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Yenching  
Corres.  
Wagner, Augusta  
1927-1945

0334

TRANSPER

April 15, 1927

Dear Friends of Yenching:

we hear that China has the front page in the papers at home these days and continues to hold the headlines. Little wonder! for we are a great country and going through a tremendous upheaval. You must have been wondering how we are faring at Yenching. What a month it has been! All year we had been getting accounts of the disorganization of the schools in Southern and Central China, but we went about the day's work, expecting that some day our turn would come, but taking advantage of the quiescent state in the North to carry on as usual. When the Southerners got here, we knew we would come in for our share of reorganization and possibly some unpleasantness from the more radical elements, but the "when the Southerners got here" was somewhere in the dim future. Then came the Hanking affair like a thunderbolt from the blue, and soon we were living in an atmosphere of hysteria something like what prevailed at home after the sinking of the Lusitania. Letters and accounts of what happened in Hanking began to come through - it was a terrible experience - and soon Peking was rife with rumors of what the next move would be. Living in the country as we do, we were more able to keep from being swept off our feet, but of course, we were affected by it, for we had to fight against being swept along in the current. The stampede began when the Peking Union Medical College ordered mothers with children in their institution to leave the country. We thought they were a little needlessly panicky, and never for a second considered the possibility of evacuation for ourselves. Then the panic swept over Peking.

All unconcerned, we adjourned for our spring vacation, and some of us went tramping the hills, only to return to find Peking in a furor. The exodus of the U.S.C. people, and the American Minister's unofficial advice for women and children to leave at once had so stirred up the fears of the foreign community that there was a wild rush for reservations out of the country. In order to bring about some concerted action, representatives from the various groups in Peking got together to try from their combined experience and knowledge of the situation to formulate some working plans. That group met - Yenching was not represented because Dr. Stuart had gone off for a couple of days (primarily to give people a sense of security - that the situation was not serious enough to demand his presence at home) and no one else from Yenching was invited.

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So far as I can gather this came out in the discussion: that the American Minister had unofficially urged the immediate evacuation of women and children; that there was bound to be some trouble, and that it would be easier if the women and children were out of the way. The various facts and rumors of facts which the group pooled were these: that Chang Tso Lin might collapse any day; that he was a very superstitious man, and was going by what the soothsayers were foretelling, some of whom said he had another good fifteen years, and others that his day was told. If he continued to meet with reverses in Honan, he might believe those who were telling him that his star had set, and withdraw from Peking to Manchuria. There was already such a group of radical Communists in Peking that they would use this opportunity for a grand uprising against the foreigners. Then should the Southerners get to Tientsin and bottle up Peking, or the Kuomintang come into Peking, this would fan the flames and make a most dangerous situation for the foreigners in Peking. Also since ~~this was~~ there was this strong element of anti-foreign feeling, the foreigners by staying might embarrass their Chinese colleagues, who would suffer because they did not share the anti-foreign feeling. Furthermore, that whenever the southerners came, and there was some difference of opinion when that would be, there was bound to be unpleasantness of some kind from the more radical elements. On the strength of this, the group voted that they would recommend to their respective groups that all mothers and children be evacuated, and whatever women could be spared from their jobs. But before acting on these resolutions, they sent two of the men to Mr. MacMurray, the American Minister, to see what he thought of them. He was pleased, but said they did not go far enough, that he wished they would get out all women and children. When he was asked why, if he felt that the situation was so serious, he did not officially order the Peking people out, he said that if he did so, Chang Tso Lin would think that the foreigners were not accepting his assurance of adequate protection, and in his indignation, might leave the city high and dry. The two men came back and reported all this, and the group voted to recommend the evacuation of mothers and children, and all women who could be spared without detriment to the work.

Then such a hubbub as there was in Peking - packing and passports and visas (The American Legation has run out of passports) - and how about boats and what about trains. Then all the women from the interior who had been ordered out began to arrive. I didn't realize until I saw some mothers with three and four small children, what a job evacuating can be. Some are going to Seoul, some to other parts of Korea, some to Japan, some home. For none of them is it easy - it is no joy ride or lark when you don't know for how long you are going, or what the possibilities are of getting back.

We came back from vacation to find all this. The University at once held a faculty meeting, and the consensus of opinion was that we would stick by the job. Dr. Stuart was in close touch with many prominent Chinese leaders, and so far as he could gather from them there was no immediate danger to be feared. The only real anxiety we had was ~~fix~~ the danger of looting from irresponsible soldiers and the rabble accompanying them during a change of government, but from all we could gather that change did not seem imminent. There was great surprise and not a little disappointment at the panicky exodus of foreigners on the part of our Chinese friends. We felt it would be a mistake to leave at present in Peking - that there was no immediate danger, and that if we did leave at this time, we might do the cause of Christianity and the work of the University an irreparable harm. Our Chinese friends could not see any reason for our going at present, and if we left now and the University were disrupted, as it well could be with half its faculty leaving, I doubt if our Chinese friends could ever be made to understand why. So, we have gone on with our work, and the past few weeks have shown the wisdom of our decision. The students are very pleased at our staying, and our loyalty to each other and to Yenching has been strengthened by this period of stress and strain. The students and the Chinese members of the faculty have formed a Vigilance Committee to protect the women students and the foreign members of the faculty in any emergency. I thought you would like to see the letter they sent us, so I am enclosing a copy. You can see from it how fine their spirit is. When you think of how they are besieged on all sides by all sorts of propaganda and by agitators of many kinds, and by ~~skizartixaf~~ direct and indirect pressure from the radical elements, who are opposed to an institution like Yenching, it takes courage to stand by as they are doing.

When the tornado will strike us, we do not know, but we know that if and when it does, we can count on the loyalty of the greater part of the student body. When the Southern Party gets up here, there will be many changes, and drastic ones, but if the Right wing is in the ascendant when they get here, I think we have little to fear, but if the Left wing controls the party, then it is all a ? .

I wish you could have been with us Easter morning as we held our Communion service on the little island on the campus. Students, faculty, servants and workmen gathered in one great fellowship. The forsythia was in bloom, here and there a bird was lifting its song, and for the first time this spring, we felt the warmth of our good North China sunshine. All nature was in harmony this Easter morning. And our hearts were lifted up. There may be hard times ahead, for both foreigners and Chinese alike, who that morning renewed their loyalty to Jesus Christ and His way of life, but we go forward in His strength.

Sincerely yours,

*Augusta Baker*  
for Yenching Women's College

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
MAY 18 1927  
JOINT OFFICE

Sincerely yours,  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

BEFO

*Copy sent to various Yenching Committee members and to Wellen and Miss Tyler.*

RECEIVED  
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

*4 copies*

Peking, June 20, 1927.

JUL 19 1927

Dear Friends of Yenching:

This memorable year in the history of Christian education in China came to a successful and conventional close at Yenching with Commencement last Monday. It is almost unbelievable to us who have gone through the uncertainties of the past year to realize that we were able to carry through successfully. When almost every other University in China has had to close its doors some of the time this year, we are humble to think that we could complete our work.

But we have not been without our storms, and two weeks ago it was as if a cyclone had suddenly struck us. We withered it, though we came out a little battered and worn. At that time the Southern Army made some rapid advances in the North, and it looked as if they might soon get up this way. Troublemakers, planted by outside political agencies in the various universities round about, began to take advantage of the situation. Their first move was to force Nankai, the big university in Tientsin, to shut down. They then sent a delegation to stir up the students at Tsing Hua, the indemnity college, our near neighbor, and within twenty-four hours, they were forced to shut down. Then they turned their attention to us.

On Sunday a petition ~~a petition~~ appeared in the Men's College demanding that the students be excused from examinations and allowed to go home at once. That evening I had my initiation as faculty advisor to the Student Association of the Women's College when right after dinner the student president hailed me, and asked would I come to a very important meeting at once. I discovered then how wrought up the student body was, and what pressure was being brought to bear on the girls by the men students to agitate for no examinations. The tactics of the troublemakers was to demand that credit be given for the year's work without examination, knowing well that the faculty wished to maintain certain standards, and hoping that possibly they could bring about a break in the faculty and students on this point. They used the ~~due~~ due to the political situation to give reason for their demands. The women students voted to recommend ~~any~~ any students who were concerned about the political situation and their safety might go home at once and take their examinations in the fall, that other students who wished to stay might do so and take their examinations at once, which meant moving the

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examination schedule up just one week. Meantime the President and some representative members of the faculty had come to the same conclusion, but the men students' counsels had brought them to a different one, that of refusing absolutely to take any examinations. When they heard of the decision of the women students, the more radical political agitators brought pressure to bear on them, and finally made them take a united stand with the men on no examinations.

On Monday President Stuart called a meeting of the faculty and students, and presented to the students the recommendations of the faculty, explaining that the University had a standard to maintain which we were morally obligated to uphold. He also explained that his Chinese Advisory Committee had assured him that there was no immediate danger, but since the faculty were sympathetic with students who were concerned about their safety and the possibility of interrupted communications, they had made provision for examination of these students next fall, and that these students might leave at once.

The meeting was then turned over to the students, and after some fiery speeches by which many of the students were completely carried away, the recommendations of the faculty were voted down by a small majority. The faculty were given until ten o'clock that night to reconsider. The University Council met, and on the strong insistence of the Chinese members, voted that the only thing to do was to close the University the following morning, calling the work of the year incomplete, and giving no credit until it was completed. The faculty felt that the question of examinations or no examinations might be open to consideration, but they did not feel that when the examinations were actually upon us and when no understanding had been arrived at beforehand was the time to abolish them.

The students were in a state of frenzy all evening, and when ten o'clock came President Stuart thought it wiser not to present the action of the Council, but simply to declare the next day a holiday, and then to post the Council action the next morning. In the morning, however, before any action could be reported, it seeped through the student body that the faculty were going to take a stand on maintaining standards. Many of the students, who were ashamed that they had been led away by impassioned speeches the day before, and who had become aware that they were pawns in a political game, begged for

a reconsideration of the matter. So another student meeting was called, and the supposedly original recommendations of the faculty overwhelmingly passed. However, through some misunderstanding some students came away with a misconception of what these recommendations were. As soon as the meeting was over, members of the faculty were besieged by students, announcing that they had accepted the recommendations presented by Dr. Stuart, but in the same breath saying that the question of examination was optional, that their daily grades might be substituted, and announcing that they were not prepared to take examinations. The faculty in a state of bewilderment in turn besieged the president. In a hastily called faculty meeting, after a stormy session, the matter was cleared up, and it was left to each member of the faculty to insist on an examination where it was needed. The die-hards made one last attempt, and all the next day delegations from the irreconcilables harassed the members of the faculty, but wherever possible, the final tests came off as scheduled.

Throughout all this agitation, the Chinese members of the faculty urged a firm stand, stating that these were the tactics used in other universities, where capitulation on the part of the faculty had led to an entire breakdown in student morale. You can imagine how tense the situation was for days, and how harassed we were, but it all blew over. Some members of the staff think we achieved a signal victory. We hear that the political agitators who were behind this movement feel that they are so discredited with the student body that they will not return to college next fall. There is a feeling among some, however, that this is but the beginning of a series of such attempts to disrupt the University, on the part of the extreme radicals, who have no desire to see a Christian university give the lie to many of their accusations. A large part of the student body is loyal. They are in a difficult position: their hearts are rent by the chaotic condition in which their beloved country finds herself; they want to help; and so propagandists for every shade of political opinion find in them good material. But we have confidence to believe that many of our students will evaluate with good judgment the many causes before them, and that they will align themselves with that one which will bring the greatest good to China.

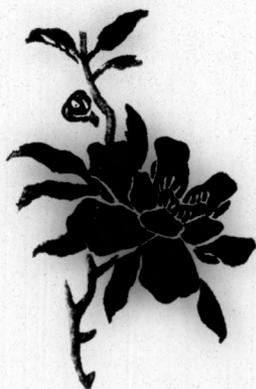
After all the furor, Commencement came off peacefully enough, with the usual speeches, and parties, and farewells, and it was as if never a ripple had ruffled the waters. Now we are trying to

get dormitories painted, adequate plumbing installed, radiators put in condition to radiate next winter, grounds leveled and graded, and roads laid out. And then lest time should hang idle on our hands, various members of the faculty are taking turns staying here to watch over the forty or more students who could not go home, either because their homes were in the war zone, or because communications to their homes are cut. The peaceful and orderly routine of a school at home is as a dream to us. But though we often pray for the peace and settled feeling of ordinary routine days, yet we have our compensations - life at Yenchiang never palls. We expect only the unexpected.

We were hoping that the political change here in the North would come during the summer, but Chang Tso Lin has just declared himself Generalissimo of China, and we take it that means he is going to put up a stiff fight, and that it may be months before the South reaches its objective - Peking. But we dare not prophesy. We are planning to open the University as usual in September, and who can say, perhaps carry through the year. Your continued interest is a source of strength to us, and we are counting on it this next year as never before to help us through.

Sincerely yours,

*Augusta Wagner*  
For Yenchiang



Dear Mrs. Kee. This is a copy of a letter which I have sent to Weller, Wheaton,  
Miss Tyler, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Gumble. I am also enclosing some new  
pictures. I think you will be particularly  
interested in the one of Sage, now that  
Peking West  
December 6, 1927

Dear Friends of Yenching:

the  
rockery  
is no  
more!

Augusta  
Boyer

Recd Jan 18, 1928

Can you imagine yourself in a situa-  
tion where when you left college in June you did  
not know whether it would be there in September  
to come back to? That is what we had to face at  
Yenching last June. We all expected a change of  
government during the summer, and if that took  
place, we did not know what would happen to us.  
But after months of uncertainty, the Southern  
Party collapsed and Chang Tso Lin only further  
entrenched himself in Peking. So we opened col-  
lege on time, lived through the rush and chaos  
of registration and the opening days of school,  
ushered in by freshman week and convocation,  
and were hard at work in the pursuit of knowl-  
edge, when Yen, the model governor of the Prov-  
ince of Shansi, who until that time had been  
neutral, decided to throw in his lot against  
Chang Tso Lin, and there has been fighting  
round about us ever since. We can hear the  
firing of cannon in the hills near by, and we  
cannot get in or out of the city without sol-  
diers stopping our bus at the gate to search  
for plain clothes men, ammunition and "seditious  
literature." It is even dangerous to carry a  
book with the word "Social" in the title, for  
that sounds like "Socialism"; and as for a pam-  
phlet or book with the title "Community Organi-  
zation" or such like that might land you  
in jail, for does not "community" sound like  
"Communism" to an ignorant soldier? Our stu-  
dents, however, are very sane and do not show  
much fear or nervousness, although students in  
the city are daily thrown in jail and many of  
them beheaded. Students throughout China have  
been in sympathy with the Nationalist cause, and  
Chang Tso Lin is particularly after them.

Within the University itself  
things are going smoothly. We have an enroll-  
ment of over 600 of which 120 are in the Women's  
College. Last year ~~our~~ our faculty were about  
half and half foreign and Chinese. This year  
a third only are foreign, the other two-thirds  
being Chinese. You see we are working toward  
the ideal of having this a truly Chinese uni-  
versity. The largest enrollments are in the  
economics department, political science depart-  
ment, sociology and history departments, because

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so many of the students are interested in the political and economic problems of their country, and want to be of service when they graduate.

In the Women's College we are developing our Home Economics Department. We have a home economics practice house in which some of the students who are majoring in home economics live. One of our own graduates, who received her training in Oregon State Agricultural College, is the acting head of the department, and is raising great interest among the girls in better and more scientific home-making. Some of the men in the university even have asked to be allowed to ~~join~~ enter some of the courses conducted by this department. In this day when many of the old standards and customs have gone by the boards, and when many of the young people are groping for new standards, we can do much for China if we are able to establish certain fine ideals of home making.

In our English work we are coming along, too. Since so many of the text books in China are still in English and a good deal of instruction is still given in English, our English Department is very fortunate this year in having Dr. Fawcett, who has made a study of teaching English to foreigners, receiving his Ph.D. in this very field. The English of some of the students who come to us is very poor, especially when they come from schools where they have been taught English by Chinese teachers, but when they have passed the required work in our English Department, they are able to write very presentable M.A. theses, acceptable even at Teachers College!

We are quite proud of our athletic achievements. We are members of the Peking Inter-school Basketball League, and last week we beat the Peking American School with a score of 18-2, and feel much set up, for we beat them last year too, and before that the Peking American School had thought themselves invincible. This is some achievement on the part of our girls when you think that only a few years ago girls in China knew nothing of team play, and would cry if they lost, or leave the field if the umpire made a decision against them, or refuse to play if they thought the other team might win. We have come a long way since those days, and for fine play and good sportsmanship you cannot equal our basketball team. The freshmen are going in strong for Chinese fencing. It is taught by an old Chinese gentleman, who is as straight as a ram rod, and whose every movement is grace. We think that we will form a faculty class to see if we cannot acquire a little grace! Our greatest need now is for

a gymnasium. Snow and cold, and worse still, the dust storms that blow and blow grit and dirt upon us for days at a time, are now upon us. When these storms are upon us, it is impossible to have outdoor sports, and our continual cry is, "If we only had a gymnasium!"

Our greatest excitement right now ~~xxx~~ is the examinations which the Ministry of Education proposes to hold this week. The Ministry has ordered that every student be examined in Chinese and her major subject. We are registered with the government and we must obey, but it breaks right into the term's work, and what the purpose of it is we have been unable to discover. So far as we have been able to discover, the honorable gentlemen who compose the Ministry are finding they have time on their hands and nothing to do with so many of the government schools unable to open because of lack of funds, and to justify their jobs and save their faces, they are ordaining this ~~xxx~~ ordeal for the poor students of Peking. These gentlemen are political appointees, and many people feel toward them such as I have heard many people toward the Mayor of Chicago and his educational program.

Around the edges of the government examinations, the campus is buzzing with Christmas plans. Concerts, servants parties, children's parties, faculty and student parties, special Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services - you see our days are full. We have only two days holiday at Christmas-time, so our students are unable to go home, and we must do all we can to make their Christmas happy. One of our freshmen, who has never been away from home before, said only last night, "Other years I couldn't wait for Christmas to come, but this year I don't want it to come, for I am afraid I will feel my homelessness so." Don't you know just how she felt? But the faculty are planning to have every student invited to some home during Christmas time, so that none may feel their homelessness. And even as with this freshman, our thoughts at Christmas time turn homewards, and we wish all our good friends at home a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely yours,

*Augusta Wagner*  
For Yenching

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RECEIVED  
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

411 West 116 Street

MAR 10 1931

March 9, 1931

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Ans.

Margaret  
I hasten to answer your letter at once, and tell you all the news about Camilla, though undoubtedly Mrs. Frame has told you all by this time. The man is Knight Biggers toff, who has been a Harvard fellow at Yenching under the Harvard Yenching Institute. He has been in Peking <sup>and Yenching</sup> for the last three years. He is very nice, and Margaret and I who know both him and Camilla, think it is a very happy match. There was a possibility that the wedding would not be until October, when his mother and father were planning to visit the Orient, but today's letters say they will probably be married in June. Margaret and I hate to be missing all the doings. Camilla and Knight may be

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your near neighbors next year if he goes to  
Harvard to finish his Ph. D. work. But  
those plans are still uncertain.

The plan for the Home Economics  
Department, I believe, is to have  
Miss Kung come out in June, and  
that she and Miss Chen run it  
together.

Now as to Sui! Today's letters  
say her supposed engagement to  
Dr. Philip Tyan is still only rumor.  
Would it were true! Dr. Tyan has  
been married before. His first wife  
was English. I believe. He was  
once rather an important person in  
government circles. He teaches  
at the Customs College now. I  
believe. He has some grown up  
children. But everything is  
still in the stages of rumor, so

our Yenching problem for Sui is not yet settled.

Today's letters also bring news of Roberta White's engagement to a young Englishman at Yenching - also a Harvard fellow. That has been known most of the year, but it has now been made public. I don't know when that wedding is to be. After a long hiatus, the Women's College is again having a bevy of engagements!

Also Wan Ying has a son. Perhaps you would send Miss Kendrick word of that for me. He was two days old when Camilla wrote, and she says "mother and child are doing well." Isn't it

nice?

I don't think I shall be able to get to the Yenching College Committee meeting, but I will surely get down for lunch. Every minute counts these days with my doctor's exam approaching in May, but I must see you all before going back to China, so I will make every effort to get down for lunch.

Expecting to see you then,

Affectionately, yours,

Augusta Wagner

March 11, 1931

Miss Augusta Wagner  
411 West 116 St.  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Wagner:

How good of you to take time out of your busy days to answer my questions so promptly. I have now had a long letter from Mrs. Frame in which she tells me of the engagements of both Camilla and Roberta White as well as a number of other things.

I am wondering what Mr. Biggerstoff is to do after he finishes his studies. You speak of the possibility of his coming to Harvard to finish his PhD work, but what after that? You need not bother to answer this question. In the first place you probably do not know, and in any case I could wait for the answer until I see you.

I am wondering what Roberta White and her young Englishman are to do. He is not, I take it, a member of the Yenching faculty. We are sorry to think of her term of service in Yenching being so short.

As to the April meeting, I am sorry that you feel you cannot be with us all day, but I can well believe that your time is very precious. I hope you can surely plan to come for luncheon.

Ever affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee)

L:BB

0350

May 23, 1931

Miss Augusta Wagner  
411 West 116 St.  
Columbia, university  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Wagner:

I shall be delighted to see you and Miss Speer on Friday, May 27, and hope that nothing may prevent your getting to our office. Can't you take lunch with me that noon? Whether that is feasible or not I shall surely hope to see you.

Let me congratulate you on having completed the examinations for your doctorship. What about your thesis?

As I hope to see you so soon I will not stop for anything more today.

Affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee)

L:BB

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411 WEST 116 STREET  
NEW YORK

March 14, 1937

Dear Mr. Garside,

Ac 3/15

I am working so continuously  
trying to get my thesis in by  
May first, the dead line, and  
I am working against such time  
odds that much as I would  
love to go down to the Academy's  
meetings and see some of my  
friends, I think I had better  
not. I haven't seen this  
year's program. I would  
hate all the more to miss  
it if it were on China!  
Sincerely yours,  
Augusta Wagner

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411 WEST 116 STREET  
NEW YORK

CHAS. R. [unclear]  
May 19, 1938

Dear Mr. Farside,

The grind of the Ph.D.  
is over and once again I am a free  
woman and with time to turn  
my thoughts Chinaward. I  
suppose I ought now to get  
the necessary permissions from  
the State Department.

Margaret Speer had  
Dr. Wells of the Presbyterian  
Board write to the Department  
for her and they have said

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that they will "interpose no  
objection," requesting only that  
we get in touch with the  
nearest diplomatic or consular  
official upon her arrival in  
Japan. I wonder would  
you be willing to write  
such a letter for me  
as Dr. Wells did for her.

Many thanks,

Sincerely yours,  
Augusta Wagner

C  
O  
P  
Y

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington

In reply refer to  
130 - Wagner, Augusta

June 3, 1938

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
Secretary, Associated Boards  
for Christian Colleges in China,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

My dear Mr. Evans:

The Department has received your letter of May 26, 1938, concerning the desire of Miss Augusta Wagner to return to Peiping, China, to resume her teaching position at Yenching University.

The Department's records indicate that Miss Wagner is in possession of passport No. 94 which was issued to her in the Embassy at Peiping, China on February 26, 1937. This document is valid until February 25, 1939, and requires no further endorsement. The Department will interpose no objection to Miss Wagner using this passport for her return to Peiping.

However, it is suggested that immediately upon her arrival in Japan Miss Wagner consult the nearest American diplomatic or consular representative with regard to the safety of the route or routes along which she proposes to travel and the place or places to which she plans to proceed, and that she follow such advice as the American diplomatic or consular representative may give.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) R. B. Shipley  
R. B. Shipley,  
Chief, Passport Division.

0355

December 7, 1938

Dear F:-

You remember I said I would send you every evidence I could see of how the Japanese occupation was benefiting the Chinese people, of how the widely-publicized Japanese aim of cooperating with the Chinese people to improve their former wretched condition was working out. I have seen the cooperation at work!

Many of the servants, the janitors, the coolies who work on the grounds, the men who work in the power house, the clerks, the rickshaw coolies who serve the University live in the villages of Haitien and Chengfu just outside the University walls. In recent months they have been feeling the full brunt of Japanese good will and love for the people in these parts. The Japanese military want the people to have good roads. The fact that the roads are five to ten miles away from the villages of the people who are impressed into building them or that their mules and wheelbarrows are not allowed on them makes no difference.

Twice this fall the people in our villages have been forced to give three days' labor to road building. The last levy has just been completed. Much suffering has gone into those roads as well as rocks and dirt. Every family in the village was required to provide one person for three days work. My Chinese teacher is an old scholarly type of man. He paid a young man three days wages to go do the work for him. He said to me, "I am old and my wife is old, we could not do it. Three times last year and now twice this year I have had to pay out money for some one to take my place. I am old. I will soon die. It is better to die these days than to be a Chinese. We are eating the bitterness of a conquered people."

But he could pay to have some stronger, more able-bodied person take his place. There were hundreds of others where the able-bodied man of the family was the wage earner. If he went out to work on the road the family had no income for those days. If the rickshaw coolie or the day laborer, as great numbers of these people were, do not work, the family has nothing to eat. So in these families an old father or mother or a wife or a child in the family had to go.

I went out to see them coming home from their work on a cold November evening. First came the younger stronger men and older boys, each carrying a pick or shovel. They didn't seem particularly tired but they all looked cold. Then came some of the women. I asked one of them "Are you tired?" She looked at me rather kindly but pityingly that I could ask such a foolish question. "Tired, did you ask me? Did you ever shovel dirt on a road all day?" Then came little boys and girls, nine, ten, eleven, twelve years old. All of a sudden I heard my name called. One of the little boys was a ball boy on the faculty tennis courts and I had recently had him to the house to a party to fill him up on Chinese dumplings. His mother had dressed him warmly, many of the other children were shivering from cold (their mothers had nothing warm to dress them in). Laughingly I asked him "Are you hungry? Or maybe they gave you something good to eat while making the road?" "No, Wen Chiao Shih (my Chinese name) he said, "They gave us nothing to eat, but my mother gave me a piece of wo wo t'ou (baked millet). This is my last day. I go back to school tomorrow. My teacher gave me permission for three days' absence."

MP

0356

December 7, 1938

Then came some girls, some chattering and giggling but others just dragging their feet. One twelve year old looked as if she ought to be in the hospital. She was thin and all yellow and green around the gills. An older girl was supporting her. They were dragging along but they were getting homw.

Last of all came some of the old men, and old women on bound feet, doggedly pushing on. I walked along beside one old lady, "How are you? Tired?" I asked. "Yes," she said, "I am. I have walked more than ten miles today and shoveled dirt all day, and it was so cold. They didn't even give us a cup of hot tea to drink. This morning they offered us some of that nasty cold water once but whoever heard of a Chinese who could drink it. Think, they never even gave us a little hot tea". And she ploughed doggedly on.

I could have wept at all I saw that day for I knew that after their hard work many of them would find little heat or food at home. But at least they could sit down and they would not be driven and there would be hot tea or at least hot water to drink.

The local police office is held responsible for this conscription of labor. Each village is assigned so many metres of road to be constructed. It must supply its own equipment as well as labor without pay. The police are given maps of the projected road with the necessary specifications as to the width, level, drainage, etc. One of the policemen from our village was lashed across the nece with a heavy whip by one of the military overseers because on one of the very cold days, he let the people go home half an hour earlier. The police head in another village we hear was beaten because his people got to work late. This last I have only on hearsay.

Most of the land - in fact I have heard of only one or two cases not so - is taken from the farmers without any compensation. The small amount of land many of them have barely gives them a living. To have some of it taken away will mean less food for their families for years to come. Bust most awful of all to Chinese sensibilities one of the roads was run right through numberless graves. One man wept as he said, "My father and mother, my wife and my son were buried there. They have thrown their bones to the winds. Even the dead they will not leave in peace." At one time they gave a handsome reward to people whose land they had taken in the form of an honorary certificate to each farmer who had sacrificed more than three mou (half an acre). The most usual size farm in this area is three to three and a half acres, some are smaller. Think of what it means to have half an acre taken away. The certificate lauded him for his meritorious action and generosity in "contributing" the land. Those who were less virtuous were given two tickets to a movie theatre for a special performance in the city, a day or more journey away.

You may say, "But at least they will have roads for their labor and sacrifice." But the roads that have been built are wide motor roads - one of them is 62 feet wide - designed for motor cars and military trucks. Our people not having had the blessings of Japanese development of their country do not own motor cars, and the wheelbarrows and mulc carts which they do possess are not permitted on these roads.

Such is the much heralded good will and cooperation as it works itself out in practice. I could tell you more of the awful condition in a neighboring woolen mill which they confiscated, of the cutting down of trees, of the arrest of students and others without any charges being given. But this is enough for one day. The rest must wait until my next. How is reconciliation ever to come out of all this? Love to you always.

A.

0357

July 23, 1942

Rev. George C. Hood  
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church  
921 Madison Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Hood:

The brochure of the Annual Commencement of  
Columbia University of June 2, 1942 contains the follow-  
ing announcement in the Award of Prizes:

FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
SELIGMAN PRIZE

Prize of \$200, given anonymously in memory of  
Edwin R. A. Seligman, McVickar Professor of  
Political Economy, awarded to a graduate stu-  
dent for a Doctoral dissertation of distinguished  
scholarship.

Awarded, for Labor Legislation in China  
(Yenching University) to  
Augusta Bertha Wagner, Ph.D., 1940, of Peiping, China

It is my understanding that this prize is not an  
annual award, but for exceptional achievement in the field  
of Political Science.

You will recall that Miss Wagner assembled the  
material for this work while she was in China, carrying on  
her regular task as a teacher at Yenching University. After  
arriving in the States, she was under medical observation for  
a considerable period, and thus the manuscript was written  
under very difficult circumstances.

I also understand that the theme is exceptional, in  
that very little research had been made in this field.

Very truly yours,

CAE:MM

C. A. Evans

0358

Letter from Miss Augusta Wagner, dated Sept. 20, 1942

Peking, San Kuan Miao

..... We had expected to be on our way to Lorenzo Marquess by now but here we are--and think of it--with leisure to enjoy the beauty of a North China autumn to the full. ....I never want to live through again such a week as the one we had to go through when we were suddenly told of a Monday evening that we must pack up and be gone without adieu. To dispose of almost twenty years 'accumulation in less than a week complicated by all the red tape in which we move and have our being was an almost superhuman task, . Dr. Loucks' considered opinion was that most of the American community would have had to be carried on the train, and those who were not, would have Collapsed along the way.

Then came the blessed reprieve, which was met with rejoicing on all sides, for supposedly the postponement was for a couple of weeks only. Now it seems to be for an indefinite period.

.....Leighton(Dr. Stuart) is at Wai Chiao Pu Ta Chieh and it does not look as if he would accompany us, on the journey, although we are still hoping he may. When he heard we were to go he plead and begged to be allowed to join us, but could get no assurance that he would be allowed to. He sent out a rather despairing letter which upset Alice(Miss Boring) terribly and she is raising heaven and earth to be allowed to stay. He has got over his first disappointment, and is resigned now. If, as it looks now, there may not be room for all of us to go after all, Alice may be allowed to stay.

..... All our friends are well. Freddie(Mrs. J.C. Li)has taken the whole business very hard, but is getting a grip on herself. J.C. is teaching at Fu Jen and Chung Hua Ta Hsueh, I believe, where many of our people have gone. You can imagine that Pei Ta is not popular, but some few have gone there. Quite a few of our people are unoccupied; but Gideon Chen is working for the "Synthetic Institute" which has taken over the Academic buildings and equipment of Yenching. You have heard that the Campus is divided into three parts with barbed wire fencing, to separate the parts. The Women's College section is occupied by soldiers. This section has some additional buildings and its own separate gate from the road. We hear Mr. T'ien is working hard to land the library job with the Institute.

..... How is Wan Ying and where is Wen Tsao? Where are Y.P. and V.K.? Have you seen Agnes? Do give my love to all of them when you see them.

8 San Kuan Miao  
March 12, 1943

Dear Grace,

We have just had word that in twelve days we are to leave for Harry Luce's birthplace. No other details as yet available. We will surely write you as soon as we have them. I am writing today to ask you to transact a little "shih" for me.

Do you remember the girl who was Shirley's housemate when they shared Ethel's house, and who later went to Wellesley to study music? I think you and she did a Debussy program together once. The B.C. owes her brother some money. Could you instruct Mr. Evans to pay him the sum of \$ 2850.00 if he has not already done so. Howard G. wrote Mr. Evans about it a long time ago and he may already have paid out the money. If he has, then no more is necessary, but the boy's mother will rest more easily if she knows I am writing to ask you to check up and see that he is paid. He will write or call on Mr. Evans and we want Mr. Evans to know that he has been instructed to claim the money. Thanks you so much, angel of mercy, for all your many kindnesses.

There are innumerable things to be done, so no more today. Our chins are up and our heads are high and nothing can down us! You can write us care of Dr. Hoeppli, Swiss Consul, Wagon-Lits Hotel, Peking. You might suggest to our families that they do the same, marking the envelope "via Geneva." William Adolph had a letter today that way which took only a little more than two months. Did you ever get the long letter I wrote you about two or three months ago?

Affectionately yours,

*Augustin Wagner*

0360

December 22, 1943

Miss Augusta Wagner  
c/o Mrs. Henry Coffin  
80 Claremont Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Wagner:

You will be interested to see that we have prepared a statement of your account. Some of the figures are known and some are estimated. We hope to have a report from Washington, D. C. before long which will enable us to correct the amounts received by each individual in Peking and Weihsein.

The Finance Committee of the Trustees of Yenching University has authorized the amount shown on your statement, subject to correction, and also furlough salary for the five months January to May 1944 if desired. The action reads as follows:

"Furlough salary and rent allowance for 6 months beginning December 1, 1943 with the understanding that this period would be extended if health or other circumstances make it necessary, but if people take positions within six months, salary would naturally cease when the new salary begins, but everyone is urged to take at least three months' vacation.

People are asked to get teeth attended to as soon as possible and one half of dentist bills will be paid by the Yenching Office, according to the custom at Yenching."

Furlough salary will be paid to you each month. In what form would you like to have \$1,476.29, the amount shown on this statement, sent to you? Please let us know if you find any errors in your statement.

We have no report of receipts in Shanghai. Can you furnish us this information?

Sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS,  
For the Reconstructed Administration  
Committee and the Trustees

CAE/B  
ERC.

0361

\$27.00. Dep 2/14/44 - Yenching Univ.  
30 Claremont Avenue.

February 13, 1944

Dear Mr. Evans,

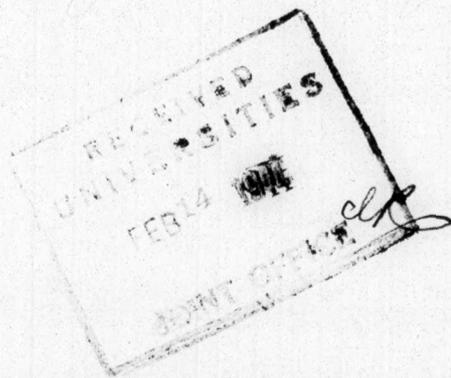
One of Mrs. Wu Wen-tao's Wellesley classmates gave me this check, and asked if it could be transmitted to Mrs. Wu in China. I wonder if you could transmit it when you are sending regular Yenching funds and notify the field treasurer and/or Miss Boynton that the money is for Mrs. Wu Wen-tao from Stasia Brill Ramage. She was her devoted friend in college. Two dollars of the money came from Mrs. Ramage's sister-in-law. If Mrs. Wu is not at Yenching, Miss Boynton will know where she can be reached.

It was very exciting to read in to-day's Times of the safe arrival of the Bands in Chungking, just two years and two months after they left Yenching. The paper says all Mrs. Band's wardrobe consisted of was a pair of slacks, a jersey and a

caf. Our Yenching people in '50. will  
undoubtedly share with them what they  
have, but they will not have much  
surplus cash or clothes. Do you think  
it would be possible for the  
Yenching treasury at this end to  
send some money to outfit the  
Bands? Perhaps Miss Boynton  
will have used some of the  
Wellesley money for them, or it  
may be that she will feel she  
can't. At any rate, I thought  
I would raise the matter any-  
how.

Sincerely yours,

Augusta Wagner



80 Claremont Avenue  
New York, February 14, 1944

Dear Mr. Evans,

I enclose herewith my check  
for \$150<sup>00</sup>/<sub>100</sub> to the order of Yenching  
University. This is in payment of  
equipment purchased by the Catholic  
University of Peiping from the Women's  
College, and should be credited to  
the Equipment Account of the Women's  
College.

Would you be so kind  
as to send me an acknowledgment  
of receipt so that I may keep  
it for my records?

Sincerely yours,  
Augusta Wagner

Dep 2/15/44  
Yenching Women's College

0364

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0365

February 18, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
80 Claremont Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Wagner:

I am acknowledging your letter of February 14th enclosing check for \$150.00 in payment for equipment purchased by the Catholic University of Peiping. This was equipment held in the Women's College at Peking. Naturally we are crediting this as requested to the equipment account of the Women's College.

I hope this letter will be accepted as a receipt for this money, for which I thank you.

Very truly yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

0366

February 25, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
80 Claremont Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Wagner:

I have just found your letter of February 13th attached to some correspondence from London, England, which explains why it has not been answered. This letter brought us \$27.00 for Mrs. Wu Wen-tsao. We have credited this to the Yen-ching College for Women's books and will inform the field Treasurer for whom it is intended.

I was talking with Miss Speer a few days ago regarding the plight of the Bands and it is a question which must be considered by the joint committee, without question some help will be given them in Chengtu if they arrive there. Probably the Chinese government will have no objection to their doing that although in the very recent past they have been very reluctant indeed to allow any intercourse between the country from which the Bands came and the rest of Szechwan Province. Recent newspaper despatches will inform you of that situation.

We are also at the present time considering what can be done, if anything, toward helping Chinese staff members in North China through the Chengtu office. This is a very delicate situation and must be handled with skill.

With every good wish, I am

Very sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

0367

April 6, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
c/o Mrs. Henry Sloane Coffin  
80 Claremont Avenue  
New York 27, N. Y.

Dear Miss Wagner:

Last Fall Mr. Evans telegraphed to Dr. William Fenn asking him to send by air mail a copy of the Chinese Government's Standardized University Curriculum to help us in plans to restock our libraries.

Dr. Fenn found that there was no English version of the curriculum available so he employed a translator for ten days and this person spent most of his time running about the campus trying to find some one who would give the proper English equivalents to the Chinese terms.

We have now received the resulting document but it contains many expressions which are not entirely in accord with our American usage.

May I ask you to look over the enclosed pages which deal with your particular specialty and make such corrections as are necessary. If you will then return the pages to me we will incorporate them in the revised version which we are in the process of preparing.

We shall appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Charles H. Corbett

CHC  
fb

encl:

0368

2601-16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Evans,

On May first, I start my work with the State Department, so I suppose temporarily my employment with Yeuching ends on April 30th. The government requires a statement (man-power commission regulation) from you, stating that you are willing to release me as an employe of Yeuching. Could you send me such a statement?

Also, could you let me know what I must do in order to continue my annuity. I should like to go on with it if that is possible.

My address until May 12th is as above. After May 12 it will be

Hiram Tr.  
Miss Cloud  
Mrs. Day  
Mr. Cameron  
Miss Conklingham  
Miss Hook

Stoneleigh Court, Apartment 711 A  
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

(noted as 14B)

I hope you will still keep me

on the list to receive Yearling Commemora-  
tions.

I am so sorry to miss the Christian  
Colleges dinner. They say no time off  
on government jobs!

Many, many thanks for all  
your kindnesses

Sincerely yours,  
Augusta Wagner



May 2, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
2601 16th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Wagner:

Enclosed find a letter which I trust will meet your needs and which is sent to you as requested.

We shall be glad to continue your Annuity, in fact we would urge you to do it as the policy is an excellent one. However, it will be necessary for you to pay the amount which the University ordinarily would have paid for you, which makes the percentage 10% of your salary. We are suggesting that you continue at the same rate formerly used before December 7th, 1941, which is \$18.00. This amount may be sent to us once a month, which are the periods in which we make remittances to the Company.

With every good wish to you, I am

Most sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

May 2, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
2601 16th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Wagner:

I have before me your recent letter informing us that you have accepted a position with the State Department, Washington, D. C. As for a number of years you have been on the staff of Yenching University, Peking, China, quite rightfully you are considered an employee of the Board of Trustees of Yenching University.

In view of the fact that the University in Peking is closed and that the way is not open for you to return to the unit in Chengtu, we are willing to release you temporarily so that the work with the State Department may be accepted.

Wishing you the best of success, I am

Very truly yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

0372

June 21, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
Stonleigh Court  
Apt. 711A  
1025 Connecticut Ave., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Wagner:

You will recall that you left with us receipts covering \$4,300 CRB which was turned over to the Swiss Representative on board the Teia Maru.

We have received a reimbursement from the Treasurer of the United States and herewith enclose check for \$51.65 in payment for this claim.

With sincerest best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B  
ENC.

0373

July 12, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
Stonleigh Court, Apt. 711 A  
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Wagner:

I hope someone else acknowledged the letter in which you enclosed \$25.00 for the Special Travel Account mentioned in a recent letter from the Yenching office. I have the receipt at hand and am enclosing it herewith, with a word of very deep gratitude for your assistance and cooperation.

I understand that Miss Boring is getting more anxious about returning to the field and as there seems to be no one else in sight at the present time, I am also advocating her return. By that I mean, I would welcome one who has been closer to the administrative work in the past. She will, however, make a fine contribution to the work at Chengtu.

With added thanks, I am

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAB:EW

enc; receipt

0374

1713 I Street, N.W.

1300 Glebe Rd  
Streaton, London SW16

APARTMENT 711A  
1029 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

September 24, 1944

Dear Mary,

Thank you so much for sending me that note from Harold's father. I have just ordered another box of cookies and candies sent to him and Mrs. Shadick. Does the office have any sort of address for Nellie's sister? I would be grateful to have it if they do.

Marnie tells me you don't have to move. How lucky you are! We have just moved from our many-roomed palace to our two-roomed hick, and it is quite a chore to get things

stored away as well as quite a come  
down. Our kitchen is made over from  
a closet. But small as our place  
is every one thinks we are fortunate  
to have any thing at all.

Mary, I am enclosing a  
blank check for my annuity  
for the rest of the year. I have  
forgotten but I think it was  
paid through July or August.  
Will you fill in the amount  
and let me know how much  
it is? I would be ever so grate-  
ful.

Can you believe that it was  
only a year ago that we were  
just starting homeward? The  
poor people left behind, and  
now another winter to face.  
affectionately yours,  
August

September 26, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
1713 I Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Augusta,

I made your check out for \$54 covering annuity payments for the rest of this year. You had already paid for June and July. For the four months, August to November, the rate is \$9 per month and beginning with December it is \$18 per month covering both your share and the Women's College share of the payment. Now you are all paid up until January 1, 1945.

We do not have the address of Nellie Shadick's sister in India. Did she have a sister in England also? If so do you know her name? I presume the best way of getting the address would be through Harold's father in England. Apparently he keeps in touch with Nellie's family.

This is the first I have seen of your new address. I will report it to people in the office who are likely to write to you and Shirley. I am glad you are comfortably settled again. My housing plans change from day to day. The latest is that I am moving into the next building and Mrs. Goodwin is staying on in her apartment because of her brother's illness. I expect to move October 6 and Miss Alice Alsup, one of the Methodists who returned on the Gripsholm, is coming in with me. We are collecting furniture from as many friends as we can but we will have to buy some. It will not be as nice as the present apartment but I am sure we will be comfortable.

I do wish our friends in Weihsien could return. One winter there must have been bad but a second one will be worse. I suppose there is no hope of another repatriation.

Much love,

Paid 25.00 10/17/44  
to A. W. 512

APARTMENT 711A  
1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

October 15, 1944

Dear Cookie,

Before I came to work down here, while I was still on the Youngling payroll, Dr. Elliott sent me to Dr. Palmer for car treatments. I paid his last bill but lost the receipt. Marnie was to get me a duplicate when she went to him. She has now done it. What I want to do now is to ask you if you will be so kind as to check it for me and see if I have ever been reimbursed for it. I sent in an earlier bill I think, but I do not think I sent this.

0378

m. If I should have, will you  
ignore it, but if I haven't, could  
I be reimbursed?

Marnie tells me she had a  
pleasant visit with you. I  
wish you could get down here  
some time.

Shirley says to tell you  
"hello" next time she will  
really invite you to dinner  
and it is to be Longchamp's!

Doesn't this weather  
these full days make you  
homesick?

affectionately,  
Augusta

October 19, 1944

Miss Augusta Wagner  
1713 Eye Street  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Augusta,

I notice you have a new way of indicating your street. I suppose it is difficult to distinguish between "I" and "J" when not typed.

Here is a check for \$25 covering the ear treatments you had at Dr. Palmer's. Miss Cloud checked up the account and found you had not been reimbursed for this bill.

Our new apartment is at 125 West 16th Street and it looks more attractive every day. Mrs. Roys had a radio to sell so we had that connected yesterday and now we can keep up to date with the news and the weather.

Tell Shirley I am looking forward to her next visit in New York. A dinner at Longchamps will be grand.

Love to you both,

Mary Cookingham

1314 - 18th Street, N.W.

~~APARTMENT 711A~~

1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

March 3, 1945

Dear Mary

I am enclosing my check for my annuity. I understand that I am paid up until the end of 1944. I am enclosing my check for \$108 which should see me through June. Is that right?

I am going to the Coast on the 14th. Hope to see Stanley and the Galts. Back for Easter.

Isn't this good news of  
Reighton?

affectionately,  
Augusta

18  
6  
10 8 no Jan. to June inc  
1945

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
MAR 8 1945  
JOINT OFFICE

0382

1314 - 18th Street, N.W.

March 4, 1945

Dear Mr. Evans, and Mary Cookington

Please do not give any publicity to this until you get an official letter from the Department. That may be some days because they are swamped with all the Memorial, in some family matters.

Although we did not put any stock in the rumors that Dr. Stuart was not well and had been moved, believing that the information we had was more recent and reliable than the newspaper hearsay, we nevertheless made official inquiry of the

0383

1314-18th Street, N.W.

March 4, 1945

Dear Mr. Evans, and Mary Cokingham

Please do not give any  
publicity to this letter you  
get an official letter from  
the Department. That may  
be some days because  
they are swamped with  
all the Manila, in some  
family matters.

Although we did not  
put any stock in the rumors  
that Dr. Stuart was not well  
and had been moved,  
believing that the information  
we had was more recent and  
reliable than the newspaper  
hearsay, we nevertheless  
made official inquiry of the

0383

Swiss. The answer that has  
come back states that the  
three men are where they  
always were. A friend at  
Peiping has received four  
letters from him dated  
Nov 5 and 19 and  
Dec 3 and 13 acknowledging  
food parcels and containing  
following remarks.

"We are as usual healthy,  
cheery, and if not busy  
at least not idle."

"We are keeping well and  
cheery except for chapped  
hands."



0384

The Swiss Consulate General goes  
on to say that Red Cross  
Christmas parcels sent  
for fourth time to S, B and  
H and that they have  
received other food parcels  
from several friends.

That is good news and  
was sent as late as  
February 22 reaching us  
March 3. I would like to  
throttle that Chinese pastor  
who had such a lovely  
time spreading false  
rumors.

I am telling Miss Boeing

and Miss Ferguson for Dr. Robenstone  
and Mrs. Houghton. I have told  
Warren Street. Please do  
not tell anyone else  
until you get the  
official notification. If  
this gets out before that  
time, I shall never be  
able to pass on any  
other information which  
may come my way.

Sincerely yours,  
Augusta Wagner

March 8, 1945

Miss Augusta Wagner  
1314 - 18th Street, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Augusta,

This will acknowledge receipt of your check for \$108 for your annuity. Your figures are correct. This check covers your annuity payments up to July 1, 1945.

Your trip to the coast sounds interesting. Please give my greetings to the Galts and Wilsons. We were glad of all the news you sent us. The days in Peking must seem long and dreary for many of our friends there.

I have seen some interesting plays recently - The Hasty Heart, The Voice of the Turtle and Anna Lucasta. Later this month we are going to see The Tempest and A Bell for Adano.

Please let me know whenever you come to New York. I hope you and Shirley are comfortably located now.

My love to you both,

Mary Cookingham

March 10, 1945

Miss Augusta Wagner  
1314 - 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Wagner:

It was indeed good of you to write me on March 4th and I greatly appreciate the message which your communication brought. I have shared it confidentially here in the office and await the official word from the 'powers that be.'

Word has just come through from the American Board that Grace Boynton has arrived on the west coast and probably is enroute for the east by this time.

With earnest gratitude for your confidence in us, which will not be misplaced, I am

Most sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

0388

Mr. Evans for your confidential information  
from  
Augusta Wagner

Swiss note May 3 states Swiss Consular agent Hoeppli at Pekin reports he delivered to Dr. Leighton Stuart a communication from Doctor Eleanor Watkins San Francisco dated September 18, 1944, and that Stuart received two letters from Americans interned Weihsien.

Note adds that Bowen recovered from a cold and not suffered during winter as he obtained a stove.

Note states further Houghton received many birthday presents including wines and liquors from friends whose names not required by guardians, and that a resident of Peiping who corresponds with all three received letters from them during the month of March.

copies handed to:

Mr. Ballou  
Miss Cookingham  
Mr. Corbett  
Mrs. Mills

5/23/45

Phoned Mrs. King  
Sawyer  
A

0389



May 25, 1945

Miss Augusta Wagner  
c/o Miss Shirley Duncan  
3036 Social Security Building  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Miss Wagner:

The memorandum regarding Dr. Stuart,  
Mr. Bowen, and Dr. Houghton was gratefully received. I  
shared this with our Executive Staff in confidence but I  
am passing on to others orally the general content of the  
message.

With every good wish to you and with added  
thanks, I am

Most sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.

C. A. EVANS

0391