompson,
Mayfair House,
60th Street & Park Avenue,
New York City.

ODW:O

Dictated by Mr. Wammanaker but
signed in his absence.

0426

January 10, 1928.

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

In the absence of Dr. Stuart, who has just left for the southwest, I write to acknowledge your note of January 6th addressed to Mr. McBrier in regard to the very generous pledge of \$1,000 made by you and Professor Thompson to Mr. Terman last June and your readiness to pay this pledge at any time and leave the matter of its application to Dr. Stuart's judgment. Before leaving the city, he requested me to express his very earnest thanks to you. The committee will be most grateful to have this contribution at your convenience.

President Stuart was anxious that I have an opportunity to talk with you about certain details pertaining to the present financial campaign of the University and to ask your advice. Will it be convenient for you to see us at any time in the near future? I leave the city on January 12th to be gone for several days. I expect to be in the city again by Saturday afternoon.

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President.

Mrs. William J. Thompson,
610 Park Avenue,
New York City.

ODW:O

Dictated by Mr. Wammanaker but
signed in his absence.

Pledge letter
the safe

Pledge #	71000
Gift received	1-10-28
Receipt slip #	—
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contr. list	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	73
Pledge signal attached	✓
X-file cards	✓
Letter ack. sent	✓
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

0427

Prof. & Mrs. Wm. J. Thompson

New York City

\$1000

Gift received	1-24-28
Receipt #	1843
Entered on control record	✓
" " acct. card	✓
" " contr. list	✓
Serial No. on L. and card	S 73
Pledge signal attached	—
X file cards	✓
Letter ask. sent	1-26-28
Checked for O. L.	✓
" " class card	✓
" " stencil	✓

In payment of Pledge made 1-6-28 in reply to Trustees' letter of Dec. 23rd.

Check signed by Mrs. T (Mary McL. Thompson)

0428

January 26, 1928

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

Mr. Wannemaker has handed me your check for \$1000, the gift of yourself and Professor Thompson toward the 1928 Campaign Fund for Yenching University in payment of the pledge which you recently made.

Both President Stuart and Mr. Wannemaker wish me to express to you their great appreciation of your generous interest in the work of the University and for your thoughtfulness in fulfilling your pledge so promptly.

Official receipt #1843 is enclosed herewith.

Very sincerely yours,

Office Secretary

Mrs. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

0429



Mayfair House
Park Avenue at Fifty-fifth Street
New York

My dear Mr. Wadsworth -

Mr. Thompson says he
will very willingly go to
Mr. Phillips over the
Yenching matter - if the
time can be arranged.

He prefers you to go with
him. His lectures at
Drew extend over the first
or middle of the week -
so Thursday afternoon Friday

or Saturday are more
likely to be free for such
an appointment.

Yours very truly

W. L. Thompson
(W. L. S.)

Dec 3)

28

December 15, 1928

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I certainly am delighted with the progress you have made in the direction of securing help from Mrs. Phillips. I believe you will make a complete success of this very important contact.

I send you herewith several pictures. I think if you examine these a little you will be able to get the necessary information to convey to Mrs. Phillips.

No. 1. A special form of pledge card prepared for small contributions sent simply because it indicates the exact location of the women's buildings and the men's buildings.

No. 2. A general view of most of the grounds and buildings of the University with the Summer Palace of the former ruling family seen on top of the hill in the middle background. Unfortunately, the Chinese photographer has colored the roofs of the buildings much too blue. Otherwise the picture gives a fairly correct impression. The charming lake in the center adds much to the grounds. At the right is shown part of an island in the lake which is to be the site of the social center for the whole university. The "Lake Front Dormitories", one unit of which we should be so grateful to have Mrs. Phillips erect in honor of her father, would stand on the edge of the lake which is not visible in this picture, being to the right of the island shown.

No. 3. This picture shows two dormitories with a dining hall between at another point on the lake and gives a fairly correct impression of what the appearance of the dormitories will be when completed.

No. 4 shows a view of the Dean's residence and the Administration Building of the Women's College and Sage Recitation Hall. This is intended only to give an impression again of the type of architecture.

0432

of architecture.

No. 5 is included to show the first unit of the "Lake Front Dormitories", a relatively small building.

No. 6 shows a architect's drawing of the entire plan of buildings for the University with the proposed "Lake Front Dormitories" indicated at the side of the lake.

No. 7 shows the architect's drawing of the design for the "Lake Front Dormitories". There are all together seven units in the group. These units are entirely separate, each constituting a complete structure in itself. They communicate by means of a covered walks. The architect's design shows only parts of four of these buildings. The main unit in the group, as will be indicated in picture #6, is located slightly back from the lake front directly opposite the boat landing. This building will accommodate forty-eight students. It is this unit that I have had in mind as the one most appropriate to be erected in honor of the father of Mrs. Phillips.

For your own information I may say that the two end units of the group will accommodate sixteen students each. The next size unit accommodates thirty-two students, the third size, thirty-six students, and the largest unit accommodates forty-eight. The cost of these units range from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

These pictures are rather hard to replace. I hope that eventually you may be able to return them to this office.

Gratefully yours,

Dr. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
New York City

ODW:BB

0433

May 14, 1930

Dear Dr. Thompson:

Will you please pardon me for delaying so long in writing to tell you how much we appreciated your gift of the seats for the Mask & Wig play last Saturday night. It was great fun and all of us enjoyed it immensely. It was so nice of you to think of it. At the last minute something happened to two of the alumni and they did not come. Mr. Wang He-chen, their secretary, talked with them at dinner time and they expected to come. I am sorry more of them did not avail themselves of the opportunity to see such a good performance.

We are today sending out the invitations for your dinner at the Pennsylvania Club on the 26th. The list is a little larger than at first anticipated because it was thought wise to invite some of the trustees in Philadelphia who might find it possible to come up. However, people are always so busy in New York, I doubt if we have more than the 35 acceptances planned for. Of course we shall let you know how many accept in plenty of time for the 26th.

Dr. Stuart is now expected back in New York on the 25th.

Sincerely yours,

Professor William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
Park Avenue & 65th Street
New York City

Lm

0434

May 14, 1930

Small
3 & 0

Doctor William J. Thompson, one of the trustees of Yenching University, wishes to show his affection for the alumni of the institution, as well as for President Stuart and others connected with it, by having them as his guests at dinner. He has requested me to send you an invitation to be present for dinner at seven o'clock on the evening of May 26th at the Pennsylvania University Club, 35 East 50th Street, this city.

Will you kindly let me know whether you can be present? We certainly hope to see you there. With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

Dinner is to be informal

0435



Mayfair House
Park Avenue at Sixty-fifth Street
New York

Jan 11, 1932

My Dear Mr. Vanvliet:

As per our
conversation this after-
noon I send you
enclosed check for
fifteen hundred dollars.
Very fraternally,
you

W. J. Thompson

Enclosure

"Little strokes
fell great oaks."

Dr. & Mrs. Wm J. Thompson
Mayfair House
N.Y.C.

Gift received, 1-12-32 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 1500.⁰⁰

Pledge \$

Designation Undesignated

Received through Dr. Thompson

Entered on control record ✓

Serial number 1281 ✓

Entered on record card ✓

Pledge signal attached

Cross file card made

Receipt number 3150

Acknowledgment sent 1-13-32 by O.D.S.

Entered on renewal sheet ✓

Checked for office list ✓

Checked for mailing list ✓

Contributed previously? Yes - Jan. 1928

the allocation
to be decided
at next
Finance Com.
Meeting

0437

January 13, 1932.

Dear Dr. Thompson:

When a trustee shows such a heartfelt interest in the University as you have shown, it would never be possible to ask him for a monetary gift. I am therefore all the more grateful to you for the generous check just received. The fact that Mrs. Thompson is just as devoted to Yenching as you are and shares in everything that you do for the institution, adds to our grateful appreciation.

I think I did not mention to you that an appeal letter we sent in recent weeks brought us somewhat more than a thousand dollars in many small contributions. We are renewing that request just now and hope to get a few hundreds more - I hope it may be another thousand! Under present conditions we cannot expect large contributions through the mail.

With renewed thanks for your most friendly spirit and comradeship,

Cordially yours,

Assistant to the President

Dr. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
Park Avenue and 66th Street
New York, N. Y.

ODW:LM

0438



Mrs. M. J. Thomson
Mayfair House
Park Avenue at Sixty-fifth Street
New York

March 23

My dear Mr. Wampanaker - 1932

Your note is just at hand.
I certainly accept your ex-
planation.

I could probably express my-
self more tactfully if we were
talking but I am leaving town
for a week & every hour arranged
for, until I leave.

We live in a fair sized apart-
ment as New York apartments
run, 'I am always ready to
give the living room over to

committees where possible.

We greatly admire Dr. Stuart
think highly of his work —
give us as generous sums
as to any other cause.

I am quite ready to put our
room at his disposal if we
can agree upon a date —
you find the guests — not more
than thirty.

I do not quite understand
your thought of the personnel.

I could not ask my friends
to come, knowing the cause
would be presented later if

not then. I have done the
such embarrassment to me
such for the future.

Mr. Thompson has espoused
we have passed the limit of

This house is on hold &
the service end but I have
apartment for even the time

We would be most happy
at dinner.

I meant to explain just
much it appears over a new
thousand dollars must be
you see the Methodist group
March 23/32 I am, very truly

on several occasions with
you as to make me forewear

so many good causes, I feel
of begging.

requisites can be served from
not the equipment in the
year past.

to entertain Dr. Stuart

that our own church is
building a four hundred & fifty-
used to finish the work begun so
is a hopeless field.

Yours truly, W. S. Chapman

CONF

Wm J Thompson
copy in Price file

April 11, 1952.

MEMORANDUM TO MR. GARRISON:

I have just talked with Dr. Thompson, explaining that Dr. Stuart is very anxious to have Mr. and Mrs. Harry Price for certain reasons on the Yenching faculty, particularly in order that Harry might relieve the President of a good many details for which he would be particularly well qualified. I asked whether Dr. and Mrs. Thompson would consider it entirely in the spirit of their gift if the \$1500 donation they recently made could be budgetted for Mr. and Mrs. Price for the first year. Dr. Thompson said that this would be entirely satisfactory if that use seemed to be the thing most serviceable to Yenching University.

O.D.W.

0443

W. J. Thompson

(See Campyunk)

You are cordially invited to hear
President John Leighton Stuart
of
Yenching University, Peiping, China
who will speak on

The Present Situation in China
Thursday evening, April ~~twenty-first~~
at half after eight o'clock, at the home of
Doctor and Mrs. William J. Thompson
Six hundred and ten Park Avenue
New York

1932

R. S. V. P.

0444

CW

May 18, 1932

Dear Doctor Thompson:

Mr. Hedrick and I had a conference yesterday morning on our present situation. We agreed in the conviction that the chance of meeting the conditions of the Rockefeller offer are not at all promising. I think Mr. Hedrick feels that he has not very often undertaken anything quite so difficult. Certainly, I have not.

We have obtained from various Trustees letters of introduction for Doctor Young, who is working under the direction of Mr. Hedrick and myself. Doctor Young is busily occupied now in New York City. He has just got under way and has thus far nothing concrete to report.

Doctor Jenney got only \$100 in Philadelphia, \$50 in Rochester, and \$100 in Pittsburgh, though a considerable number of persons indicated that they might contribute somewhat later. Doctor Jenney believes he can count, more or less confidently, upon some thousands of dollars. We shall, of course, obtain every dollar that we can in New York City.

I am about to send out a general appeal to the entire mailing list except those persons whom we have a chance of seeing face to face. Under normal conditions we could get some thousands of dollars in this way, but no one can predict the result as things now are.

Mr. Hedrick and I decided that the only possible chance of protecting the University against a very damaging failure would be to obtain some conditional underwritings from members of the Board of Trustees, so that we might encourage outsiders to whom we are appealing by reducing in our statements the amount of money still needed, which is such a large sum as to discourage responses.

We studied the membership of the Board, and I must say we did not feel very optimistic. If you go over the names you will see that there are really only five persons on the entire Board who could, under any circumstances whatever, give a contribution represented in four figures. Those five members are, Mr. McBrier, Mrs. Boyd, Mr. Ludington, Mr. Hammer, and you. (I omit Sidney Gamble and Mr. Van Santvoord Merle-Smith because they will certainly decline to be drawn away from their main responsibility - that of supporting the division of the social sciences at Yenching, which is in a very critical financial state.)

From his long experience, Mr. Hedrick decided that if we could get five members of the Board to underwrite each \$5,000, on the condition that this amount would complete the total required to obtain the Rockefeller grant, we might then hope to succeed.

0445

Dr. Thompson.....#2

May 18, 1932

We figure the thing this way. Counting the greatest possible amount which we believe the Rockefeller Foundation will accept from our available funds we still need about \$68,104. If five Trustees would underwrite \$25,000, this would reduce the balance needed to \$43,000. We would then, of course, do our utmost to obtain that balance in gifts from others, but on a pinch we believe the Harvard-Yenching Institute would probably donate as much as \$5,000, and as you know, Doctor Stuart hopes he might get as much as \$50,000 Silver, equivalent to about \$12,000 Gold, from the China Foundation. These two gifts would reduce the amount needed from individual donors to \$26,104. We feel that it will certainly tax us all, including you and Mr. Wills, to get that amount from individual donors before the end of June, but we think this is not impossible.

Mr. Hedrick and I requested Mr. McBrier to discuss this view of the matter with us, and in his usual extremely generous fashion, he agreed to be one of five to underwrite \$25,000. He then took responsibility to join Mr. Hedrick in presenting the matter to Mr. and Mrs. Boyd and Mr. Ludington, and I was requested to present it to Mr. Warner and you.

We are all well aware of the great generosity you have already shown to the University, and also realize perfectly that it will be by no means easy for you to commit yourself for anything more at the present time. Nevertheless, knowing your very deep interest, we felt that you would probably wish to join the very small group of Trustees from whom it is at all possible to expect such a significant contribution at the present time to save the University from what will amount to a real disaster.

The explicit understanding with regard to the underwriting will be this.

You would send a written statement which might be presented to the Rockefeller Foundation, saying that you guarantee \$5,000 of the amount needed to meet the condition of the Rockefeller gift. You would state a date when you would guarantee payment of this - whatever date you see fit to choose. It might be, if you desire, two years hence, or even farther off than that. You might also send to this office a separate confidential communication saying that in taking responsibility for this underwriting it is your intention to endeavor to relieve yourself from personal payment by securing that amount of money from some other person or persons, and that you would be completely released from any responsibility should you succeed in doing this. The same condition will attach to the underwriting by Mr. McBrier and anyone else who joins.

Supposing, however, that the end of June should arrive and we should not have the necessary funds pledged and should have to use these underwritings with the Rockefeller Foundation. In that case, it would still be understood that although each of you is guaranteeing that the amount underwritten shall be available by the time specified by you individually, nevertheless, each of you shall be free still to endeavor to obtain that gift from some one else and thus relieve yourself. Moreover, the office will be obligated to endeavor to secure the gift and thus relieve the Trustee who had stepped forward to protect the University.

0446

Dr. Thompson.....#3

May 18, 1932

I am sure that Mr. McBrier will be deeply grateful if you feel that under such conditions you can join him in this matter. He spoke to Mr. Hedrick and me very confidentially about his own situation, and I know from what he told us and figures he even showed us from his personal record of income and of obligations, that he does not expect, by any means, to be able to pay off outstanding pledges for which he is already responsible and which are due during the present year. In adding this obligation in behalf of Yenching University, he is taking an action, which he would not under any circumstances take, except for his feeling that the University faces a real disaster unless a few of the Trustees can save it.

Neither Mr. McBrier nor I have forgotten you and Mrs. Thompson's great generosity in contributing recently \$1500. Should you wish to contribute again toward the budget of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Price for the next scholastic year, and should it be impossible before that time to have relieved you of your underwriting in behalf of the physical sciences, then your gift to the Prices' budget will necessarily be considered as discharging that amount of your underwriting. The University would have to make some arrangement - borrowing perhaps an equal amount for the budget of the Prices until you could be released from giving assistance to the physical sciences.

I am sorry to have written you at such great length, but I do not know any way to set the matter forth quite clearly in a briefer compass. I shall be glad to hear from you at your convenience, since I wish to send a mail appeal as quickly as possible, and the smaller the amount I can honestly state as being still needed, the more likely I am to receive many small contributions from the rank and file of those on the mailing list.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Dr. Wm. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York, New York

ODW:KK

c to JWS

enc. (resolution)

0447

June 21, 1932

Dr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson:

There are not many friends of your sort! Your generous gift not only brings us so much closer to our goal - \$250,000 of the Rockefeller money - but it also brings us nearer to realizing a \$25,000 additional gift offered by one friend of Yenching. We now have \$17,000 toward that single gift and we lack about \$16,000 to secure the Rockefeller appropriation. I am reasonably confident that we shall succeed in both these objectives.

With renewed and heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

GPW:MW.

cc to HS.

Receipt for \$2,500 enclosed -

0449

(trustee)
Thompson, Prof. and Mrs. Wm. J.
Mayfair House, 610 Park Ave.
New York City

Gift received, June 18, 1932 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 2000.⁰⁰

Pledge \$

Designation Natural Sciences Endowment

Received through Self

Entered on control record ☒

Serial number 1481 ☒

Entered on record card ☒

Pledge signal attached

Cross file card made

Receipt number 3657

Acknowledgment sent 6-21-32 ☒

Entered on renewal sheet

no card

Checked for office list ☒

Checked for mailing list ☒

Contributed previously? January, 1932

0450



Mayfair House
Park Avenue at Sixty-fifth Street
New York

Yenching University -

Toward the expenses
of Yenching University -
I promise to pay within
twelve months from
date the sum of one
thousand dollars -

Wm. H. S. Thompson
June 28/32

in
paid full
4-25-34

Thompson, Mrs. W. J.
(Mary M.L.)

Gift received, June 29, 1932 (date)

Cash Gift \$
Pledge \$ 1000 Payable in 12 months
Designation Undesignated
Received through Dr. Thompson
Entered on control record ✓
Serial number 1560
Entered on record card ✓
Pledge signal attached ✓
Cross file card made
Receipt number
Acknowledgment sent 2-1-32
Entered on renewal sheet ✓
Checked for office list ✓
Checked for mailing list ✓
Contributed previously?

0452

July 1, 1932.

Dr. William J. Thompson,
Mayfair House,
Park Ave. at 65th St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Thompson:

It gives me peculiar personal pleasure to make this note of thanks to you and Mrs. Thompson for your additional generous pledge one of my final communications from the office of Teaching.

You have certainly been a wonderful support to the University in this emergency.

We actually matched the conditional pledge of \$25,000 just in time.

We have raised since April 1. \$112,500 for Teaching.

We reported to the Foundation yesterday. The Committee, - Mr. Barber, Mr. McBrier, Mr. Garside and I - all feel that we met every condition except the one requiring all cash and we informed Mr. Appleget that the University would substitute cash for pledges if desired.

The Executive Committee of the Foundation will meet some time during July and decide this vitally important question for Teaching. We feel that our chances are excellent that the decision will be in our favor but we could not judge very positively from the necessarily non-committal expressions of the one officer whom we interviewed whether cash will be our fate.

With renewed and heartfelt thanks, I remain,

Cordially yours,

OW.A

0453

*follow up on
record card*

July 28, 1932.

Prof. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson,
Mayfair House,
Park Avenue at 65th Street,
New York City

My dear Professor and Mrs. Thompson:

Probably you noticed recent announcements in the press that Yenching University has been successful in its efforts to secure urgently needed endowment for its work in Natural Science. I am writing both to thank you for the assistance you gave us in meeting the conditions of the Rockefeller Foundation, and also to inform you as to the present position of this endowment fund.

The Foundation gave its general approval to our report showing that we had received by June 30th, \$250,000 in cash and pledges for the work in Natural Science, to match its gift for a like amount. The Foundation's original offer required that this entire sum must be secured in cash within the time limit specified. But in view of existing financial conditions the Foundation generously agreed to a modification of these original terms whereby it will pay over at once a sum equal to the cash we have secured to date, and will make additional payments up to June 30, 1935, to match collections we make on our outstanding pledges. These payments will be made at quarterly intervals, on the basis of reports we will submit about the middle of the months of September, December, March, and June.

Obviously, it will be greatly to the advantage of our Natural Science work if outstanding pledges are paid at an early date. Existing work needs the income on the entire fund of \$500,000, and this work will be curtailed to the extent that the fund is incomplete. Every dollar paid in on pledges means that two dollars are set to work earning this needed income.

We appreciate that these outstanding pledges represent sacrificial giving by men and women who, in spite of the present economic situation are contributing as generously as their means allow to many worthy enterprises. We recognize that many donors may be unable to send payments until the dates shown on their pledges. But it is clear that the circumstances justify the adage that "He who gives quickly gives double measure."

With assurance of the University's profound appreciation of the share you have had in thus providing a permanent basis for the support of Yenching's splendid service in the field of the Natural Sciences, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:PW

Secretary

0454

Dr. + Mrs. W. J. Thompson

cu

Yenching University

June 7, 1933.

Memorandum to Yenching Promotional Office:

on ch
A little over a year ago Professor and Mrs. W. J. Thompson made a gift of \$1,500 which has been applied to the support of Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Price during the fiscal year 1932-33. At the time of Mr. and Mrs. Price's appointment in April 1932, Professor Thompson intimated that he and Mrs. Thompson would probably be able to continue this appropriation of \$1,500 per year for at least two more years. But, aside from a brief reference to this possibility in the Minutes of the April 14th, 1932 meeting of the McBrier Foundation, I know of nothing in writing on this matter. I believe that our Yenching Promotional Office has no written pledge. *correct*

Since Professor and Mrs. Thompson are now in Europe for the summer, I do not know whether it would be better to write them concerning the matter, or to hold it in abeyance until they return this fall. It is very important, however, that we keep the matter definitely in mind, and that we follow it up as actively as it is wise to do so. The continuation of this contribution is vital to the support of Mr. and Mrs. Price. If it should be discontinued, it would be impossible to have them continue at Yenching unless practically all the other work supported by the funds of the McBrier Foundation is abandoned.

BAG
B. A. G.

BAG:PW

1500 paid 1-12-32 (for the Prices)
2000 " 6-18-32 (Nat. Sci. End.)
1000 pledged 6-28-32 to be paid by 7-1-33

2.4.5.

0455

Muth 130

Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson

YENCHING

INDEXED

October 13, 1933.

Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
Park Avenue & 65th Street
New York City

TRANSMITTED

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson:

Within the next fortnight we will be having a meeting of the committee responsible for some of the special religious work being done at Yenching University, including that being done by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Price. One of the matters coming before the committee will be the setting up of a budget for the support of Mr. and Mrs. Price during the coming year.

In May, 1932, when you approved the application toward the salary and expenses of Mr. and Mrs. Price of the \$1,500 which you had given shortly before, I believe you indicated that it might be possible for you to renew this generous support if necessary, to provide for the continuation of the work Mr. and Mrs. Price are doing.

All the reports coming from the field indicate that Mr. and Mrs. Price have been rendering particularly fine service, both in their special field of teaching work, and also in their fine contribution to the life of the University. A letter just received from Dr. Stuart contains this comment:-

"In regard to Harry Price and his wife, they are living up fully to all that I had expected of them."

I know that Dr. Stuart thinks of these two young people almost as though they were his son and daughter, and they have been a very great joy and benefit to him, as they have relieved him of many details connected with the management of the President's house, the entertainment of guests, and of the innumerable demands which have heretofore occupied a substantial part of Dr. Stuart's time and attention. We are confident that, having now become so well established on the Yenching campus, they will be able to render an even greater service.

From the financial standpoint, the \$1,500 you provided last year, plus the same amount appropriated by the McBrier Foundation, was just about enough to cover salary, child's allowance, outgoing travel, and other miscellaneous expenses to July 1, 1933. We hope that for 1933-34 the actual expenditures will be somewhat less. But we should

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Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson

October 15, 1935.

-2-

begin to lay aside a reserve for travel and furlough expenses at the end of this present term of service. I believe that the Committee in charge of the Harrier Foundation will agree to continue its contribution of \$1,500 to provide one half of the sum needed. We earnestly hope that it will be possible for you to provide the remaining \$1,500 through the renewal of your previous gift.

I hope that you had a very pleasant summer abroad. We thought of you often, but tried to avoid harassing you with too many notices of meetings, and sheaves of minutes.

Very cordially yours,

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson:

BAG:PW

0457

Dr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Ave. City

Gift received Dec. 11, 1933 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 1,500.00

Pledge \$ -----

Basis of payment -----

Designation Toward support of Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Price for 1933-1934

Received through Dr. Thompson

Control record serial number 1680 ✓

Entered on record card Yes

Pledge signal attached -----

Receipt number 3948

Acknowledgment sent By B.A.G.

Entered on renewal sheet ---

Checked for office list -----

Checked for mailing list -----

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

Entered on cultivation slip

on CL

H

0458

YENCHING

EXED

Yenching

December 12, 1933

Dr. and Mrs. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York, New York

TRANSFER

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson:

We enclose herewith our formal receipt for your contribution of \$1,500 toward the support of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Price.

Let me assure you again of our deep appreciation of your continued generosity in providing this support for Mr. and Mrs. Price. Without this assistance, it probably would not be possible for Yenching to keep them on its staff. From a number of sources during recent months we have received very enthusiastic reports of the very excellent service Mr. and Mrs. Price are rendering. Dr. Stuart feels that they are very valuable additions to the staff and that they have fine potentialities for increasing usefulness.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MP

0459

YENCHING

April 3, 1934

Professor W. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
Park Avenue at 65th Street
New York City

My dear Dr. Thompson:

You will remember that after the meeting of our Associated Boards Committee on Promotion last week you asked me to send you a copy of the receipt for a one thousand dollar gift to Yenching University given by Mrs. Thompson and yourself recently. I understood that you had in mind the current year 1933.

As I have gone through our Yenching accounts, I find that we do not have a record of any gift for \$1,000 paid by you during 1933, or the years immediately preceding. According to our accounts the last gift for \$1,000 received from you was in 1928. Since that date we have received the following gifts:-

January 12th, 1932	\$1,500
Later allocated to Mr. and Mrs. Price	
June 20th, 1932	\$2,000
For endowment of Natural Science	
December 11th, 1933	\$1,500
For Mr. and Mrs. Price	

There is on our Yenching lists another pledge of \$1,000 which you and Mrs. Thompson gave for Natural Science on June 28, 1932. I believe there was some misunderstanding with regard to this last named pledge, but I understand it was cleared up one evening a few months ago when you and Mr. Hedrick and Miss McCoy met together in our Yenching Promotional office and went over the matter. As yet, however, we have not received payment of this last amount.

If you will indicate more definitely which receipt you need for tax purposes we will be glad to send it on to you.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:MP

0460

Mrs. Wm. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Ave., New York City

Gift received Apr. 25, 1934 (date)

Cash Gift \$ 1,000 - in full payment of Pledge made 6-28-32

Pledge \$ ---

Basis of payment To be paid by July 1, 1935

Designation Natural Sciences Endowment

Received through Dr. Thompson

Control record serial number 1560 ✓

Entered on record card ✓

Pledge signal attached ----

Receipt number 3998

Acknowledgment sent B.A.G. Says Dr. T. was thanked

Entered on renewal sheet -----

Checked for office list -----

Checked for mailing list -----

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

On CL? yes

*personally
not nec. to write*

0461

A LETTER

to those who have written, telephoned, telegraphed, sent books, flowers, dishes, gifts, messages, while I was a patient in the Methodist Episcopal Hospital, Brooklyn, New York, October 18, 1934-January 18, 1935.

MY DEAR FRIEND, *D. Gee*

October 7, I preached for a former student, The Rev. C. Irving Carpenter, at Federalsburg, Md. Monday, I motored with Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, 235 miles to Dr. William Devitt's camp, Allenwood, Pa. I spoke at the mid-week service in Federalsburg. The next day I visited my birthplace in Dorchester County, Md. Friday, went to Washington, D. C. Sunday morning I preached in Center Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Cumberland, Md., the Rev. Harry Evalul, pastor. In the afternoon I paced boyhood haunts in Bedford Valley where my Father rode a circuit. That night I returned to Washington. The next day, in company with Mr. Henry Gilligan and The Rev. Dr. R. Y. Nicholson, motored to Westminster, Md., with them attended a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Maryland College and spoke at a dinner to the trustees and their wives.

My cousins, Prof. and Mrs. Ernest N. Cory of the University of Maryland, gave me a seventieth birthday dinner in their home, College Park. The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Brown Harris similarly honored me the next evening in Foundry Parsonage. The following morning Mrs. H. S. France gave a birthday breakfast in company with her Father and Sister. That noon I was again honored with a birthday luncheon by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Otterback, of hallowed memory. The next evening in Elizabeth, New Jersey, a birthday party dinner was given me by Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert C. Healy. Amidst these activities and festivities, I rudely jerked Father Time's beard and twitted him with: "Who says 70?" A little later his scythe gouged the 3rd, 4th and 5th ribs on my left side.

October 17, I returned to New York City and spent the night with my classmate, Will H. Morgan, '92, Drew. The next morning I went to Brooklyn to call on my dear friend, Mr. David N. Maxon. Before doing so I consulted Dr. Charles A. Anderson of the Methodist Hospital, who warned me my cold was infectious. Since my family had not returned, he advised my spending the night in the hospital. Dr. Anderson is attendant Laryngologist. His skill is famed far and wide. He made short metre of my cold and long metre of his interest in me. After feeling my pulse he asked Dr. Cross to call.

From the day of his matriculation in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, to the present, the surname of Dr. Cross bespeaks his sacrificing all for medical proficiency.

His middle name, from the Old Testament, is the French *Hotel Dieu*, their term for hospital. Its guests—patients—Dr. Cross studies and treats befitting the sanctity of their dwelling.

His first name is truth spoken as it is. From him etiologic, diagnostic and prognostic truths as they are, shine forth brilliantly. And equally, light therapeutic. When I became his patient my heart beat as the Wild Man of Borneo beats a drum. When he discharged me it was a candidate for membership in the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Frank Bethel Cross, specialist in Internal Medicine, worthy of the name by the which he is called.

Russell M. Rome, M.D., entered an adjoining room as cardiac patient. He was President of the Epworth League when I entered the pastorate of Simpson Church, Brooklyn. I married him and baptized his children. Dr. Rome specialized and became Professor of Clinical Surgery in Long Island College of Medicine. At the zenith of his professional splendor a heart condition brought him low. Our physician, Dr. Cross, granted us five minutes' visit for the evening, which we used in discussing "Rational Faith." The next day Dr. Cross inquired the length of our five minutes. Dr. Rome's serene adjustment to his forced retirement lifts my hat to the corner of the moon in admiration.

0462

For eight weeks Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkield was a patient in the room opposite. A most neighborly neighbor, a most brotherly brother. His apt quotations from the Bible, Browning and Tennyson revived my drooping. Fellowship with him was blessed.

Mr. Morris S. Daniels, a widely useful layman of the Newark Conference, was a surgical patient on another floor. Happily, I had communication with him through the gracious and elect lady, Mrs. Daniels.

The Director, Dr. Chester C. Marshall, gives his talents unstintedly and most efficaciously to the Hospital. He is ably supported by capable Heads of Departments and the medical and surgical staffs which are of first magnitude.

Internes are selected from graduating classes of highly reputable Medical Schools. Nurses are imbued with the spirit of that great medical humanitarian, Ambrose Paré, who cared both for the disease and the whole patient. These young ladies minister with a cheerful countenance "which doeth good like a medicine."

The Galilean Physician in and through this Hospital is relieving suffering, undeterred by the sufferer's color, creed or financial destitution.

The Lord's Supper is administered bimonthly by The Rev. Sanford C. Hearn with decorum and solemnity becoming the HOLY COMMUNION. Christmas Eve, members of the staff and nurses, in a processional through festooned corridors and wards, sang carols that brought Bethlehem before our eyes.

The efficiency of the Superintendent, Miss Grace B. Hinekey, equals her ubiquity. Her ubiquity equals her efficiency. In both she is the incarnation of Florence Nightingale.

The Rev. Dr. James E. Holmes, who retired January 1, 1934, at the close of eighteen years of Directorship of the Hospital, now sits on a pleasant autumnal lea where he may review with justifiable gratification eighteen chapters in the Hospital's history which chronicle his deeds. Each chapter closes with the summary "it was good" and a fortissimo Amen from friends of the Hospital. How sorely I missed him.

The President and Trustees of Drew sent a telegram on Founders' Day. President and Mrs. Brown called, wrote and sent flowers. Colleagues called, wrote and sent gifts. Students, their Union and the Philologoi Society were very mindful of me. Alumni did not permit me to embark on the River Lethe. Fellow Trustees of Yenching University prayerfully remembered me. The Board of Managers of the Hospital sent sympathy and best wishes, a number called. The Doctor of Philosophy Club of New York University sent a telegram from their October dinner. The New York East Conference Board of Education through their Director, Prof. Samuel L. Hamilton, sent best wishes for a "rapid and speedy recovery." President Kimball R. Hitchcock's letter in behalf of the Cabinet and members of the Sunday Evening Club of Christ Church transmuted the dew of youth and the frost of age into a rainbow. From the mid-season luncheon of the Ministers' wives association of the New York East Conference came roses. Pulpit flowers from Christ Church, Grace Church (2) and Simpson Church adorned my room. The essence of kindness flowed from ministers of my own Conference, the New York East, while members of the New York and Newark Conferences reaffirmed the Methodist tradition: "We be brethren." I greatly enjoyed Bishop McConnell's two visits. Members of the Brooklyn Clerical Union and other clergymen in sister denominations cheered and heartened me. The visit of Rabbi Alexander Lyons, D.D., of the Eighth Avenue Temple I genuinely appreciated. Churches I served in Washington, Worcester and Newtonville attuned strings in my harp to their former melody. Simpson Church overwhelmed me with kindness. Its untiring pastor, the Rev. Harry T. Howard, D.D., who counts it a defect in his conduct not to do more than requested, repeatedly went the second mile. Dr. Franklin Welker, our beloved family physician, and Dr. J. Wilson Cassell, my attendant ophthalmologist when in Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital, both favored me with social calls.

Dr. Harold K. Bell, Dr. J. Herbert Bliss, Dr. Henry F. Graham, Dr. O. Paul Humpstone, Dr. Howard T. Langworthy, Dr. Harold R. Merwarth, Dr. Harold E. Rhame, Dr. Thomas B. Spence, Miss Mabel R. Duryea of the Hospital Staff "dropped in." Each left a lighted candle. Those not members of organized churches, yet members of the Church of God, as Irenaeus truly holds having His Spirit, their kindness and that of others not in the foregoing organizations are written where it will be as enduring as memory.

My notation of friends is as precious to me as the one in Romans XVI was to Apostle Paul.

Salutations due December 18, 1934, I offer The Rev. S. Parkes Cadman on reaching three score and ten. Dr. Cadman has achieved more for human well-being during his seventy revolutions around the sun than most of us could in seventy times seventy. Genius in him has habitation in three areas: his head, his

heart, his will. Probably he is the most loved minister in the English-speaking world. Though I was but one in a multitude, yet during my hospitalization, Dr. Cadman telephoned me four times, called four times, and wrote seven times.

A long-distance telephone from Washington, D. C., October 23, brought the appalling fate of my tried and true friend of 44 years, Maurice Otterback. Rescuing a lady from a passing motor truck, he lost his balance and became the victim. Two Washington papers in editorials on his exemplary career as bank president, civic worker and devoted churchman, faithfully epitomized his life in: "He died as he lived, —saving others."

December 26, a fatal automobile accident befell Charles P. Swift, grandson of the late and greatly beloved Rev. Dr. Morris W. Prince and Mrs. Prince, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Swift of the Hill School. Why this young man, radiant with promise, was cut down transcends human understanding. Faith alone can fit the mystery in the mosaic of Divine goodness.

The death of Dr. E. E. Brown, November 4, saddened me. Marvellous the expansion of New York University under his Chancellorship. A *bon voyage* telegram came from him on our last sailing. The year preceding, the beautiful roses he sent were followed by his ever-to-be cherished letter. John Henry Newman's classic on the "True Gentleman" condensed into three words is: Elmer Ellsworth Brown.

Three months in bed, sick and surrounded with sickness, apprehending that in many the flame of life flickered faintly, has enlarged my sympathy. I have thought on the improvement of my soul. For all my sins recalled I have godly sorrow. My trust in the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ seems to me fixed as the Northern star. To bring all my motives and thoughts into His captivity—which I deem emancipation—is my Herculean task.

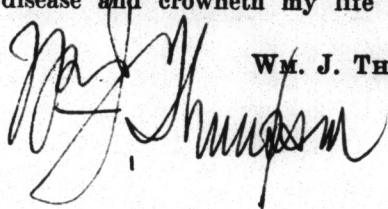
My Mother in her last illness whispered, "The way is not bright." I replied, "We live on Walnut Street (Worcester, Mass.) in the darkness of midnight as much as in broad day-light. Elated or dejected we are on THE WAY." This greatly comforted her as it does me. Her death was triumphant.

I shall assume one of the prerogatives of the United States Supreme Court: "Never give an advisory opinion." Snail-like, I will crawl toward the School of Retirement, which I must enter for the residue of my days, "study to be quiet," and hope for a passing grade in all its curricula.

I leave unexpressed my warm abounding gratitude to friends for the reason my utmost attempt to express it would be only a pepper-corn.

Vis medicatrix naturae as in Psalm CIII is my acclamation: "Bless the Lord, O my Soul: and all that is within me bless his holy name." Who healeth my disease and crowneth my life with loving kindness.

Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York City
February 4, 1935.



WM. J. THOMPSON

Lacher in
Aristocratic
School.
King St
and for same

February 6, 1955

Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson:

I enjoyed very much my delightful visit with you yesterday evening and I am certainly happy to find that you have been making such rapid progress and hope you will soon be restored to normal good health again. We will welcome you back to the meetings of the Yenching group and it will always give us pleasure to call whenever there is any information you may desire us to bring to you.

I am enclosing with this, as I promised, a copy of the map of Yenching University and also a little booklet "Yenching University Goes to the Country". Our latest folder concerning the Women's College is also enclosed.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely,

N. Gist Gee

NGG:HW

0465

March 21st, 1935

Dr W. J. Thompson,
Mayfair House,
610 Park Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Dr Thompson:-

Thank you very much for your letter of March 20th
which came this morning.

I appreciate very much your making it possible for me
to see Mr Horne. I am writing him to-day asking him to name a time
when it will be most convenient for me to see him. I shall let you
know the result of the interview when I have been able to see him.
I would like also to have a chance to talk with Mrs Lyman whom you
suggested to me some days ago. Have you any suggestion as to how this
can best be done?

We are very grateful to you for your willingness to con-
tinue the gift which you and Mrs Thompson have been making toward Mr
Price's salary. I have asked Mr Evans to give me a little statement
concerning this and I shall enclose it with this letter. The \$2,000
includes travel, medical bills, etc. His actual salary is the regular
Yenching one. They are all very low, in fact, they are just about the
subsistence level.

I hope that your progress will continue favorable and that
you will soon be out again about your normal life.

*My Evans note says salary, including 2 children
is \$150 per month - \$1800 per year. The other is for
travel, medical bills (U.S. 101.27 for this year) and travel will cost about \$6,000 -*

Very sincerely,
H. Clet Gee

0466

April third, 1935

Dr and Mrs W. J. Thompson,
610 Park Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr and Mrs Thompson:-

Mr Garalde yesterday handed me your check for
\$1,500 toward the support of Mr and Mrs Harry B. Price at
Yenching University for the current academic year.

We are very grateful to you both for your continued
interest and support and especially at this time when every single
gift looms large to us. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find
people who have the money to give and who are at the same time willing
to give it to things as far away as China. I am sure that you realize
how great the good done there is and that it is helping to shape a great
nation which will have a big part in the future of our own country. If
China develops as we hope, she will be an important power in helping
us to shape policies which will make for peace. If she gets under other
influences, she may be our great danger. I am sure that what Yenching
is doing now is toward the building of a Christian nation out of China.

Assuring you of our appreciation of your help, I am

Very sincerely,

N. Gist Gee.

0467

December 18, 1938

Dr. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I am enclosing the list of names which you looked over hastily this morning. I believe you are to be good enough to go over this list and add any names to it that you may think of value and then designate the names of:

those you prefer to see alone,
those whom you would prefer to see in connection with
Dr. Stuart, Mr. Sherwood or myself,
those to whom you do not desire to appeal personally, but
to whom you are willing to write brief notes of introduction for me.

It was cheering news to Mr. McBrier, Mr. Garvick and others here to know that you are planning to see Dr. Sachman with the view of having him lend us some assistance in this campaign. Yenching University is our greatest Christian university in any non-Christian land, methinks having much to do with its origin and development, and we all feel that such a church as the Christ Methodist should do much to help us as we face the present crisis and great opportunity.

Dr. Sachman and other friends might be able to give you the names of philanthropic people who are not Methodists and in that case it would be helpful if you were to state in a few words the church membership and possibly giving ability, if you know anything about it, of the people whose names are listed.

I cannot tell you how much I appreciated the time and encouragement you gave this morning. We must be keep in mind the importance of protecting your health, and we must avoid asking you to do too much. Frankly, however, I do not know any person whose cooperation could help us here in the present campaign.

Hoping that you will be able to return the list to the office in a few days, I remain,

Yours cordially,

SPY:ER
Enc.

0468

December 19, 1955

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson:

I have just returned from another absence, to leave on my arrival of the very generous decision you have made in what is really the beginning of our present efforts. There could be no people whom I would rather have to initiate the results we are hoping for than two such good friends of the University as you have always shown yourselves to be. It is especially reassuring in view of the disastrous news from North China.

We are thinking of sending to Yenching a Christmas message, including whatever may be the results between now and then.

I am leaving Saturday for the north and take this occasion to send you my heartiest Christmas greetings. You have already done a great deal to make it a happy season for me.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. and Mrs. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York City

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