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LETTER FROM WM. H. ADOLPH TO ROBERT J. McMULLEN,
WRITTEN AT PUMC, PEIPING, DECEMBER 26, 1948
RECEIVED IN NEW YORK JANUARY 3, 1949

I am pleased that an opportunity has arisen for me to write you again--at least semi-officially. A ten-days' spasm of quasi-military activity in the Peiping area has brought a pause. Communication with Yenching was cut for about 10 days during a period when there were constant reports of Communist activity in the suburbs of Peiping. An official message came in yesterday to the American consulate asking me to communicate with you, with Shanghai and with the official representatives of the various mission boards in Peiping the simple message "All well." I sent you a cable yesterday reading "ABCHICOL NEW YORK YENCHING MESSAGE ALL WELL ADOLPH." At the same time I wired Associated Mission Treasurers, Shanghai and also through them Dwight Edwards who is in Shanghai. Feel at liberty to use me or the American Board office in Peiping as contact points if necessary. Their office is running full-force with Albert Hauske in charge. My cable address is MEDICAL, PEIPING.

The reports on the "fighting" around Peiping have been highly colored and highly exaggerated. I have not been informed of any casualties. More serious effects were caused by cutting off of the tram lines power, electric light, water system, dislocations of air traffic, closing of city gates to food supply from suburbs, financial anxiety, etc., etc. The schools in the city however have continued without interruption and PUMC carries forward a normal program. We have our own light and power.

A few reports from Yenching while informal seem well-founded; as follows: a few Communist advance guards visited the campus and assured them that they had no desire to interrupt regular university activities. Yenching has its own light, heat and power and so is not inconvenienced. There was an interruption of 3 days of classes only, while students and staff patrolled the campus. The regular annual recital of "The Messiah" was given on the campus at the beginning of this week. A small group of students were marooned in the city when "hostilities" broke out. Mr. Mannis of the English Department came in 2 days ago, corralled them and conducted them back to the campus. I talked with him over the phone; he made the trip into the city without encountering pickets of either of the armies.

I know nothing about Yenching's financial situation. Peiping is open by wire and air to the outside world and we are still able to do our regular banking, sell New York drafts, etc. The railroad to Tientsin is cut. I am not certain that genuine attempts to restore rail traffic are being made.

Keep in touch with Miss A. M. Pearce at our CMB office in New York for information on the situation in Peiping city.

An opportunity to send this by special courier presented itself, so I hope this reaches you without too great delay. Air mail service is subject to delays. Two air fields in Peiping suburbs are not being used, two new ones are being constructed inside the city walls!

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Letter from Lucius Porter

Yenching University,
January 9th 1949

Please return to
M. Dixon

Yenching
file

Dear Children and Grandchildren :-

Happy New Year ! We should, perhaps, have written that on the very day, but the uncertainties of sending out letters seems to discourage the tendencies to report ourselves. However, we shall try to do better in the days ahead and have something ready whenever an opportunity turns up.

I hope that the report I sent from here shortly after the turn over for this region got through to you. Though I may be repeating let me note one important business item. Please advise Mr C.A. Evans, Treasurer, Yenching University Office, 150 Fifth Ave. New York City.

that the eight boxes and crates sent with other Yenching goods by ship, that are marked for me, are to be shipped by freight to the JHKs at Elgin as soon as they arrive. We hope you can store them in your barn until we turn up to claim them.

Yenching has been going on with regular work fairly regularly, after the 3 days, when the sound of guns was heard, and we kept up our campus patrols at night. The students slipped back to classes quite willingly. There was a spirit of excited cheerfulness, because the new regime promises to be something better than the old in the minds of most of them. I think I wrote of the first official visits from the leaders of the Liberation Army, as it calls itself. Since then we have had several other visits, and student and faculty groups have gone to visit at the HQ in the hills. These have been received very cordially. Once a group of students with a foreign teacher went to entertain the workmen in the electric light plant at Shih Ching Shan and spent a couple of nights. They were embarrassed to find that the propaganda teams connected with the army put on a better play and danced and sang better than they themselves. We have had more speeches to the students telling them what they can do when the big city falls to help the populace understand the principles of the new order of things. Much literature, printed on roughly made paper, has been distributed for the instruction of students teams. The student leaders have organized the various groups asked for, and all students have been busy reading and learning and discussing. But with all this they have been urged to keep their regular work going as well. We quite approve of this latter advice.

One speaker ~~made~~ expected the city to fall within in a short time and there were two days when students expected to be called into relief action at any moment. But the expected withdrawal of the army now within the city did not take place. It looks as though no one wants to bring the situation to a critical phase. Negotiations are being conducted somewhere, and these will probably determine the issue for the country as a whole.

The present week will conclude our regular term. We are postponing the final exams until the first of February. This will allow students time for more extensive review and will enable the hundred odd students who got caught in the city to sit for the exams with their comrades who stayed on campus; that will save us making out two sets of questions. Tsing Hua, by comparison with Yenching is in a bad case as far as student attitude is concerned. They have none of the unity our students show; there are bad splits within both student and faculty circles; the president left and there seems no clear leadership. They have closed all classes and will figure grades on the work done up to Dec. 13.

The radio broadcasting which we were allowed to carry on was stopped after two days, as the "military situation" did not allow it. I wonder if the information we sent to some ham radio man in Okinawa and Tokyo was relayed to the USA and ever got to our New York HQ. I was a supervisor and quite enjoyed one evening when we got hold of a responder who patiently stood by until a complete list of Westerners at Yenching and Tsing Hua had been sent and checked back and forth. One does get a thrill in knowing that the electric waves can really carry voices out over land and sea to a receiver who can respond. What a mingling of waves must fill the upper strata of the atmosphere.

We were very happy to have the whole program of Christmas entertainment carried through without a break or hitch of any kind. There were parties of children in several groups, faculty and staff families, schools and Sunday-schools, with gifts for each: there were services of beauty and impressive spiritual uplift, the

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candle-light service Xmas eve, the singing of The Messiah, the Sunday worship service there was caroling Xmas eve, and receptions in faculty homes for students in the evening of Xmas Day. We were at the Lin Hu Hsuan (Pres.house) with the C.W.Luhs and three other faculty and staff families, and greeted 550 students before the evening ended.

On New Year's Day we held the annual Tuan Pai (Group Greeting) for the faculty and staff. We all gather at the Lin Hu Hsuan(which mean Lakeside Pavilion) the chancellor C. W. Luh made a bright New Year's speech of forward looking optimism, and the master of ceremonies lead us in three bows to each other, and we all cried Hsin Hsi or Kung Hsi (New Happiness to all) We had the usual beef tea, and were in a really gay mood.

We give hearty thanks that we have come through so far with such comfort and hope. Every contact uptodate with the new leadership is encouraging. They want education to continue, and students keep at work; they assert that they believe in freedom of religion; they claim that all subjects taught here are needed for they want more men and women prepared to meet with all sorts of ideas. Even political science must continue to teach other schemes of political organization and other ideologies so that diplomatic staffs can be organized. They only insist that there be no active opposition to and undermining of their ideology. So we are planning for the usual courses in the Spring semester.

We are cut off from newspapers except the Chinese papers that come from the "liberation army" HQ. But the students of our journalism dep't do good service by posting as "wall papers" fairly full reports of what is heard over various radio services from both sides and from several cities. Several of the faculty hear BBC and USIS reports and a summary is typed in English and posted. So we get the general items of world events. Only you have to pick and choose more critically than before.

Westerners have been able to go to the city and get back without special danger or delay. One instructor was able to bring back 60 students one afternoon. It is a curious state of war in which reasonableness and delay seem to have a large part. Instead of saying " Inevitably ,Why not now ? " the idea seems to be " Inevitably, so why harm the city by vigorous fighting now." ~~On the whole a much wider motto.~~ Now and then rather truculent soldiers are met at the gates, or just outside. And there is, always, an element of danger in making the trip. I prefer not to run the risk of being held in the city by some sudden incident.

The money situation is curious. So far we have been using the gold Yuan of the Nanking gov't. But the notes of the other side are in use, in several differing sorts. The two Hai Tien which touches our south walls has been told that after tomorrow gold yuan will not be allowed in use. But the people are not sure about the permanent value of the new style, and rather prefer the old. So we are getting both kinds. So far our personal needs have been met by our treasurer in the city who sends out currency by the occasional messengers from here when they return. The university is paying salaries in grain, and is promised a loan when the new currency is well-established to cover immediate needs. I have not learned what credit is to be used to secure the loan.

Although there is no active fighting within sound of us, we hear that Peiping is completely surrounded. Occasionally a " way out" is opened to lure the army out toward Tientsin and the sea. That there was fierce fighting for a short time when the attack began on Dec. 13th I know, for I visited a battle field just north of the Old Summer Palace adjacent to us on the north, and saw the bodies of some 50 soldiers. There had been a real struggle around a defense post which had elaborate trenches, barbed wire entanglements etc. What a ghastly method war is for trying to settle differences of opinion ! Eventually negotiations come in; why not used them from the beginning.

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Yenching University
January 9, 1949

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Peiping, China

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The long expected change began suddenly about 11 a.m. on Monday, December 14th when the sound of gun fire, persistent and near at hand, signalled the beginning of a retreating action on the part of the Government troops still scattered through the area between Peiping and Nan K'ou. Classes continued until lunch time, but by the early afternoon the Emergency Committee, long prepared under the leadership of Wang Tu-chien, was in action and all members of the community were turning to their appointed emergency tasks. The Student Self Government did a fine job in getting freshman men students and upper classmen to turn in together, so that the first men's dormitory could be used to shelter the families of clerks and others who poured through the gates seeking the protection of our campus walls. Students in department groups served as special guards by day and night at the gates and along the walls. Men members of Faculty served as sentries at the gates and as liaison officers between the Emergency Committee headquarters in the President's Office and any place of special need. Not the least of the work fell on our telephone operators who connected calls within the campus and to Peiping almost continually for nearly 36 hours until the cutting of the city lines brought some relief to them and clear evidence to us of our isolation from the city which has continued ever since.

Fortunately the fighting was not very severe and by noon of December 14th had moved southward so that the front line became established and has remained somewhere between the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Zoo, about three miles distant from this campus, forming part of the Communist encirclement which is still keeping the city in a state of siege. No one in Yenching or Tsinghua had

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY

Peiping, China

January 10, 1949

Dear Friends of the Women's College:

The delay in dispatching this December letter has been due to the postal difficulties and not to any lack of material about which to write, for in the past month we have been living through dramatic experiences which may have deep significance for us all in North China and perhaps even in wider areas.

You will be happy to know that in spite of all the storms sweeping around us we were able to celebrate Christmas normally - even with increased enthusiasm - but Yenching Christmas traditions are well known to you, so I will concentrate rather on recent political happenings.

The first ten days of the month we were still involved in the gloomy business of packing up and saying goodbye to the few people who for various reasons felt they should move south. November letters spoke of the withdrawal of the Breeces, Miss Stahl and Miss Cookingham, all for health reasons. Kenneth Chen and his family were ordered south by Harvard-Yenching authorities in America; Doctor de Vargas was transferred to the Philippines by the American Board and later Y. P. Mei and Ho Kuo-liang with their families also went south. About two hundred students also withdrew while communications were still open, but with 720 students and about 95% of the members of the faculty remaining on the campus it was abundantly clear that Dr. C. W. Luh was carrying with him the main part of our Yenching community in a conscious acceptance of the challenge to face life in the new conditions.

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been seriously hurt; military casualties were soon buried or moved elsewhere for treatment and our first aid and hospital arrangements were only brought into action later to help village folk hurt by later explosions of unspent ammunition. We gather that in some places, Shih Ching Shan for example, the fighting was more serious but the Communists are expressing surprise that everywhere in this area the resistance of the Nationalist troops has been so much less than they expected.

Our authorities feared widespread looting on the first nights after the withdrawal of the Nationalist Army while the Communist control was not yet firmly established and very careful watch was kept by all gates and walls, but to our great relief and considerable pride there was practically no disorder at all. This may have been partly due to the skill with which Yen Ching-yueh brought the local policemen back from Hsi Chih Men and persuaded them to stay at their posts, but also the removal of the Japanese and Korean ronin and the recent conscription of so many unattached young men has done much to clear out the criminal and irresponsible members of our neighbouring villages.

While night watches were being maintained, classes did not meet, but by Thursday evening most people could sleep peacefully again and on Friday morning, December 17th, we were all back in normal university work again, it must be confessed a little self-consciously proud of the achievement in comparison with Tsinghua University whose students have only attended classes for two days since December 13th. During the first few hours of the fighting while the city gates were still open, about 150 students made for the protection of the homes of their parents or friends inside the city walls, where they soon found themselves involved in the siege, but more than half of them have found ways of returning to the campus so we are now working with a student body of about 600.

On Sunday, December 19th, there was another unpleasant incident when a solitary Nationalist plane dropped about nine bombs in and around Tsinghua and Haitien. Windows were broken and some people rather badly scared, but fortunately no one was seriously hurt and though we have had one or two air raid alarms since, no more damage has been done.

For most of us now in the liberated area, the main interest has shifted to the problem of adjustment to life under the new regime. The detachment of the People's Army of Liberation actually responsible for the fighting came to us mostly on foot from the Harbin area. For a few days the soldiers were quartered in the houses of Haitien and in local temples, but many have been withdrawn now several miles further away from the city where food supplies, for which they honestly pay, are more plentiful than in the suburbs of Peiping. Other Communists are now joining them from Shih Chia Chuang in central Hopei province and headquarters have been established at the foot of the hills not more than ten miles to the west of us. Ch'ing Lung Ch'iao, the Summer Palace, Ch'ing Ho, Haitien, are all in their hands and the fact of our liberation is being brought home to us very practically by the substitution of Communist currency - ten varieties of it! - for the recently installed Gold Yuan of the Nationalist Government - a currency which has already depreciated to one hundredth of its original value. A People's Bank has now been established in Haitien and in a few days' time only Communist currency will be used. The interval of soaring prices and extreme shortage of usable cash has made us very grateful for stores accumulated earlier in the autumn. We are living on them almost entirely now and only hope some kind of stability will have been established by Chinese New Year. (Jan. 29th)

But all of these physical details seem of rather minor importance by the side of the challenges which are coming to us in less material ways. One of the most notable qualities of the newcomers is their fine spirit. Yenching students who have

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left us during the last two years and who are now back in this neighborhood as political workers speak with eagerness of the joy which they are finding in the severely disciplined life of democratic service with the "lao pai hsing" (the common folk). "I had not begun to live before this," remarked one young fellow whose now rough hands and regulation khaki padded suit conceal entirely the wealthy origins of a youngster who two years ago was flying up to Yenching from Hong Kong, clothed in all the elegance of the rich. He confesses that he misses the hot water and baths of his earlier existence, but shows no inclination to give up his newly found values for the old flesh pots of Egypt. You need to have lived through these post war years of bitter disillusionment and frustration for idealistic young folk to understand the sense of release and stimulus to action which this new situation is bringing to our students.

In all the eager life of this new venture, it is a matter of great thankfulness that our Christian group is so much stronger and more vital than it has been for many years. Both students and faculty members in the School of Religion and also many less specialized members of the Christian Fellowship are feeling a very deep concern to find guidance as to the right action for them as Christians in facing the challenge of this new world. The increasing vitality of the Christians here has been showing itself for several months now in many ways. Many members of the Christian Fellowship Executive are outstandingly fine Christians and among the smaller groups several have quite spontaneously made a big effort this semester to help their members to keep a regular quiet time every morning. It is to these young men and women quite as much as to members of faculty that so clear a call has come to stay on here trying to bear a Christian witness in the midst of these rapidly changing conditions. Some of our young Chinese faculty members are emphasizing especially the opportunities which the feel may very well come to us of being bridge builders between persons and groups who up to the present time have been separated by high barriers of misunderstanding. Our decision to stay here was made simply enough by refusal to take advantage of any of the opportunities offered to us to move south and now we are deeply conscious of and grateful for the strength of our Christian Fellowship in facing the challenge. But just how is it to be done? With the original call so clear we can only believe that further guidance will be available for us step by step.

At the moment all the indications point towards opportunities of cooperation in many ways. This People's Army of Liberation with all its enthusiasm and recent successes in handling problems of rural reconstruction is frankly puzzled by the new problems involved in taking over a city of about two million inhabitants. Higher education is also a field in which as yet they have had little experience. They speak to us fairly frankly of their policy and ideals, their conviction that China is still very remote from the social and economic conditions in which the Russian Soviet schemes would be applicable. It is rather the first steps in the reconstruction of a feudal society in which we are now involved and Mao Tze-tung's more moderate New Democracy is the goal towards which they are working. They are terribly short of skilled and educated workers and when they come to us as they do, asking for help both in establishing the new order in Peiping and in working out useful experiments in higher education, we feel very clearly we should offer all the help we can. While we are waiting for the transfer of authority in Peiping, members of the faculty have set up four very useful and active discussion groups to consider how best we can be of practical use in the near future. The one with which I am connected is deeply absorbed in planning schemes for the education of older adolescents and students in the coming months. The students alongside their regular classwork are eagerly preparing themselves for work in the city in the early days of its liberation which may come almost any time now. Several Christians are planning to visit churches,

missions, and Christian schools to reassure them from our recent experiences out here and to consider with them some of our mutual problems in facing the new regime. Others are working with groups specializing on transport, first aid, and other activities.

All this may sound as if we are completely and uncritically identifying ourselves with the Communist policy, but that is not at all the case. In the present relief from the frustration of the past years the young people must go forward in creative action. Those of us who with more experience see more clearly the weaknesses and possible dangers of the present changes feel that it is only by working with them wholeheartedly that we can hope to discover with them what God has to teach us in the present social upheaval. To take one immediately relevant example: among the Christians here there have been more earnest effective attempts to clarify the essentials of our Christian faith in the last few weeks than in all the postwar years put together. We were planning in any case a winter study conference for Christians to train leaders for the large summer conferences and the preparations for that are going forward with increased eagerness. There is also a strong sense among many of the Christians that it is in action that they will find the confirmation of their faith. It is in such ways that many of us feel that our missionary work is entering into a more effective phase than anything we have known for some time and it is in this conviction that we ask more urgently than ever for your prayers.

Your friend,

s/ Lucy M. Burt

P.S. "So far as we can judge now, private educational institutions will have a place in the New Democracy that is to come. Foreign personnel will be welcome and foreign funds under certain conditions."

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Latest News of Christian Colleges in China

CHEELOO UNIVERSITY
FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
GINLING COLLEGE
HANGCHOW CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

HUA CHUNG UNIVERSITY
HWA NAN COLLEGE
LINGNAN UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF SHANGHAI
SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY
WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

FROM: UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

PHONE: WATKINS 9-8703

(Release sent to WELLESLEY MAGAZINE, January 13, 1949)

Although the Communist armies have taken over most of north China and are battering down the Nationalist defenses in central and east China, the thirteen Christian colleges in that country are carrying on their work in a psychological atmosphere that is amazingly calm and hopeful under the circumstances. All these educational institutions, according to a recent announcement by the United Board for Christian Colleges in China, plan to continue as long as they are allowed sufficient academic and religious freedom to pursue their work in accordance with their basic Christian purposes.

Yenching University in Peiping -- toward whose support Wellesley alumnae contribute -- was encircled by Communist forces in December, but thus far relations between the latter and university administrators have been on a friendly and cooperative plane. Classes are continuing as usual.

Acting Chancellor C. W. Luh reports that while Communist policy toward Yenching does not seem to be fully crystallized, he believes that since this university is a private institution there is some hope that its administration may escape drastic upsets. Communists have given assurances there will be no discrimination against Americans as individuals and, so far, have raised no objection to continued American financial assistance to Yenching.

(more)

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The main concern of the university is whether it will be permitted to enjoy religious and academic freedom under a Communist-dominated government. On this point the Communist attitude is not yet clear. Without such freedoms it is doubtful whether continued American support for the university will be forthcoming.

"All we ask," Dr. Luh says, "is fair play. We hope for a modus vivendi. We will probably not object to introducing courses in Marxian economics and the 'new democracy,' but only if they can be taught side by side with courses in the economic, social, and religious principles of the Western world. Moreover, we want students to retain the right of honest criticism of any or all theories."

Dr. Luh expects the Communists to insist on greater emphasis on practical courses, as against bookish learning. He also expects they will want the lecture system modified with more discussion and self-criticism as between students and teachers. Such subjects as engineering and the natural sciences will probably be taught more or less in the old way.

The social sciences will offer a real problem. The Communists consider the economic, social, and political theories of the capitalistic world as out of date, and have intimated they will allow them to be taught only as history. However, Dr. Luh does not expect this all-important question of academic freedom to become a serious issue until a coalition government comes into being and enunciates its policies. Meanwhile, classes are continuing in the old way.

0473

January 14, 1949

Dr. R. J. McMullen
U.B.C.C.C.
150 5th Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Bob,

Re: Yenching University

Dr. Lin Chia-tung has just spent two hours here, telling me about the situation in Peiping and at Yenching as he sees it. He came out on the 12th, on what should be the last flight for civilians. The plane brought a number of Yenching students; Lin was the only professor. As you may remember, Lin is Dean of Studies.

I was very glad to get his point of view, not so much because of new information as because of the balance it provides for the reports of Bliss Wiant and others. Less on the outs than Y. P. Mei, Lin is anti-Communist to the extent of not wanting his children to be molded by them. Not a capitalist or a KMT-supporter, he represents the liberal group who are being ground between two millstones. He had intended to stay on at Yenching in a desperate effort to try to work under the new regime, but was caught in Peiping. He has been working night and day as liaison for Yenching until the last minute. I have always had great respect for his loyalty and integrity. Ran Sailer speaks well of him despite the fact that he is in the Y.P.Meis-Steven Tsai group rather than the welcomers of the new regime.

I shall not attempt to reorganize the following material but will simply jot down ideas and bits of information in the order in which they came forth.

The enrolment figures presented by Bliss Wiant in his answer to your questionnaire were inaccurate, Bliss having failed to consult Lin, who was obviously the one to know. As Lin himself admits, the personal elements enters here. More students had left than Bliss reported, but the discrepancy is not great.

After the arrival of the Communists, the students met in groups, largely by departments, to discuss curriculum revision. Professors were made students, while the students lectured and questioned them. This supports the fear I reported yesterday in regard to student pressures.

Although classes were resumed, nothing like a full schedule was possible. Not only had a number of the full-time professors left; part-timers, of whom Yenching has a considerable number, obviously could not get to the campus.

There is a transmitter on the campus which, while not broadcasting to other parts of China, is sending word to the U.S. through Tokyo. I imagine you know much more about this than I do. Indeed, I suspect you receive a good deal of news from North China before I do. So much gets into the papers about conditions that I question the value of any reports I can send.

Albert Haasske is serving as receiving office for Yenching in Peiping.

The students who were on the Government blacklist earlier in the fall and took to the countryside have returned, but will not answer any questions.

Dr. Lin anticipates substantial changes in the curriculum and other details for the second semester. He feels that 1949-50 will bring drastic changes. This feeling is

0474

1/14/49

supported by word brought to Peiping by Manice, who got the idea from talks with Communists.

Such representatives of the new regime as have come to the campus have left word to the effect that a) the community must be prepared to change its thoughts, b) it must be prepared to adapt to a new environment, and c) it must be prepared to suffer. Whether this is anything more definite than general re-indoctrination, I don't know.

The Department of Western Languages was given a special talking to. It was told that it was still wanted but only as a service department. English is to be taught as a tool only. There will be no need for courses in literature. This seems to me a very serious matter.

There has been no response to two requests for a statement as to whether or not Dwight Edwards is wanted at Yenching. Dwight is reported not to have received any reply to his letter to C. W. Later, Dr. Lin sent in a verbal message by Manice. Again no reply. This may be interpreted either as a No or as indication of uncertainty. I suspect the former.

I am not sure just what this all adds up to, but I am inclined to believe that Yenching is going to give us some of the data we need before Cheeloo does. It is larger, better known, and at the "capital."

Very cordially yours,

/s/ William P. Fenn

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peiping, China.

316 Thibet Road
Shanghai 11, China.

January 21, 1949

Dr. Robert J. McMullen
United Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the minutes of the Board of Managers for which we have finally received enough signatures by vote to validate the actions taken. You will note that their action authorizes the opening up of an informal office for Yenching University in Shanghai. Steps have been taken to this end. S. J. Chuan is in charge of the office, and we are aided at the present time by Dr. Lin Chia Tung, Dean of Studies. Dr. Lin originally planned to evacuate his family and then stay on at the University himself. In connection with his work he made a visit to Peiping in the morning of December 15, and was unable to return in the afternoon due to military action. He spent his time in Peiping in arranging for help to a considerable number of the students who had moved into the city. Some 80 of these students were able to return to the campus: some 20 have come south. The remaining number of the students are residents in Peiping and are staying with their families awaiting the clarification of the situation. Dr. Lin finally came to Shanghai, and we naturally seized upon him to handle all matters referring to the location of refugee students in various universities. This, of course, will soon be finished and his work here be terminated or at least be very light.

The office here will have certain expenses. The operating expenses will be very light, but we shall have to continue payment of certain salaries such as those of Dr. Lin Chia Tung, Dr. Y. P. Mei and Dr. Alfred Kuo-liang Ho. By circular vote authorization was given by the Board of Managers to open up an account in the name of Yenching University Shanghai Office in the National City Bank of New York, 55 Wall Street, New York. I am making arrangements through their Shanghai Branch for the opening of this account. I enclose copy of the letter which I have just written them. The purport of this letter is to make request that a sum of \$1,000 of Yenching funds be deposited in this account for the initial deposit. May I request your favor in attending to this matter and informing us by wire when the deposit has been made in order that we may draw on the account?

Thanking you very much for your favor in this matter, I remain,

Cordially yours,

/s/ Dwight W. Edwards

Dwight W. Edwards
Executive Secretary

DWE:LS
Encl.

0476

EXCERPTS FROM LETTER FROM DR. WOLFERZ TO MR. MERWIN -- ABOUT 25 JAN 49

"Shih Wen Po said he had gone in to the city after lunch and was out again before supper without any hindrance. Yesterday and today streams of students on bicycles have gone to town without interference. But this morning Henry Sailer tried it and was turned back. Bliss and Ralph Lapwood also tried it but I haven't heard whether they got through or not. I thought of going in today after hearing of Shih Wen Po's experience but decided to wait another day. Now I think I had better hear how others fare today before trying.....

We have now come through very well indeed so far and have suffered no lack although at times things are hard to get and expensive. When we had no cash on hand we paid in corn and rice of which we have a small supply. Since we had a stock of fruit juices, baking power, sugar, soap, etc. on hand we have been living from that. In one or two instances we have gotten supplies "on account" to be paid later. The University has been able to borrow corn from the Haitien Chamber of Commerce. We have gotten a lot of cabbage from a market gardener who normally would take it into the city to sell but could not while the gates were closed and the city under siege. Then there were levies all the time by the troops and merchants did not wish to keep large stocks on hand. We were offered all the rice we wanted but that was not such a good medium of exchange as people now-a-days cannot afford to eat rice. That is why corn was much more acceptable. When we had no cash we paid servants in corn and cabbage. We were offered a 1/3 payment of the January salary like all the rest of the faculty since we were not able to sell our US\$ holdings so we took it and will have to settle with the University later. For the balance of January the University is paying in "Jen Min" paper money which they are borrowing at 12% interest per month. Not bad for a communist bank....The Communists definitely are asking us to wait till next week before trying to enter the city so I shall put off my visit especially as Ralph Lapwood and Bliss Wiant though they got into the city yesterday only with some difficulty, were able to bring out a lot of mail.

Our campus is in a state of confusion. The situation is very serious but will be paid back in terms of currency in circulation at a later date but the amount will be determined by the market price of corn since we borrowed with corn as the true medium. A first payment was made about January 8th and a second one about January 15 was made in actual corn and rice, at once we had on hand for the "free day". This grain was distributed to various individuals. Some took corn with them to exchange for what they needed, even hair cuts. The third payment which we made yesterday was in terms of the currency now in vogue, money we borrowed from the Communist headquarters at 12% interest per month but the interest is merely to cover depreciation and this money is to follow the same path as its predecessors. We still have not paid up to the full extent for the grain but it is the best we can do now. Whether or not we shall be able to sell upon you for money we are not at this moment certain--it is quite likely though. We have the actual gold in a safety deposit vault and that is really worth its full value. How fortunate we are to have it. However, even its rate is very unstable and as long as we can borrow we intend to do so until stability does come.

We are amazed at the freedom we have enjoyed. You may have received our radio messages sent a month ago. Just to be able to set up a broadcasting set for a few days and send out uncensored messages was really something unexpected. Just to write to you now and be able to send out letters is also most unusual but is symbolic of the situation. How long this freedom will last is very hard to guess but we presume it will be lasting. If history is correct and only gather out of the way a long time and all this would have been avoided. We have been the only victims to peace and had lost every shred of support from almost all people in this area. It is a real shame that his authoritarianism has held

0477

Not for Publication

Yenching University

Peking, China

January 27, 1949

Dear Brother Evans:

All the mail you sent to us since about the first of December arrived in my hands two days ago. Mr. Ralph Lepwood and I went into the city on our bicycles then in order to get the mail and to look after other matters. The road between our campus and the city gates presented several difficulties in the way of walls built at right angles, barbedwire entanglement; but they were not hard to negotiate. When we came upon a group of Communist soldiers they stopped us and refused to allow us to continue since the taking over of the city has hardly begun--only "cease fire" has been put into force and the Communists are afraid that should anything untoward happen to foreigners at this time it would cause international complications at a time when they do not want to face them. We appreciate their truly fine spirit but we also were most anxious to get to town to look after certain affairs. So we detoured and arrived safely in town after more than 6 weeks of absence.

Conditions in the city are jittery, in fact they are most everywhere due to the lack of any solid government control. For instance, the rate for a Chinese silver dollar when I arrived in the AM was 300 "gold yuan", the last currency the Central Government has been using (it is not possible to use it in our "liberated" area now for we use another currency called the "People's Bank currency") and which is all that circulates within the city walls now. When I left the city at 4 PM the rate had advanced to 385. The price on flour had doubled within the day. This gives you an idea of how insecure the economic foundation is at present. The price for American bank notes is from 10% to 25% less than that of the Chinese silver dollar. Normally it takes two silver dollars to buy one American bank note. If this situation continues you can well imagine how our budget is to be affected. However, I predict that when communications are again normal, say within a month or so, that there will be little difficulty. The Communists are seemingly anxious to keep on good terms with westerners. China cannot be industrialized without American capital and they are fully aware of this fact.

The paying of salaries and wages this month has been difficult but we have managed. We borrowed money from the merchants of Haitien, the town which is on the borders of our campus to the south and west. This loan was in terms of "gold yuan" but will be paid back in terms of currency in circulation at a later date but the amount will be determined by the market price of corn since we borrowed with corn as the true medium. A first payment was made about January 5th and a second one about January 15 was made in actual corn and rice, stores we had on hand for the "rainy day". This grain was then used as barter by various individuals. Some took corn with them to exchange for meat, vegetables, even hair cuts. The third payment which we made yesterday was in terms of the currency now in vogue, money we borrowed from the Communist headquarters at 12% interest per month! But the interest is merely to cover depreciation and this new currency is following the same path as its predecessors. We still have not paid up to the full amount for the month but it is the best we can do now. Whether or not we shall be able to call upon you for money we are not at this moment certain--it is quite likely though. We have the actual gold in a safety deposit vault and that is really worth its full value. How fortunate we are to have it. However, even its rate is very unstable and as long as we can borrow we intend to do so until stability does come.

We are amazed at the freedom we have enjoyed. You may have received our radio messages sent a month ago. Just to be able to set up a broadcasting set for a few days and send out uncensored messages was really something unexpected. Just to write to you now and be able to send out letters is also most unusual but is symbolic of the situation. How long this freedom will last is any body's guess but we predict it will be lasting. If Chiang Kai-shek had only gotten out of the way a long time ago all this would have been avoided. He has been the one obstacle to peace and had lost every shred of support from almost all people in this area. It is a real shame that his stubbornness has held

0478

back the dawn of a new day. Of course, the Communists are faced with a responsibility and an opportunity unparalleled in recent times which they feel fully. Their greatest lack is trained personnel so they are urging the status quo until at least they can adequately take over. For this reason many students have been utilized. But they are inexperienced even though very enthusiastic. However, if the general population is willing to cooperate, as it seems they are, things should work out all right. So far, we have not experienced the slightest sense of control or guidance but have been urged to continue as before. Of course we are not expected to participate in any subversive activities and we are not. The students continued their class room work up to January 15th (a very courageous thing to do since Tsinghua closed) but we will have our final exams on the 14, 15, 16, 17 of February and classes will be resumed on Feb. 21st with only the loss of a week's work--isn't, that remarkable?

Mr. Edwards left on Nov. 16th and has not been back since. We hope he will return for the full time of an American is needed to keep you informed as well as to negotiate with the authorities. Here again we trust that everything will work out. Since Miss Cookingham's departure I have felt the burden very, very heavily but Dr. Luh Chih-wei has been a tower of strength and we have worked very harmoniously together. Last week I called a meeting of the faculty asking them to recommend to the Board of Managers that he be made the full ranking Chancellor of the University. They voted unanimously to do so. We must have a proper and qualified head. It is my hope that he will become intimate with all the affairs of the institution and will assume responsibility for correspondence with you and the trustees. I am certain that unless he can be made to feel that this contact is vital that he will not fulfill the function that he should fill.

So far no report of the December 17th meeting has reached us, just echoes of the meeting. We are encouraged by the response which must have been evident. Will you kindly share this letter with Frank Cartwright? I do not have the time nor the postage to send another letter. If you could circulate some of the facts of this letter among my friends (the family in particular) I will be most grateful. I will write again soon. MANY, MANY thanks,

(signed) Bliss Wiant

0479

WORD FROM YENCHING (in letters arriving 1 Feb 49)

The second half of January salary was paid at the end of the month, the first half having been paid in late December. For Dr. C. T. Lin, this meant 1500 ~~fen~~ min notes (worth about 100/1 US\$) plus 73 catties of rice and 47 catties of corn. Though this seems low to him, it is good compared with salaries in this area.

The spring semester is to begin on February 10. There will be 2 days of review and 4 - 5 days for taking make-up exams. (Result of confusion at the end of the first semester.)

Ran sailer wants Dr. Lin to return to Peiping and Yenching. He thinks that it will be safe for him to, and that he will find that he can work satisfactorily. C.T. is not sold.

It has not been possible to confirm the rumor reported in my last in regard to the lack of activity on the campus. I suspect that it is a late echo of the earlier situation, when students were quizzing professors and suggesting revision of the curriculum. That apparently was a fact though I have no details.

Edwards promisee copies of letters from Wiant and others just in.

Not taken over until a week ago. Now, however, all of N. China is tightly in control. Nevertheless subversive elements are at work because of the lack of properly trained leaders and because of the lack of sufficient numbers of the same to give people a sense of well being. Such a period of transition always means a certain lack of control and we feel it. There has been no lawlessness as far as we are personally concerned nor in our community except for one case of robbery in the village near the campus. Armed guards are everywhere now. The students went to the city for about two weeks to participate in propaganda stunts. I witnessed two parades. The last one was last Saturday when it is estimated that 200,000 people participated. There has been genuine welcome of the new regime especially among the students for this group has felt particularly oppressed by the other regime. Teachers too are exceedingly hopeful of better days to come. Due to the fact that our teaching community has always been a closely knit, homogeneous one in which the spirit of Christian fellowship and cooperative living has been clearly manifest we have had not the slightest trouble. Our greatest task now is to maintain that spirit. Dr. G. W. Leh, our chancellor (the whole body of the faculty and staff have indicated that they want him to be formally made the chancellor, a movement which I personally instigated) has intimate friends among the high officials. Other members of the faculty have contacts with the very top. Yenching has a lot of former students and staff who are now engaged in the government of the new regime. They have all won for themselves and for Yenching a splendid name. Because of this it is likely that our freedom will be safeguarded. Most likely no other private institution will be so well treated as Yenching. That fact is already very much in evidence. Furthermore the influence of Yenching may be, because of its peculiar position, quite wide and vital. Our hope in that direction is already being realized. As the months pass and go we may confidently expect a fuller realization.

Whether or not the present regime will be able to firmly establish itself no one can tell. Inexperience, lack of both quality and quantity of leaders are important factors. At

Yenching University

Peking

February 17, 1949

Dear Stanley:

I have the very rare privilege of sending you word at this time because of the return of the peace delegates to the south who are leaving in a few hours. This will then be mailed from Shanghai and I hope will reach you in due time. We are now cut off except by cable, from the outside. Just when international mail will be made possible no one knows but it has been announced that trade between the north and Shanghai will be resumed soon. That does not insure, however, international post at all but a little contact with the area outside our immediate one. The fluctuating price of American bank notes indicates that some people regard them with increasing favor. A few weeks ago US\$1 was worth only 33¢ silver (silver dollars minted in 1914, 1920 and 1921 are freely circulating now) whereas at the present a US\$1 is worth in silver \$1.30. This is about the situation as we found it in 1923 when we arrived. We have in our possession sufficient American money to keep us afloat for several months. By that time it is possible that we can either draw by check upon our bank account or else we may be forced out of the area or else we can borrow. At least, there is nothing to worry about as far as our physical welfare is concerned. Mildred has been ill with the flu for five days but is better, the climax of the fever having come. The rest of us are very well. The winter has been very mild and is about over. We have had plenty of coal and heat.

We continued our classes until January 15th and then allowed the students to do as they pleased about joining in with the various activities which the situation here allowed such as preparing for the "liberation" of the city. On January 24th the city gates were opened but the city had not actually been taken over. This came gradually. The post office was not taken over until a week ago. Now, however, all of N. China is tightly in control. Nevertheless subversive elements are at work because of the lack of properly trained leaders and because of the lack of sufficient numbers of the same to give people a sense of well being. Such a period of transition always means a certain lack of control and we feel it. There has been no lawlessness as far as we are personally concerned nor in our community except for one case of robbery in the village near the campus. Armed guards are everywhere now. The students went to the city for about two weeks to participate in propaganda stunts. I witnessed two parades. The last one was last Saturday when it is estimated that 200,000 people participated. There has been genuine welcome of the new regime especially among the students for this group has felt particularly oppressed by the other regime. Workers too are exceedingly hopeful of better days to come. Due to the fact that our Yenching community has always been a closely knit, homogeneous one in which the spirit of Christian fellowship and cooperative living has been clearly manifest we have had not the slightest trouble. Our greatest task now is to maintain that spirit. Dr. C. W. Luh, our chancellor (the whole body of the faculty and staff have indicated that they want him to be formally made the chancellor, a movement which I personally instigated) has intimate friends among the high officials. Other members of the faculty have contacts with the very top. Yenching has a lot of former students and staff who are now engaged in the government of the new regime. They have all won for themselves and for Yenching a splendid name. Because of this it is likely that our freedom will be safeguarded. Most likely no other private institution will be so well treated as Yenching. That fact is already very much in evidence. Furthermore the influence of Yenching may be, because of its peculiar position, quite wide and vital. Our hope in that direction is already being realized. As the months come and go we may confidently expect a fuller realization.

Whether or not the present regime will be able to firmly establish itself no one can tell. Inexperience, lack of both quality and quantity of leaders are important factors. At

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least, for the present, there seems to be a clean group of people in control and that is a great asset. If the government can be kept clean there is hope. Youth is to the fore because it is anxious to see a new type of society emerge. The standard of living for our own faculty and staff has a good chance of being maintained at approximately the same level. There is bound to be a shift in emphasis in the training program. The industrial training which we now have will surely be enlarged and strengthened. What place Music will have is still uncertain. Foreigners are even now put out of the picture for this movement is one to strengthen the leadership and the dignity of the people of this land. They want to feel that without any foreign aid of any kind they can hold high their own standards. This is an ambition which we can all praise. So, as controller, my work is more and more being limited to personal relationships. Our movements as westerners are being restricted to our campus area the reason being (they say) to protect foreigners from violence and thus stirring up international complications. Of course we are all suspected as being spys. We want to be really careful and so we have become more or less inactive turtles. Send this word out to all for I have no other correspondence to share.

Lovingly

(signed) Bliss (Wiant)

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PEIPING

2/19/49

COCHRAN
INCULCATE NEW YORK

WELL HAPPY THANKS FOR LETTERS JANUARY NINETEENTH AND UNCLE
SAMS BROADCAST THIS LAST COMMUNICATION NOW HOPE COMMUNICATIONS
SOON RESUMED LOVE

NANCY

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EXCERPTS FROM TELEGRAMS FROM PEIPING, DATED Feb. 20, 1949

YENCHING WORK CONTINUING PRAYERS STUDENT WORK REQUESTED ALL WELL
SO FAR WOLFERZ

ALL WELL SCHOOL CHURCH WORK CONTINUING NORMALLY

HOPEFUL WAITING PREVAILS PRICES STABLE FOREIGNERS PROTECTED TRAVEL
RESTRICTED GREEN (backs?) GOOD DRAFTS WORTHLESS

WITLOGAN (Witmer & Logan, in Paotingful) REPORT RESIDENCE OCCUPIED
POLITE (police?) INVESTIGATIONS UNDERWAY. WITTY DEAFNESS ASSET
LOGAN REPORTED ANXIOUS OTHERS SAY PICTURE HOPEFUL. TALHODGE (Hospital)
CROWDED WITH PATIENTS MEDICAL PERSONNEL GREATLY NEEDED BUT ADVISE
AWAIT OFFICIAL REQUEST BEFORE RETURN

SAILER REPORTS RECEIVED CHEELOO BULLETINS THROUGH JAN. 22 INSPIRING
EXPERIENCES. STOP. HAMLIN LETTER FEB. 6 DIFFICULT MEET TOPES (?) *
LIVING EXPENSES. BLAIR (Lair ?) LETTER FEB. 11 CHEELOO WORK CONTINUING
CAMPUS SHARED GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITY.

BETSON (moffet)

*probably taxes

0484

COPY

Received 9:45 a.m.

Feb. 21, 1949

written Feb. 19

PEIPING

FACULTY STAFF UNANIMOUSLY EXPRESS GRATITUDE LUH CHIHWEI INSPIRING LEADERSHIP
DURING TROUBLED PERIOD AND REQUEST BOARD MANAGERS APPOINT HIM FULLTIME
CHANCELLOR MANY STUDENTS FACULTY ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORT PRESENT REGIME
APPROXIMATELY 600 STUDENTS PRESENT SPRING SEMESTER CAMPUS LIFE NORMAL NEW
REGIME HELPFUL FINANCING COMMUNITY INTERNATIONAL POST TRADE STILL UNAVAIL-
ABLE RELIGIOUS ACADEMIC FREEDOM UNIMPAIRED INFORM YENCHING CONSTITUENCY WE
PLEDGE INTEGRITY THANKS FOR DECISION TRUSTEES MORAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT
GREETINGS TO ALL

BLISS WIA NT

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February 21, 1949

My dear Friend:

Knowing how interested you are in any news we might receive from Yenching, I am immediately sending you a copy of a cablegram which has just been received. It was dated Saturday, February 19th. The cablegram is as follows:

"FACULTY STAFF UNANIMOUSLY EXPRESS GRATITUDE LUH CHIHWEI
INSPIRING LEADERSHIP DURING TROUBLED PERIOD AND REQUEST BOARD
MANAGERS APPOINT HIM FULLTIME CHANCELLOR MANY STUDENTS FACULTY
ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORT PRESENT REGIME APPROXIMATELY 600
STUDENTS PRESENT SPRING SEMESTER CAMPUS LIFE NORMAL NEW REGIME
HELPFUL FINANCING COMMUNITY INTERNATIONAL POST TRADE STILL
UNAVAILABLE RELIGIOUS ACADEMIC FREEDOM UNIMPAIRED INFORM
YENCHING CONSTITUENCY WE PLEDGE INTEGRITY THANKS FOR DECISION
TRUSTEES MORAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT GREETINGS TO ALL BLISS WIA NT"

We are delighted to get such good news and encouraged to believe that Yenching may continue its good work without too many restrictions.

Yours cordially,

Robert J. McMullen
Executive Secretary

RJM:D

P.S. Professor Bliss Wiant is a veteran representative of the Methodist Board on the faculty of Yenching. He is the head of the Department of Music and at present is serving as Acting Comptroller of the institution.

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COPY

SHANGHAI 22 8 1453

DLT MCMULLEN ABCHICOLL NEW YORK

MANAGERS ELECTED LUH HSIAOCHANG FEBRUARY 26 CONCURRENTLY CANCELING
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE LUH SO INFORMED MINUTES MAILED AIR TODAY

EDWARDS

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Re: Yenching & Tsinghua

March 2, 1949

Excerpt from a letter of

Dr. W. T. Chan, Professor of Chinese, Dartmouth College,
Now on Guggenheim Fellowship in China and living on
Lingnan campus.

February 28, 1949

Dr. James M. Henry
Trustees of Lingnan University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Jim:

....No acquaintance of mine has received any letter in Chinese from Peiping. But several letters in English have come. The daughter of Prof. Chen Yin-cho, eminent historian now at Lingnan, received a wire from a schoolmate in Tsinghua, saying class resumption on such and such a date and added "additional courses." These courses may mean Party indoctrination or "social work" for two hours every day. The latter has come out in the paper. The former is generally believed to be prevailing in the universities. Yenching has loaned money, "people's notes," and food, from the Communist bank, at 12% interest a month. In Tsinghua courses "not close to the people" have been eliminated and professor salaries have been paid on schedule. Production of coal is at full speed and prices seem to be under control. Fu Jen has been turned over to a Chinese administration. According to liberal elements in Hongkong, no one can enter or leave Peiping without special permission. A student registered at Lingnan has just left, against his father's wishes, to return to Tsinghua. Of course it is too early to determine just what Chinese Communism will be. So far as we in the South are concerned, there will be probably two or three more years to speculate....

0488

EXCERPTS FROM LETTER OF DR. NANCY COCHRAN OF YENCHING UNIVERSITY

March 9, 1949

...The financial situation is straightening out all the time. The exchange for bills is constantly rising, and by now is almost back to par. Let me say that I got my letter telling me that I was at last appointed to the Mission, so January I began being under them. It is lots of fun belonging to the group, and I felt so well protected. So far they haven't straightened out the money situation. By a series of legitimate exchanges they got our February (or was it January) salaries to us, and, like the scarf Jimmy knit, "it seemed to have lost a good deal of flesh." What I received for the month of February was 1480 Jen Min, and with the Jen Min exchange then at 400 to the dollar gold (American) you see that my February salary was \$3.75. The cost of living now in terms of the dollar is quite high, if there were anything much to buy. Thank goodness, however, as you all know, before the turnover I had resorted literally to the old stocking technique (imagine one of Uncle Henry's nieces with all her available wealth thus invested!) And so all is well. Also the administration is getting on so well that the University has been able to get what is needed just the moment that its' needed, never before...

You should see what the new life is like. It is really a student movement, students giving their rather sweet, impractical, idealistic, and often quite touchingly funny ideas to the stolid, kind, gentle Northern Chinese peasants. The soldiers, who are quartered in the homes carry water and sweep the streets diligently. Now that the Spring has come, they pitch in and dig up the fields for the farmers, and as they are mostly farmers themselves, they make a good job of it. The city bred people, on the other hand, have caught on right away and are having a wonderful time exploiting the innocent. When the soldiers entered Tiensin they offered to carry water for the people, and were astounded when they turned on the taps and water flowed of itself. They broke the bulbs when they wanted to put out the electric lights. A good many of them have never seen foreigners and they asked the Crothers if we had any railways in America. The peasants from around here laughed loudly at such ignorance.

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March 11, 1949 - 3:15 P.M.

Dr. Cartwright's secretary telephoned the following:

A postcard from the Rev. Stanley W. Wiant dated March 9th states that he has a letter from Bliss Wiant dated February 17th. The letter was carried out of Peking by a peace commissioner who took it to Shanghai and mailed it. No mail is going in or out of Peking. Classes have not been held since January 15th. He and family are confined to campus by authorities. He is not allowed any public work and his activity is only in private conversations. He feels like an inactive turtle. American dollar exchange going up in terms of American silver dollars in circulation. No violence.

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Mr Corbett

LETTER FROM DWIGHT L. EDWARDS TO DR. ROBERT J. MCMULLEN
NOT FOR PUBLICATION
MARCH 23, 1949

From a letter from Dwight Edwards, dated Shanghai, March 12, 1949, received in New York March 19, 1949.

Your letter of March 15 has come to hand. I am enclosing an extract of information. "Postal communication is now open and the only thing to safeguard is the statement of things which would be embarrassing to the campus authorities if read by a censor."

"I get report from the North in a number of ways, and there is every indication that thus far things are going along smoothly and the difficulties are being surmounted. The new authorities are faced with so many baffling problems that they cannot afford to antagonize every one, and it is possible that in the course of events they may find the Christian institutions of such value to them in their fundamental objectives of benefiting the people that some of the more radical elements in their ideologies may be overlooked, or relegated to the distant future for implementation."

EdE

... told him that religious liberty was an important policy of the Communist government. At the same time there was also liberty to oppose religion, and there was liberty to resist compulsion to say religious words. So far the reports from various places indicate that religious liberty is being given. Like all their statements of policy, there is always an interpretation which could be either very drastic or very moderate. For instance, in the treatment of the Christian movement religious liberty might mean something in accord with article 18 of the statement of Human Rights, or it might mean a very limited privilege of worshipping according to your own conscience. Freedom to oppose religion might mean only such liberty as is fully granted to any one in the United States, Canada or England. On the other hand, it could be used to legalize many forms of persecution. Similarly, as regard to their policy as to capitalism, they are promoting now the knowledge of production. They think that capitalism is to be favored only in a bureaucratic capitalism is to be forbidden. ... of course, leave with them to interpret what bureaucratic capitalism is and what small capitalism is. The small capitalism may be only the huckster on the streets, or it may be a large industry. All will depend upon their interpretation at the time.

We have just had a conference of university representatives. All this is very deeply on the implications of the prospective extension of Communist control to this part of China. For instance, there is Shanghai University is almost entirely dependent upon its tuition. What will these be under the new regime? If they are not strictly limited the University will be in an almost hopeless

LETTER FROM DWIGHT V. EDWARDS TO DR. ROBERT J. MCMULLEN

MARCH 23, 1949

Your letter of March 16 has come to hand. I am enclosing an extract of information received by C. T. Lin in one of the letters from Yenching. This can be considered as authoritative up till March 12. I am somewhat concerned that a letter of Bliss Wiantz seems to have given a distorted information of the situation on the campus. We have known that the foreign members of the staff were requested not to leave the campus on the grounds of their protection. We have also known that they were not featured in public affairs. When the faculty gave a tea to W. W. Yen there were no foreigners present. This is evidently felt to be a wise measure. There is no indication that they are not doing their normal teaching work. I am sure that if such were the case we should have heard of it. When Bliss wrote his letter they were in the midst of vacation. The spring term did not open until the first of March. Therefore, there was no teaching to be done. I shall let you know if we hear anything to the contrary.

I look forward to their being many irritating and discouraging movements, but we really cannot tell the real trend of affairs for a year or so. It may take longer than that. For the present things seem to be going as well as could be expected. I heard Dr. W. W. Yen report to the Shanghai Sino-Foreign Advisory Committee of the Municipal Government and his impressions were distinctly favorable. In regard to religion, Mao Tze Tung told him that religious liberty was an important policy of the Communist government. At the same time there was also liberty to oppose religion, and there was liberty to resist compulsion to any religious sects. So far the reports from various places indicate that religious liberty is being given. Like so many of their statements of policy there is always an interpretation which could be either more drastic or more considerate. For instance, in the treatment of the Christian movement religious liberty might mean something in accord with Article 18 of the statement of Human Rights, or it might mean a very limited privilege of worshipping according to your own conscience. Freedom to oppose religion might mean only such liberty as is fully granted to any one in the United States, Canada or England. On the other hand, it could be used to legalize many forms of persecution. Similarly in regard to their policy as to capitalism, they are promoting now the importance of production. They claim that capitalism is to be favored: only bureaucratic capitalism is to be forbidden. It, of course, rests with them to interpret what bureaucratic capitalism is and what small capitalism is. The small capitalism may be only the huckster on the streets, or it may be a large industry. All will depend upon their interpretation at the time.

We have just had a conference of university representatives. All are thinking very deeply on the implications of the prospective extension of Communist control to this part of China. For instance, there is Henry Lin. Shanghai University is almost entirely dependent upon its tuition fees. What will these be under the new regime? If they are cut down or strictly limited the University will be in an almost impossible

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R. J. McMullen

- 2 -

3/23/49

financial situation. He tells me that they received only \$6,000 as a from the Baptist group. There is a general tendency to allow the University authorities to fix the tuition fees, but there must be a very generous provision for indigent students, and it seems that the student is allowed to determine himself whether he is indigent or not. On the other hand, only about 17% of Yenching's income is derived from local sources. The rest comes from overseas. The question of tuition fees is not so crucial to them. Well this is just a little chat chat. In regard to the question of conflict in constitutions, I think we will have to let the matter rest. We don't know what regulations the new authorities will impose upon us. I suggest, however, that you mail to us copies of any constitution which you have together with By-Laws. We have found it very difficult to make up for the losses during the war in this connection.

With very best regards, I am

Cordially yours,

DWE:yhc
Enc.

/s/ Dwight W. Edwards

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EXTRACT OF INFORMATION RECEIVED BY DR. C. T. LIN

March 23, 1949

A letter from the Yenching campus reached me yesterday. Final examinations of the fall semester were held on February 23 - 26. Registration took place on Sunday and Monday, February 27 - 28. Total enrollment was 630. On account of the fact that awards of grants-in-aid and relief grants had not been announced before the registration period, payments of fees were postponed to March 21 - 22. Two transfer entrance examinations were held: one on March 11, with 67 candidates participating, and the other was scheduled for March 20. Salary payments for January and February were made in two or three installments each month. Payments hereafter will be regularized, beginning from the current month. Tuition fee was 500 catties of corn and dormitory fee 350; no other fees were changed. Students who are financially poor were allowed to pay 200 catties for each of the two fees.

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LETTER FROM PROF. BLISS WIAANT TO DR. R. J. MCMULLEN

April 3, 1949

Today I received the official word through Mr. Dwight Edwards of the election of Dr. C. W. Luh to the chancellorship by the Board of Managers and confirmed by the Yenching Committee of the U.B.C.C.C. Although telegrams had previously arrived, we had not received the formal written word until now.

This election brings to all of us a real sense of joy for we are pleased that those who are so intimately connected with the welfare of our institution have supported the request of the faculty and staff. So far as I know, this is the first time in history of Yenching that its chief administrator has been supported so unanimously. Both the workmen and the students asked that they might also unite their voices with the faculty and staff in requesting that Dr. Luh become our chancellor. This is unprecedented. Consequently, from the lowest to the highest there is unanimity of expression.

Dr. Luh has written to you to suggest that it would not be easy for him to accept his appointment from the absentee boards of control. Nevertheless, the appointment stands as an indication of your support. After all, the most important element in any situation apropos to leadership is that those who are directly affected by a given person shall be enthusiastic in following him. Dr. Luh has won the hearts of us all so that we gladly harken to his voice.

Only those who have lived through the difficulties of the type which have confronted the administration of Yenching during the past few months can appreciate what ability is demanded of a chancellor. Yenching has arrived thus far at a position which is unique among all the institutions of higher education in China. This position has been achieved without any loss of our Christian purpose or ideals. We can conscientiously incorporate into our own experience the immortal words of St. Paul as found in Romans 8: 35-39. We are firmly convinced that we have been guided by His spirit during these days and have been true to the faith that is within us. I am positive that all the Christians on the campus would give the same report of our actions.

We all realize that if we are to survive within the framework of the present situation we must adjust ourselves. No society of people which has ever been organized in the history of men has yet been perfect. Utopia has not yet arrived. It is our firm desire to incorporate the best elements of the present regime into our living and with steadfastness cling to the principles which we regard to be of eternal value. It might be of interest to enumerate those elements in our new experiences which have been of benefit.

1. We are being compelled to re-evaluate all aspects of human experience such as food, clothing, recreation, standards of living, purpose of study and preparation, ideals and means of service, etc. Complacency of living has been rudely disturbed by this process. We have instituted new habits of thinking with regard to everything in human experience. This is an exceedingly wholesome requirement and one which would make a better world society.

2. The emphasis upon the worth and dignity of the most humble person has resulted in an attempt to eliminate all aspects of feudalism and imperialism. In a society where these elements obtain there has been a lowering of the dignity of certain classes of human beings. In spite of the fact that Jesus taught and lived the highest

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respect for the individual the missionary movement has indirectly brought to China, through a certain class of individuals, a feeling of disregard and disrespect for those whom they came to serve. The sins of that group have now come to plague us. We therefore must search our hearts, acknowledge their sins, humbly ask for forgiveness for them and determine to lead a new and better life. Even the term "missionary is an outmoded one, for it embodies the idea of being sent. The new age will demand that it chooses the guests that it desires from abroad. It would be entirely within the rights of the governing powers to eliminate all foreigners if they so desire, especially if they were to follow the patterns which the American government followed in years past. God help us to be worthy of the high calling to which we are called. God forgive us for our sins of imperialism and help us to be true brothers to all people. How far, far is America even at this moment, from a proper attitude towards even its own fellow-citizens.

It should be clearly stated that we have not at any time suffered any personal indignities. Even soldiers on guard have been exceedingly polite and courteous. Our Yenching group of westerners has been especially well treated thanks to the highly successful negotiations which Dr. Luh and others have been able to carry through. We are indeed most grateful to them for their many labors on our behalf. The traditional international life of the Yenching campus seems to be fully guaranteed by their accomplishments in this particular field.

This brings us to the problem of the replacement of the personnel which has in the past been vouchsafed to our faculty and staff from the supporting Christian agencies in England and America. A careful survey is now being made of the present representation to ascertain the immediate steps to be taken. As you perhaps know, the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Boards each have supplied us with four people and the L.M. S. with two. As soon as the survey is complete we will send in our requests for certain types of individual replacements. In order that these replacements be on hand for the opening of the fall semester we hope that you will take quick action to that end. Because of the uncertainty of the situation prior to this time we have not been able to press this matter upon you.

Dr. Luh has mentioned the difficulty of attempting a budget for the coming year at this particular time or even later. During the past two years a budget has been of little more value than that of a means of keeping our finances in balance and proportion. From that point of view we might as well present the same budget for the coming year as we have had for this year. So many adjustments are constantly emerging that it is impossible to follow detailed budgeting. Even during this year we have had the experience of figuring one America dollar at from four dollars one currency to one million two hundred another currency. Then there have been also many other types of currency in which to figure, even including corn, millet, rice, flour, kerosene, cloth, empty four bags, sugar, etc., etc. So you can see that budgeting is mostly a matter of a series of headaches.

Because of this we earnestly request that you allow us to use whatever resources you can supply in the manner that seems best to us. I realize that this is a new procedure but we are living in a new era. We must be trusted to spend the money available in the most righteous and effective way we can. If mail connections between here and you were in any sense reliable this might alter the situation also. It is much easier for mail to arrive here from abroad than for us to send to you. If and when the political life becomes firmly established another factor of stability will have been settled. Because of these uncertainties we suggest that a free hand will be the most effective way to deal with the finances of the institution.

Last month and this we have arranged, through the expert negotiations of Dr. Luh and Dr. Yeh Ching-yueh, to deposit with the manager of the new governmental bank

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our checks which are then used as security for the cash which they allow us to have. For instance, this month we have given them a check for \$10,000 for which they have given us $8\frac{1}{2}$ million, 25% above the best rate that is obtainable anywhere. We are not absolutely sure just how we are to finally settle the account for it is in the nature both of a loan and of an exchange but we are assured that we will benefit by the gestures of confidence which we have displayed.

We have enrolled as regular students nearly 550 about 20 of whom have been transferred from other institutions during last month. In addition we have admitted as special students about 115 who have also transferred in. All the transfers were carefully examined and only some 20% of those examined were admitted. Another group of 200 will occupy our first dormitory, research students from the Political Science Department of the North China University, one of the new government institutions. These students will have their separate curriculum and faculty and are to be considered as guests within the campus.

The School of Religion has 20 students whose devotion to their studies and to the cause for which they are preparing is truly inspiring. Dean T. C. Chao has displayed a fine spirit of leadership within the student body. These students have determined to help maintain the best features of Church life in the city. Many of them spend their week ends within the churches freely giving of their time and energy to that end. All Christian work is proceeding as usual.

It is true that some of our Christians have forsaken their earlier stand and have denounced Christianity as an organization sufficiently able to accomplish the ends they have recently established for themselves. We are all convinced, however, that such students have never known the essence of the Christian life else they would not have forsaken it. The presence of Christ in their lives was never an abiding reality. They had espoused Christianity for unworthy reasons and at the time of crisis and test the defection came. All of us who profess His name need to search our hearts, "gird up our loins" and renew our allegiance to the Son of Man.

We need your sympathetic prayers, in fact, all Christians everywhere should pray for each other. No nation holds the key to peace nor to successful living but only in our united efforts and mutual assistance and cooperation, brotherly love and mutual respect can we ever hope to create a new world.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bliss Wiant

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY

CONFIDENTIAL

Peiping, China

April 5, 1949

Dr. Robert J. MacMullen
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. MacMullen:

Dr. Wiant told me that the UBCCC (the Yenching Committee) confirmed the action of the Yenching Board of Managers appointing me the chancellor of the University. This is a rare honor which I never expected the Boards would confer upon me, for I know as much as others do that temperamentally I am unfit to be a university administrator and probably will never learn to be one. At the present juncture, my position is very delicate. I do not need to explain why I cannot accept an appointment from a board that meets in Nanking. My duty is to see the institution going on with the same spirit of service as before though not necessarily in the same form as to details. Any action that will tend to make our work even more difficult than it is has to be avoided as far as possible. For this I beg your sympathy and utmost forbearance.

We are trying to reorganize our administrative setup. A new administrative committee with myself as the chairman may be constituted in the near future provided that the members as I slate them can receive a vote of confidence from the University Council and the general faculty and staff. I shall then act for the chancellor. My colleagues, Chinese and Western, can fully understand why I have to take such an anomalous position. In external relations I shall be, as I have been, addressed as the Chancellor. To our own students I shall continue to be plain and simple "Mr. Luh". To you and to the Board of Managers I can only say that I promise to do my level best to carry on what we call our grand experiment. My religious views may not coincide with anybody else's, but I shall follow Jesus in the light of what I believe to be his teachings.

We may fail miserably in our new attempt. The battle is worth fighting, and I hope we do not appraise the present situation from too different viewpoints. To most of us conscientious Chinese, this is not China's dark hour, but rather a new dawn. In the three thousand years of China's modern history, we never had such a clean and responsible government. You will forgive us if we do not become despondent because the foreign policy of our old government did not land us where the masses of the Chinese people hoped to be. In fact, those of us who have chosen to devote our lives to Christian educational work should search our hearts and can be honest in saying we are not tied up with politics.

We are also trying to re-evaluate our academic work and utilize our resources, mainly from America, more effectively than heretofore. The new government has no policy for higher education. The general tendency is to emphasize technology. We have to work out our own salvation, our own modus vivendi as to the relation between theory and practice, and more in general, between teaching and daily life.

We have called on the departments to formulate new projects and restate the old ones. The main idea is not to map out our work on the old demarkation of colleges and departments, but rather in terms of service, a concrete piece of work to be done and around what personnel. In a way, the new situation requires a new ideology in education, but we cannot entirely divorce ourselves from traditions. The same problems will have to be faced by our sister institutions in the south. Local initiative will be of primary importance. The UBCCC may consider it advisable to send us one or two educational experts to sit with us and help us solve some of our problems. Old objectives may have to be reinterpreted, particularly the idea that all the Christian

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institutions develop their curriculum on a centralized plan so that the pieces of work can dovetail like a jig saw puzzle, being guided by transcendental intelligence. There are local needs and our work has to be adjusted to them, not to a nation-wide Christian educational enterprise alongside of governmental enterprise. So the presence of your representatives during this critical period will at least help you to fully understand our new difficulties. The institutions will not be in a position to consult you on minor details or to consider whether any line of work is justifiable according to the old plans.

Bliss Wiant and I myself are really in a quandry when we try to present you with a budget for 1949-50. Even formally, our estimates will not be intelligible. We cannot give them in terms of US dollars, or in the new currency, or in catties of millet, for most people in America do not even know what millet is. But the fundamental difficulty is that we are not quite clear what we shall or can do the next academic year. When we do become clear in our own thinking, it will be too late in the year to prepare a detailed budget for you which you can criticize before approval.

All indications are our needs will be greater than now, but we shall be overjoyed if you can give us the same amount of money as this year. Our current budget is around US\$300,000 with a 50% deficit. For the next academic year the following items cannot be counted on fully:

1. ITP program \$25000.
2. Mission personnel, nominally calculated at \$42000.
but some of the vacancies may not be filled
(Special effort should be made to fill all of them.)

Locally, there will be shortage in tuition and other student fees. Before the Second World War, student fees used to cover about 12-15% of the budget. They were reduced to 5-8% after Victory. For this semester they are negligible. For years, the grants of the central government in one form or another amounted to over 7% of the budget. If we exist at all, help from the new government can be expected to be more extensive, but there is no way to budget it. We borrow from the government very heavily on favorable terms of which Bliss Wiant has been keeping you informed. Over 50% of our students now live on government subsidy given in the form of a loan underwritten by me personally.

With the mission vacancies filled and the special gifts available to the same amount as of this year, we hope the deficit in the ITP program can be covered by the Managers Current Fund or some other means. In another year, the local industries may be fully rehabilitated so that our old sponsors will again be able to extend their generous hand. That leaves the 15% deficit in the general budget to be discussed. When I request that the same amount of money be granted us for the next academic year as of this year, I hope the UBCCC will consider this item also. Our total expenditure will necessarily be somewhat larger than this year, due to readjustment, not to expansion. Unless we are assured of local support, we shall not be venturing on new projects beyond what can be done by internal adjustments in terms of a budget of a similar sum total as this year. We are still far short of being rehabilitated to the strength of 1931 or 1937, though the amount of money we are spending actually exceeds that of the peak years. I can assure you we have your difficulties fully in mind.

Bliss Wiant will supply you with details. With warm regards,

Cordially yours,

/s/ C. W. Luh

P.S. We have just received your recommendation regarding a three months severance pay. The administrative Committee will discuss it immediately. C.W.L.

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(COPY)

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

Peiping, China

Office of the President

April 11, 1949

Dr. R.J.McMullen
United Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, 11, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

I am enclosing a copy of the Reforms proposed by the students of Yenching University. I do not have report as to how far these recommendations were accepted by the faculty.

One of the difficult problems to handle under the new regime authorities is the encouragement to students to run the universities and consider the teacher as a tool to be used in getting what they want rather than as a leader and expert in educational methods and policies.

Another tendency, I fear, will be that of making education a training schools for technics rather than a real seat of education.

Cordially yours,

Dwight W. Edwards

DWE:LS
Enc.

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(COPY)

TRANSLATION

REFORMS PROPOSED BY YENCHING STUDENTS (Condensed)

I. Curriculum

1. Arts and Letters and Public Affairs freshmen be not required to take a group of science courses for six credits.
2. Freshman and Sophomore English be elective courses.
3. Freshman Chinese be an elective course.
4. Credits be increased for those courses considered heavier.
5. Physical Education be an elective course. Written tests and occasional papers in the course be eliminated.
6. To open new courses:
 - a. Cooperative Society
 - b. Cost Accounting
 - c. Common Sense in Political Science (time to be arranged in evening so every one may elect it.)
7. Senior thesis:
 - a. to be an elective course, or
 - b. to be abolished, or
 - c. to be written by more than two students.
8. To abolish the maximum number of elective credits.
9. Years of graduation be more or less than 4 years, according to actual time required in the field of study.
10. Understanding rather than memory is emphasized in examinations.
11. No dismissal of students. In case of poor work made by a student, opportunity be given for taking make-up examinations or the student be required to repeat the same year.
12. Emphasis be not placed on English in the entrance examination.
13. A degree of Bachelor of Engineering be conferred to students majoring in Industrial Training Program, irrespective of whether the College of Engineering has been established or not.

(more)

0500

II. Teaching Methods

1. Teaching and discussion be both emphasized.
2. At the beginning of a course, the instructor and the students should discuss together the contents of the course and the method of teaching.
3. Topics for discussion be made known to students.

III. Administration

1. Equal treatment among Chinese and Foreign instructors.
2. The salary scale be arranged as closely as possible.
3. In order to have closer connection with the Administration and the students, administrative committee should have representatives from the student body. The representatives have power to speak and vote.
4. Accounts should be open to the public.
5. Regulations not rational or logical be gradually abolished, such as the prohibition of opening the men's and women's dormitories.

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RADIOGRAM

April 24, 1949

SFB72/LP INTL PEIPING VIA GLOBE 51/50 20 1447

DLT UBCCC

150 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK

EASTER CELEBRATION UNUSUALLY FINE WITH BAPTISMS RICH FELLOWSHIP

CAN CLAIM SHIPMENT WILSON ORDER TAKU BAR PEKING METHODIST

COMMITTEE AUTHORIZES ROBERT WINANS JOHN STOCK AND REPLACEMENT

RUTH STAHL PLEASE CONTACT THEM URGING THEM ARRANGE ARRIVAL

FALL SEMESTER CAMPUS LIFE HOPEFUL PROGRESSIVE COOPERATIVE

750 STUDENTS BLISSWILANT

During the long between-semester vacation, the students were as busy as bees, studying the large amounts of literature given them for proper orientation toward the new ways of life, making slogans, posters, and banners, writing plays and speeches, ready for use in spreading the good news among the surrounding villages first, and then in Peiping as soon as that was liberated. From eight in the morning until dusk, there was the sound of the beating of drums, as they all learned to do the peasant dances from the western border regions, which always form part of the entertainment for the village people. The members of the Christian Fellowship made special preparation for the part they were to take in talking to the church groups in Peiping, assuring them that the Communists were going to allow freedom of religion, and to let them to find ways of working through their churches toward the side of the new world which was promised them in the near future.

So well did the students do their work in Peiping, that the Communists have recruited over a hundred of them to take further training in such propaganda work, preparatory to following the army in its southern campaign for the follow-up work in the now liberated regions. They have been trained in Peiping, and are proving their mettle as they live in typical Communist manner, dressing in cheap grey or khaki colored cotton uniforms, eating millet and cabbage or spinach, sleeping on the floor, and studying from early morning until dark, - a regime they would certainly have rebelled against, either here or at home. The feeling now they are working for the common people of China is a real religion for them. One is reminded of the Oxford group as they confess their sins in these former ways of life.

In addition to the group that has left to help the Communist cause, we lost between two and three hundred of our students who left before the turnover, as parents in the south sent for their children to return home while they could, before the iron curtain came down. Then there were some who did not feel in the new way.

0502

Yenching University
Peiping, China

April 24, 1949

Dear Friends:

Miss Burtt has written you of the exciting events of December, when we were in the process of being "liberated", and Miss Boynton has given you a picture of the later period when the students and faculty and neighboring villagers were being indoctrinated in the principles of the "New Democracy", so that it falls to me to tell you how events are working out for us here at the University in the ensuing two months.

If you should drop in on us, you would hardly be aware that anything unusual had happened, for the bells ring as of old, students and faculty hurry to classes with just as many of the same kind of books under their arms and the University life as a whole moves on in its usual round, but there is a difference. For those of us who have been here right through the years since the Japanese were driven out, the whole atmosphere has changed. Where there was disillusionment, despair and apathy, there is now eager hope and enthusiasm and confidence in the future. If there are those of us who are older and more conservative, who cannot feel the same confidence that now all their problems are settled, and fear that their new regime may not bring about the "brave new world" just as they desire it to be, we can still rejoice in the change wrought in their spirits and optimism, and can hope that the energy, enthusiasm and faith they have in this new government may remove the mountains of selfishness, and love of power and greed, which always rise in the path of such movements, especially as they move into the more complicated patterns of life in the larger port cities.

During the long between-semester vacation, the students were as busy as bees, studying the large amounts of literature given them for proper orientation toward the new ways of life, making slogans, posters, and banners, writing plays and speeches, ready for use in spreading the good news among the surrounding villages first, and then in Peiping as soon as that was liberated. From eight in the morning until dusk, there was the sound of the beating of drums, as they all learned to do the peasant dances from the western border regions, which always form part of the entertainment for the village people. The members of the Christian Fellowship made special preparation for the part they were to take in talking to the church groups in Peiping, assuring them that the Communists were going to allow freedom of religion, and helping them to find ways of working through their churches toward the making of the new world which was promised them in the near future.

So well did the students do their work in Peiping, that the Powers-that-be recruited over a hundred of them to take further training in such propaganda work, preparatory to following the army in its southern campaign for the follow-up work in the new liberated regions. They have been trained in Peiping, and are proving their mettle as they live in typical Communist manner, dressing in cheap grey or khaki colored cotton uniforms, eating millet and cabbage or spinach, sleeping on the floor, and studying from early morning until dark, - a regime they would certainly have rebelled against, either here or at home. The feeling that they are working for the common people of China is a real religion for them. One is reminded of the Oxford group as they confess their sins in their former ways of life.

In addition to the group that has left to help the Communist cause, we lost between two and three hundred of our students who left before the turnover, as parents in the south sent for their children to return home while they could, before the Iron Curtain came down. Then there were some who did not feel in the same wel-

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coming mood for the new regime as the majority of the students did and felt they would be happier in other surroundings, so that by the time the second semester began the first of March, we had only a few more than five hundred students left. As there were a number of the private Universities in Peiping and Tientsin which could not open after the vacation, we gave transfer examinations and added about one hundred and fifty transfers, so we do not seem under-populated at present. All Pre-Medical and Pre-Engineering students were asked to keep on with their education, instead of joining the group which is "going South" as the saying is, so we still have quite a number of the most ardent spirits on campus, who find some salve for their disappointment in not being asked to take a more active part in the campaign, in cutting off their permanents and shedding their prettier clothes for the more drab and ordinary garb the Communists all wear. I, for one, hope this is not going to be a general custom, for a world where everyone has to dress alike, eat alike and think alike lacks the spice of life which is variety.

As for the foreign members of the University, we are one and all rejoicing that we were here on the spot to watch this new world in its beginning and naturally are watching its development with the keenest interest. The Authorities have been most considerate in their treatment of the University and of those of us who happened to be here, even if we are Americans! They are not friendly to our Government and believe everything they are told about its shortcomings and designs. They lent us money when we were still cut off from the source of supply, and finally, three weeks ago gave us passes so that after four months of being kept within our beautiful campus, we can now go to Peiping to see our friends and shop. So far those in Peiping must stay within the walls still. Now that mail service has been resumed, we do not feel we are suffering any hardship, - not hearing from home was a hardship. You may think of us as having a second Christmas as our packages begin to appear after their long sojourn in Shanghai.

The break-down of the Peace negotiations and the resumption of war this last week, with the taking of Nanking just announced, has brought a big disappointment to many of us, who hoped for a Coalition Government, which could resume normal relations with the rest of the world, and set all China free for the work of building up her resources so badly wasted in this long civil strife. Why can the world not learn there are better ways to settle differences than fighting? Perhaps your next contributor will be able to tell you that the Chinese have once more gone back to their old virtue of compromise, - the golden mean, - for to us it seems as if they have a wonderful opportunity at the present time, to be the bridge between the two discordant worlds facing each other to-day, if only they can first settle their own discordant worlds.

Our greetings to each of you!

Sincerely yours,

s/ Lillian D. Porter

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Yenching University
Peiping West, China
June 6, 1949

Mrs. Maurice Moore
1000 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Elisabeth:

At last I have a chance to get a letter through to you, and so I'll be able to do what I've been wanting and meaning to do for a long time, give you my slant on what the Wellesley money meant to the Western Languages Department this past year.

As you know, we made a budget last year, and the Wellesley Committee, to our unspeakable joy, cabled that we were to have three thousand dollars this year, with the possibility that the grant might continue, if it proved successful. That three thousand dollars has been a regular widow's cruise of oil to us, so that by now we all look on you as a veritable Elijah.

How have we spent it? Well:

1. Salaries:

a) Edwin Payne: Mr. Payne is an experienced English teacher who had taught English to Chinese officers during the war, and had been with us for two years as a most valuable member of the department. He is not the type who would like to go under a mission board, so we transferred his salary from the regular university budget to the Wellesley fund, thereby entirely satisfying the Chinese members of the faculty who felt the injustice of paying such a high salary (ninety dollars U.S. a month, no less!) to a foreign lecturer. Since they felt that the Wellesley money could not be used for a Chinese, they were now quite satisfied to allow us to have an American not paid by the missions to teach English. Mr. Payne was hoping to keep right on with us, but under the present circumstances, he has decided to go home, as his contract comes to an end this year, and he feels that he needs more security than that which a foreigner can expect in China at this time.

b) Mrs. Hughes: Mrs. Hughes is a young and highly talented English woman, whose husband is in the Anglican Mission here at the university. She is an Oxford graduate, and has had several years teaching in England. She is lively and young and very enthusiastic, the kind that the students feel are a part of them, and whom, nevertheless, they greatly respect for her ability and education. The salary for an English couple is practically impossible to live on now, as it usually amounts to about thirty-five U.S. dollars a month. We were able, therefore, to supplement their salary from the Wellesley fund, and secure a most unusual teacher for our department. If we had not been able to give her this money, she would have been forced to teach in a government university. She is planning to stay on next year full time, if we can still have Wellesley salaries, for if we lose her I don't know what will become of the department, particularly the major work.

c) Yang Yüeh-min: Mr. Yang is one of our best graduates of last year, and, because we could give him a Wellesley salary, we could keep him for making the catalogue of library books (which catalogue had been mislaid by the Japanese) for doing typing and translating, helping with our research, and doing all those odd, tedious jobs which were almost driving us wild when we had to add them to our regular work,

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because, they took the time from doing things which we know were much more important.

2. Equipment:

a) With another part of the Wellesley fund we got desks, chairs, filing cabinets, tables, and desk lamps, in short, all the office equipment which had also been mislaid by the Japs. That means that we all now have a desk - or almost a desk - apiece, chairs to sit on without borrowing them from a classroom, a table to put our new Wellesley typewriter on, and desk lamps, so that the young men instructors who live in the dormitories with three people sharing a twenty-five watt bulb hanging from the middle of the ceiling, can work in the offices at night. This part of the fund also provided table lights, tables, chairs, and magazine racks for our departmental library.

b) With the Wellesley fund we also were able to give supplementary payments on a typewriter, sound mirror, second-hand victrola, and sets of records for teaching English, French, and Russian. I got Jean Lyon to describe the sound mirror to you. It is most useful for class work, since it can not only record a good many people at once, but has a loud speaker which can play back to the whole class. It is based on the theory of human vanity. As everybody likes to see his own face in a mirror, so everyone likes to hear his own voice. After one devastating recording, the most reluctant student will work hard on his pronunciation, so that the next time he records, such frightful sounds will not emerge.

3. Books:

Also with the Wellesley fund we were able to buy ten to thirty copies of the classics or text-books we would be using in various courses, so that students, who can no longer buy expensive American books, can use them while we are taking them up in class, and then hand them back to be used in the next class. One most interesting set of books is the McCall Standard Test Lessons in Reading. We got thirty copies of books four and five, and have arranged a most elaborate schedule whereby the same set can be used in three different sections of required English during one period, by dint of faithful students galloping, like Paul Revere, from one classroom to the other with the precious set, passing it on to the next class.

4. Printing:

And then we have used the fund to pay our printing bills. Under the new regime the students are no longer able to buy their own text-books (even our cost price books costing just too many pounds of millet), but we can still go on writing our own text-books and printing them - from the Wellesley fund. Last summer we got out a new edition of our Freshman Reading text and a book on pronunciation as well as a photostat collection of three plays for the sophomore. This summer we shall have to get out a new edition of our grammar as there is literally not one copy of the old one left.

This is just a rough picture of the most important things the Wellesley fund has done for us this year. As I look around my office, I keep seeing other things I should mention, but time fails me to tell of them all.

So much for the past, but what about the future? What are the prospects for the English department for next year? Many facts prove that the communists recognize that Yenching teaches good English. And they want English. There are two thousand languages in the world, they say, but sixty per cent of the world's books can be read in English. Therefore, English as a language must be taught. The government universities, they see, have emphasized the teaching of literature only, but Yenching knows how to teach the language. Even before Peiping was "liberated", while we were still

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living in a vague no-man's land between the new order and the old, the head of the English department of the Communist language school at Harbin came here to get what help we could give him. We showed him our books and our methods, and he was pathetically grateful for the sample texts we gave him. "Look at this," he said, "You have spent years doing the research and getting these books out, and you give them to me in half an hour." But it means that we are using our books still for their real purpose, to help raise the standard of English teaching in China. Our major students - some fine specimens, but some woefully badly prepared radicals who left in the middle of their college careers - are teaching in the communist language schools and interpreting in the communist offices. Yenching is the only private university, certainly the only Christian one, included in the government discussions over curriculum, and we were astounded at how they meekly took our word as to how to teach English. The head of the English department at the national normal college, a member of the party who had just come from a meeting with Mao Tze-tung, declared that their program was "practically the same as Yenching's". He admitted, however, that this was a dream rather than a reality for them, as they didn't have Yenching's resources. I just found out yesterday that Tsinghua University has posted our program in their department for all the professors to study. And they have asked that the next meeting of the joint Western Languages Departments be held on our campus. As to the students, of the 106 new students we admitted at the end of March, thirty-five wanted to major in English. Our department is now the second largest in the university.

But we can not carry on with this lovely program, which looks so well on paper, if we don't have the Wellesley money for next year. We are counting on it for salaries. Not only Mrs. Hughes and Yang Yueh-min, but we have a most brilliant girl graduating this year, Chang Ching-yu, whom we need desperately for required courses and to assist in the teaching methods course. Her English is practically perfect. She was a delegate to the World's Christian Student Conference in Stockholm last year. Now she is being besieged by government officials to go into language work for the government. We can not keep her unless we have the Wellesley money for her salary. We need the money for our books and printing. We can not get out our new text-books or continue printing our tests without the Wellesley fund. We need it, also, for keeping up all the new audio-visual equipment. It is a wonderful thing to have, but it needs an endowment to keep it useful. So, you see, all our opportunities for keeping the head under this new regime will be sacrificed if we don't have the Wellesley money.

You may easily say, however, why keep on at all? You may well ask whether there is any sense in sending Wellesley money to an English Department in communist occupied China. If I had had to write you in January, I would have been very doubtful, if not discouraging, about the answer. Then everything was in turmoil, and there was no telling as to what place a private university would have in the new set up, or how the students would react to foreign teachers. But now we are just finishing the most constructive term we have had since I came back to China in 1946. The students have worked hard and earnestly, and seem to realize that their contribution to the new society is to get all they can from the university, not waste time in strikes and disturbances.

Also, of course, there is Christianity which transcends all politics and national differences, and our first loyalty is to this in China, America, or anywhere else. So the Chinese and American Christians here need now to go on more than ever working for the Christian way of life, which will bring peace and unity to the world. That's why we are staying here.

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Do forgive me for this long, boring report. You will acknowledge, won't you, that I don't burden you with many letters. But when I do write, by heck, I burst into the ten volume saga type of stuff.

How are you? Do you ever see Marnie Speer? We have had no word from America since the 29th of March, and feel very much cut off. It makes life rather confined, and fosters a tendency to stew in our own juices, a fact which I am sure you will perceive by this letter.

Thank you so very much for everything. I suddenly realized that in the whole of this letter I haven't said "Thank you" for keeping our lives going for us. Well, it's almost like thanking our fathers and mothers for feeding, clothing, and educating us, just something you can't express.

With all sorts of good wishes. Do write me when you have time, if you can.

Yours most gratefully,

/s/ Nancy Cochran

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Hinkley
Zensheng

Y.W.C.A. 87 Heng Yang Road
Taipei, Formosa (Taiwan)
June 15, 1949

Beloved friends so far away-

At least you all seem far, far away from me just now!! I feel almost as isolated from the rest of the world as I did when I was in concentration camp. It's been weeks since our last Shanghai newspaper arrived. In desperation the other day, I bought a small second hand short-wave radio. 'Twas a lucky find for they are scarce and precious here! A wire stretched fantastically high above the kitchen roof (the workman's idea, not mine- I'm in a front upstairs room of a mission house) serves as an aerial, and now I hear "The Voice of America" in the evening, so at least I know what is happening in Berlin, something of the Paris Conference, etc., and hear news of the communists' progress on China's mainland!! With the fall of Shanghai we seemed suddenly shut off from the world, for our news, mail, etc. largely came via Shanghai. However, the way via Hongkong is still open and I must get a letter off to you before that too is closed!

I'm feeling very contrite for I know many of you are picturing me shut up in Shanghai and are wondering what is happening to our group there. I'm uneasy about them too, but from all we can hear - things are tending towards a quasi normal, food is being brought into the city and already foreign boats have been permitted to land and transfer freight, people and mail. But since Formosa is now a stronghold of the Nationalists - we are under strict martial law and held absolutely excommunicado - no planes, no mail, no nothing!! except the prospect of an explosion in the not too distant future! The island is literally an arsenal- shiploads of munitions have been brought in, all the Nationalist air-force was moved over including families. There are thousands and thousands of soldiers from the mainland stranded here, poorly clad, poorly fed, just poor country lads, wandering around dazed - unkempt. Many of the schools and some of the churches on the island have been commandeered for the troops and now they are beginning to quarter them on the people - each family being required to house and feed at least two, no matter how small their quarters. There is petty pilfering and many incidents, as anti-mainland feeling mounts. It's pathetic for at the end of World War II, the Formosians welcomed the Chinese Nationalist army which took over and the Chinese government - they had been released and returned to their native land after fifty years of captivity! There was rejoicing and singing everywhere. The people are very musical, but during the war they had not sung. Now they sung in an utter abandonment of joy! But their joy has turned to ashes! The island has been exploited by corrupt nationalist government officials. There was one regrettable purge of many of the outstanding native leaders and they have found themselves as truly occupied as under the Japanese militarists. The communists warn us that they will be here by October! There are many rumors afloat, prompted by wishful thinking no doubt, that America under UN will intervene and Formosa will become a part of the present Japan regime. We are anxiously interrogated almost daily by our Formosian friends - they feel so certain that we know more than they about what is actually happening and they long for a bit of reassurance.

Taiwan is overflowing with China's officialdom. Just before the fall of Nanking and Shanghai, planes shuttled back and forth between Formosa and Shanghai, day and night, - a sort of miniature Berlin airlift, - only this time the airlift brought the wealthy, their possessions and their hoardings, even furniture! Soldiers came- thousands on small boats, packed in like sardines! Prices have soared and supplies are inadequate. Exchange

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on foreign currency has lagged far behind. The officials brought over their hoards of ill-gotten gains- much of it in American currency- which they use freely in order to secure what they want. The market is flooded with money, and prices have reacted accordingly- a tin of evaporated milk is 75¢ and a pound of Klim- \$2, US currency!

I realize to my chagrin how long it is since many of you have heard from me, for in my letter folder there are several unfinished attempts at a general letter! Each time there was a crisis or a particularly exciting event in our kaleidoscopic existence in Shanghai, I would start a letter thinking a bit of interpretation from our side of the big pond would be welcome. But the demands of our everydays pressed hard and the letters were never finished. I thought I might patch them together in a sort of crazy-quilt letter, but so much has happened since that most of it doesn't seem worth telling now! During the past year there have been mountain peaks of despair, terrorism, inflation, migrations, lack of food, evacuations, but the peaks have somehow been leveled in perspective and have become a part of the landscape of the past!

Well I remember the days last Fall when often the servant would return from the market with an empty basket or only a bit of green vegetable for our day's food supply! Fortunately we had some stores on hand! Perhaps later in the day she would slip out and return with a bit of meat or a chicken hidden in a cloth bag. We gladly paid the extra cost and asked no questions! 'Twas during the period following the much heralded currency reform in August. Prices were drastically controlled, farmers did not want the new "Gold Yuan", in which they had no faith, so the food markets were bare! The tragedy of that episode was that the people were forced to surrender all gold, silver and foreign currency, which was being kept by many families as security against rife inflation. This impoverished and largely wiped out China's middle class. Scores of my friends lost their all. 'Twas a willing patriotic act on the part of many, who hoped that the government might be able to stabilize the country's economic life. Others, driven by fear parted with their savings. Informers reporting hidden funds were highly rewarded even up to 40% of the money discovered. Punishment was confiscation, imprisonment and even death. China's top families were not hit for most of their holdings of gold and foreign currencies were abroad!

Our City YWCA's almost without exception were impoverished. All savings, the money for the year's budget and in some cases building funds were held in gold bar or American currency, all of which had to be surrendered in exchange for "Gold Yuan". Within a few months a sweep of uncontrollable inflation, in spite of drastic measures, made the new money almost worthless. Local YWCA's have had to have help, they and their constituency alike having been impoverished. Thanks to the American National YWCA's generous allocation from its Reconstruction Fund, this has been made possible and work is being continued at a time when it is so tragically needed.

Fearing that my having American money might endanger my colleagues, - I, too, turned in what I had on hand- about three months' salary. I received four GY for each dollar. Then you can imagine my consternation when I suddenly found myself in possession of ten 10-oz. bars of gold! A girl whom I had known in Peiping came to see me and as she was leaving she thrust a small but surprisingly heavy bundle into my hand, saying it was gold she wanted me to keep for her, as she was returning to Peiping on the morning plane and dared not take it with her, for they were sure to be searched. I refused to take it and explained I had turned in all my US Currency and did not dare keep gold in the house. In spite of my protests, she shoved the package inside the door and was gone! What was I to do! I dared not tell my

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housemates! I spent a sleepless night trying to think of some hole in the wall or cupboards where I might hide it. In the end, I found that the bars fitted easily into a Mennen's Talcum can- I emptied two of them- wrapped the bars and put them in- and fitted the lids back on. Then I put the cans in my box of soap and toilet supplies. There were other tins of talcum. It would be all right if no one picked them up, when and if they should go thru my things. We had been warned that houses would be searched when the census was taken the following month!All ended happily- we were not searched, nobody asked any questions, and noone knew until months after the ban had been lifted of my golden hoard! The girl finally returned to Shanghai and claimed her store of gold shortly before I came to Formosa. She was lucky!!

Before I had used up the Chinese currency I had obtained when I turned in my American money, its value had dropped to 180 GY to one US dollar! I spent it recklessly to get rid of it! But a sense of security was mine, for I knew that my salary would continue to be paid in American dollars, - but what of my Chinese friends! What of the millions in China who had surrendered all their savings, their security!! There were no future American dollars for them! People bought frantically anything they could purchase with the money they had been forced to accept: food supplies, oil, cloth, silk, shoes, jewelry, anything they considered stable. Stocks were depleted and shop shelves were empty! I shall never forget one night in December - a vivid picture of human misery. I kept hearing at intervals late in the evening, distant rumblings as of an angry restless crowd. Finally it seemed to draw much nearer, I looked out of the back window of my room, which overlooks the Jewish synagogue back of our YWCA building. In a break between the shrubbery one gets a view of a portion of the next street which reminds one of a theater stage, with its shop fronts and small balconies above, lighted with low street lights, - very much like a backdrop of a street scene. There I saw mobs of people moving slowly across the "stage" in a drab drenching rain, sullen and hopeless - driven on by mounted police. Poor suffering humanity- the thought of them haunted me all the night. I thought they must be refugees from the fighting areas but wondered why there were no small children. The next morning I learned they had gathered outside the National Central Bank Building to await the opening of the Bank the next morning, when the government had promised that each person might buy back one ounce of gold at a very reasonable rate by depositing a like amount in the bank to be drawn out after one year. These poor people eager for even one ounce of security had been driven off the streets!!

When the drastic control measures were lifted - inflation literally "hit heaven", as one person expressed it! In order to keep ahead of inflation, joss money to be burned at funerals - for use of the dead in the next world- was printed as high as a hundred billion dollar notes! And why not!!!

Soon after came the great influx of missionaries from North China, as the turn-over of Peiping, Tientsin, Nanking and other cities seemed imminent. The entrance and hallways of the Missions Building were piled high with baggage. The sharp warnings of the American consul "to go home or take the consequences" startled many into action. There were many from Peiping and many I had known in Concentration Camp. Some I was surprised were going, but they felt they could not face the possibility of another such experience. For others furlough or retirement was near. There was much alibi-ing and regretting - even some returned to their stations after a few days. Many who did not return home are still waiting, hoping in time to be able to return to their work. Shanghai was full of such when I left, and I found a goodly number here in the different mission stations, teaching a bit of English, studying some language and hoping ultimately to get back- a frustrated group. A small mission "task force" stayed on in the differ-

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ent cities and from what we can learn they have been able to "carry on" quite normally thus far. I wanted terribly to get to Peiping, but the Chinese National YWCA Committee would not consent to my going, since they felt it would be their responsibility if anything untoward happened. I felt I could help there where I have gone through so many crises with our YWCA members and staff. At least I could have helped face the situation with them and worked with them to plot out new paths for our work under the new regime. But instead I stayed on at my job in Shanghai, with its rumblings and rumors and its great crowds of homeless refugees who had drifted into Shanghai from the fighting zones- the sick, aged, starving and crippled wandering about the streets begging for food and money; sleeping at night in the doorways of buildings, and cooking their food over a scrap of fire at the side of the street. How one's heart ached for them!

As many of you know, after my return to China, I was asked to supervise the building of a ninth floor on our National YWCA Building, which was to be used as our National Secretaries' residence. 'Twas an interesting job. I love building projects! But 'twas a peculiarly difficult time to build because of unsettled conditions, the artificial control of imports, the spiraling cost of living, the impossibility of obtaining rice for the workmen during the period of the currency reform when the government attempted to keep exchange and prices fixed under threat of death, and commodities disappeared from the market. We had a patient understanding contractor, who somehow managed to get through a series of strikes and the shortage of rice, and the building was finally finished tho several months later than we had hoped. We moved in before Christmas and had a joyous celebration. 'Twas heaps of fun putting bright chintz cushions and drapes in our sitting room and dining room. The residence provides for twenty secretaries - a truly happy family- after the months and years in crowded unattractive quarters elsewhere!

Last summer for two months, I had the unique experience of being building manager for our National YWCA Building, which is an office building. The YWCA retains the seventh floor for its own use. We have sixty two tenants. 'Twas a baffling job, but I learned a lot about human nature! The government had not permitted rents to be raised since the war, so because of inflation some tenants were paying an equivalent of 5¢ and 10¢ as a monthly rent for their offices. Meanwhile our maintenance expenses had mounted terrifically! 'Twas my job to make new leases and persuade the tenants to agree to pay more as "maintenance", not "rent"!!! Since Shanghai business was dead, this was not a particularly happy suggestion! There was always something the matter with the plumbing, the elevator, the drainage, the lights, etc. - not a dull moment! I came to have a deep understanding sympathy for the regular business manager!

The task I enjoyed most last year was getting out a book of Worship Services for our Chinese YWCA's; and two booklets of plays, worship services and program material for the use of our Associations, one for Christmas and one for Easter. 'Twas an exacting task, and I wrote and rewrote some of the things many times before attempting to have them put into Chinese, which again took time and patience! But there is always joy in creating something, and word of deep appreciation for such material which came from local associations was more than rewarding for all the effort.

I suppose you are wondering what I'm doing in Formosa! I came the last of February on a six-months' assignment to help a group of interested Formosian women here in Taipeh, organize a YWCA. It has been a real adventure - a thrilling job, though difficult! There is a small YMCA here, and their Board of Directors have been very sympathetic with our efforts to get a YWCA launched, for they say a YWCA is really more needed than a YMCA!!!

We used their building for classes and meetings for a couple of months we finally got our own place. The YMCA however, has not been much help setting a pattern. It's a timid organization. Altho it has been functioning for three years, they have not had a finance campaign nor a membership effort. They have some fifty supporting members who contribute to the meager needs of the organization. Most of their money is raised thru class fees.

Though it has been difficult getting started, it's fun to be in on the "beginnings"! The Japanese believed woman's place was in the home to serve the men, and that attitude is still prevalent here! The YWCA is much needed to develop leadership, help raise women's position in the community and enrich their lives. The principal (a man) of one of our Girls' Middle Schools remarked the other day that he thought Mrs. Soo and Mrs. Dew, two of our most active volunteers, were "insane", and when asked what he meant, he said- "Oh, they make speeches in public meetings just as men do. Sane sensible women do not do that." I fear he thinks the YWCA is marring the social pattern! We have a fine group of women on the pre-organization committee, several professors' wives, two women doctors, two bankers' wives and the wives of several well-known business men - favored women of the island. Several of them have been to the Mainland, which is as unique in Formosa as having a college degree! (There are only thirteen girls in the National University here which has an enrollment of over 4000.) Having been educated during the Japanese regime, they have had little experience in group work and community service; and lack initiative for under the Japanese despotic but benevolent government, leadership was always furnished. It was theirs to follow and obey. But they have ability and we have the promise of a splendid Association here. The women got out and raised the money needed for the initial expenses in procuring a building, which wasn't small. They gave generously themselves and enlisted their friends' help!

Finding a building was a real problem. Empty, unused buildings are unknown here! The great influx of people from the Mainland has put a premium on buildings, and often one has to pay more so-called "key-money" - money for the privilege of taking over from the one who has occupied the building previously - than the building is worth! The Japanese held over 80% of the property in the island and this was all taken over by the Chinese government, so most of the occupants are "squatters", and they give up their rights only for a good price! We searched and searched. Buildings reported vacant were ~~vacant~~ ^{never}!! But our efforts were well-rewarded! You can think of us in bright and airy quarters on the second floor of a bank building, in the center of Taipeh's business district - (a perfect location), attractive and very useable! We have our own entrance and stairway! We face a broad street on one side and overlook ~~overlook~~ the large open square in front of the City Auditorium on the other, with its decorative palm trees! Altho we've only been in a month, we are using it to capacity, averaging well over a hundred girls and women daily, who come for activities even in this hot weather- and it is hot - humid, "drippy" and oppressive!!!

Language is a real problem, not only for me, but for our work also. Only Japanese was taught in the schools in the past and only Japanese books were available. Tho compelled to comply in outward formalities and ways of life, the ^{people} still spoke their own dialect in their homes, which is the language of Amoy, across on the Mainland. Their Bibles and hymn books were printed in a Romanized form of the local dialect, but there were no other books in it, and only the Christians were familiar with it. Few of the women can read or write Chinese characters, so our Chinese books are of little use in our YWCA work here. Most materials that we use must be changed to the local dialect and Romanized- a real task in itself!! Of course the schools now use the National Language of China, so work with students is relatively easy. We have large groups of high school girls. Japanese books are now banned, and since most

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women do not read Chinese, they are bereft of reading material- cannot even read the newspapers. It's tragic! Many of them are studying Chinese- our classes in Mandarin are very popular, and certainly needed! During Japanese days the island was flooded with translations of Western books. One of the missionaries was telling me that she found women reading "Gone with the Wind" in Japanese, long before she had seen a copy in English! Now there is nothing they can read!!!

Taipeh is a huge sprawling city with wide, wide streets. In many ways it reminds one of Japan with its Japanese architecture and customs. Formosa is 232 miles long and 92 miles wide, and is said to be one of the richest islands in all the world. It has coal and oil and almost every known mineral available in its mountains. The crops are semi-tropical, chiefly rice, fruit, vegetables and sugar cane. The people are industrious - there should be no want in the land, yet the people look undernourished! The island is beautiful with its wooded mountains and its mineral springs, water falls and mountain streams. We walked up to the far northern border of the city the other evening and crossed the river over a lovely graceful many-tiered bridge. Beyond on the mountain side is a long corridor of stone lanterns leading to a former Shinto Shrine. A huge resort hotel is now being built on the site. The Shrine had been built during the war, and much thought went into its planning - symbolism being used throughout - everything extolling Japan's strength, her mission as conqueror of the world! Much of the labor was actually done by prisoners of war. There is a surprising story of its destruction- almost stranger than fiction! The day the Shrine was to have been dedicated, the plane bearing the high officials who were to participate in the ceremony, dived into the Shrine and burst into flames. The Formosians took heart- to them it was a symbol of defeat for the Japanese - while the military increased their acts of oppression!

I have no words of wisdom about the present situation in China, with which to close my letter! Just now I feel far removed from the scene of action. When I left Shanghai, my friends were saying- "Only a miracle can save us now". To the man in the street, the sky-rocketing of commodity prices and the alarming depreciation of the purchasing value of money was a more dangerous menace than the threatened communist march across the Yangtze River. Now Shanghai has fallen! It is not so much that the communists are winning as that the Nationalists have lost. The Nationalists have failed, have been rejected and they must go! The present civil war is but a continuation of China's social revolution. The Nationalists came into power as a People's movement championing the cause of the rural population and the industrial workers; but has forfeited popular support because of its failure to better the conditions of the masses. Now the communists have fallen heir to this task! Had the truly progressive forces in China been able to organize themselves and so exert a real influence after the end of the War - the situation might be quite different today- and China might have been spared some of the extreme cruelty, violence and wanton destruction of the present conflict. Out here, we dare hope that Communism thru its rapid expansion in China may become so diluted and altered by Chinese inherent individualism and love of freedom that any form of imposed dictatorship may be thrown off. It is possible that gradually a new leadership may emerge - spurred on by the communist challenge- social and economic reforms be implemented. You all know the dark side of the picture- it needs no repeating. At present, the communists- where in power - are showing much leniency. We can only hope the diluting process may be started in time to prevent the iron curtain from irrevocably falling!

Just to remind myself and you that thru and back of all the changes and suffering, there is still the graciousness and love of beauty of old China- I want to share with you a few lines from a letter from the husband of a Peiping friend. He wrote thanking me for some chemistry books I sent him. He is a scientist. 'Twas last fall- he says- "Since 'li-chiu' on August 7, the weather has gradually become cooler and cicadas chirp with broken instead of continuous voices, while chickens begin to sing in the dark evenings as if to persuade autumn to come soon. This is the particular time for remembering friends!"

Has the family has grown up! I was grateful for the Christmas picture! This carries special greetings and all good wishes! Cordially - Vera Winkley.

The it's not Li Chiu - I'm remembering friends today and that includes old Chung friends on Taidong Rd!!

05 14

學 大 京 燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEIPING, CHINA

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y.

June 22, 1949

Dear Friends of Yenching:

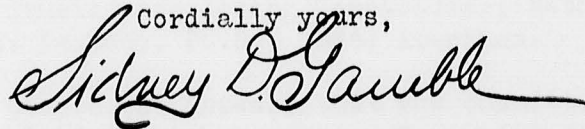
Frequent cables coming from Yenching keep us in close touch with the campus. One dated June 1 reported "Campus peaceful, progressive, uninhibited". Another, received June 10, gives the personnel of the Administrative Committee and requests missionary reinforcements. It is quoted in full on a separate page.

We are glad to see that the senior members of the Administrative Council are Christian. It is very significant that three missionaries are on this Council and that Mission Boards are urged to send out eight new missionaries at once.

On June 14, two checks drawn in Peiping on Yenching's New York account were presented at the bank here for payment. Arrangements have been worked out for the transfer of funds.

Yenching still has an opportunity to carry on its important work. For this all her friends have reason to rejoice. What the future holds, no one can be certain. We are sure, however, that each of you will wish to have a share in this continuing program. It can be of very great significance.

Cordially yours,



Sidney D. Gamble
Chairman, Yenching Committee

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YENCHING SENDS ENCOURAGING CABLE

The following cable from Yenching University, signed by Dr. Bliss Wiant and dated June 10, has just been received;

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSED LUH CHAIRMAN, CYEN, TCWENG, SCYU, AGNES CHEN, LOUISE SAILER, LAPWOOD, WIA NT, ONE JUNIOR FACULTY, ONE STUDENT. CURRICULUM MINOR CHANGES; CONSULTATION BETWEEN FACULTY STUDENTS ON COURSE CONTENTS. FURTHER CHANGES POSSIBLE. ACADEMIC FREEDOM FULLY PROTECTED. MINIMUM EIGHT PROFESSORIAL REPLACEMENTS NEEDED. METHODIST REPLACEMENTS URGENTLY REQUESTED PLEASE CONTACT WILLIAM BAND, URGE IMMEDIATE RETURN. CABLE STOCK, BAND, WINANS REPLACEMENT STAHL DECISIONS. THANKS ENCOURAGING COMING YEAR BUDGET FIGURES.

The following data in regard to the members of the Administrative Committee will be of interest:

- C. W. LUH, Chancellor (Also Professor in the departments of Chinese, education, and psychology); 55 years of age, 18 years with Yenching; Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, also studied at Vanderbilt and Peabody.
- C. Y. YEN, (Sociology), Director of Student Welfare Committee; Yenching graduate.
- T. C. WENG, Professor (History); 42 years of age, 8 years with Yenching; Ph.D. Harvard, 1938; also studied at the University of Paris, Ecole des Langues.
- S. C. YU, Assistant Professor (Chemistry); 37 years of age, 8 years at Yenching; graduate of Yenching, M.S. in 1940.
- AGNES CHEN (CHEN FANG-CHIH), Professor (Political Science); 35 years of age, 10 years with Yenching; Yenching graduate, Ph.D. Bryn Mawr, 1939.
- LOUISE SAILER (MRS. RANDOLPH C.), Lecturer (Western Languages and Religion); Presbyterian, U.S.A., at Yenching 25 years; American.
- RALPH LAPWOOD, Professor (Mathematics); London Mission, at Yenching about 12 years; Ph.D. University of _____ (England) 1948; British.
- BLISS WIA NT, Professor (Music) and Acting Comptroller; Methodist, at Yenching 26 years; Peabody, Ph.D., 1946; American.

From what we know of these people, it appears that the committee should be considered liberal in its thinking but by no means Communist dominated. In 1946, Dr. C. W. Luh argued very strongly for the establishment of a university church on the campus. Mr. C. Y. Yen was leader in the development of the Student Fellowship while he was in college. Dr. T. C. Weng is the son of a pastor and has been active in Christian Fellowship; Mr. S. C. Yu and Dr. Agnes Chen are also thought to be connected with the religious life of the campus. The three Westerners are missionaries; Dr. Lapwood has for many years been active in the Oxford Groups.

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COPY

UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

180 Park Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

23 July 1949

July 3, 1949
Received July 5, 1949

DLT ABCHICOL NEWYORK

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY APPRECIATE EARLY INFORMATION WHETHER PHYSICIST

AVAILABLE MAIE PIANIST MUSICIAN AICCEPTABLE GRADUATED 170 STUDENTS

THIS WEEK FALL SEMESTER OPENS END SEPTEMBER

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UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y.

Tel. WAtkins 9-8703

Cable: ABCHICOL

29 July 1949

Members of the United Board
and Friends of the Christian Colleges

Dear Friends:

This will be an attempt to summarize, for your information, reports that have been received from the Christian Colleges in China since the annual meeting of the Board. These reports have come in cables, letters, and telephone conversations, many of which have been shared with the Trustees and the College Committees concerned. Our policy has been to pass on all information we receive, whether that has been good or bad, unless of an extremely personal or confidential nature. As you are probably aware, it has been almost uniformly good. This fact should not be interpreted as indicating that we are blind to the less happy potentialities in the present situation. While we welcome each additional day in which our colleges can render Christian service to the people of China, we do so with full realization that we know not what the morrow may bring forth.

You may wonder as to the reliability of the reports we have been receiving. Two facts support our conviction that, as yet, no undue pressures are shaping the contents. For one thing, someone who has just returned to this country after months of intimate contact with one of our colleges confirms completely all that has been written or cabled from that institution. For another, certain letters, while generally favorable, have contained sentences and phrases (which we have felt it unwise to quote) that would never have been included had the writer been afraid of censorship. How long this state of affairs may last, we do not know; but we have no reason to doubt its present existence.

Even as this report is being prepared, a new offensive threatens areas still under Nationalist control. It is possible that, before fall, one or more of the China Colleges still in Nationalist territory may have joined the nine already in Communist areas. Here at 150 we are continuing to work for the implementation of the policy adopted by the Board on 17 December 1948, "to continue in every possible way its support of the China Christian Colleges and Universities as long as they are able to remain open and to conduct their educational work in accordance with the basic purpose for which they have been founded and supported."

CONDITIONS IN GENERAL

LAW AND ORDER

The cities in which the colleges are located have come through change of control in better shape than feared. Law and order have generally been quickly re-established and have been maintained ever since. The discipline of the Communist troops has been exemplary. The St. John's and Hangchow campuses are known to have been temporarily occupied (and rumors regarding Shanghai are not too reassuring) but were quickly and

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quietly vacated. There have been no Communist efforts to molest property or to interfere with personnel. There have been few if any serious restrictions on the movements of foreigners within cities, though travel has been impossible until recently. Relations with the new authorities have been friendly. In Nanking, both presidents attended meetings called to consider educational problems; in Peiping, Yen-ching appears to be given much consideration; in Wuchang, President Wei has been able to meet many of the new regime.

COMMUNIST EDUCATIONAL POLICY

There has as yet been no official pronouncement of the educational policy of the new regime. So far it appears that the Christian Colleges are being permitted to carry on without serious change or interference. Courses in Marxian economics are known to have been introduced in certain cases, and it is assumed that they are now a part of the curriculum of each of our institutions in Communist territory.

A recent letter from President Francis Wei (7 June 1949) summarizes his conversations with a local official as follows:

"The first question I cleared up with him, in more-or-less an unofficial way, was that according to the policy of the new government, there will still be room for private schools, and even Christian schools, so long as the schools will conform to government regulations and will not do anything detrimental to the interest of the people or contrary to the policy of the party or of the government.

"Knowing Huachung as he does from his personal experience as a student for four years here, he assured me that there would be every reason for us to believe that Huachung might continue."

Support is given these impressions by word from Nanking. President Wu Yi-fang quotes the Chairman of the Cultural and Educational Commission as saying that "while a few things should be abolished right away, the general problem of educational needs requires thorough study before changes should be made. The five things to be immediately changed are: The Monday Memorial Service, Party Principles, Military Training, Boy Scouts and the Dean of Discipline...He showed a sense of humor when he said that some people thought the education system was devised by the reactionary leaders and must be changed right away. However, he added that the system has been in use more than twenty years and a few months more would not matter." President Y. G. Chen adds that the presidents have been told "to go slow" in making changes. In North China three members of the staff of Yen-ching University have been appointed to the twenty-man commission which is to formulate the educational policy of the new regime.

FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

The impression gained from all reports is that the staffs have been loyal to their institutions and have formented relatively little trouble. There has been a tendency on the part of the younger staff to look for an improvement of their positions relative to the professorial group, but indications are that there has been little fundamental change.

The administrative pattern that is taking shape is of administrative committees on which the lower teaching ranks, clerks, students, and sometimes workmen, have representation. At Yen-ching, the Committee consists of seven professors, one junior instructor, and one student, under the chairmanship of Dr. C. W. Luh. At Hangchow and Cheeloo (Hangchow) there are two representatives from each of the following groups:

administration, professors, instructors, clerks, students, and laborers. In the case of the University of Nanking, representatives of the following "unions" -- professors, instructors, clerks, and servants -- "have been invited to attend some of the administrative committees."

The new salary scales which were announced in June follow very closely the relationships formerly in force, though they are generally lower than those of the University of Nanking and Ginling and are consequently much lower than those at Yenching and Huachung. In the North they are based on millet; elsewhere on rice. What they amount to in U. S. dollars depends on the rate of exchange.

STUDENTS

In view of the fact that the new regime was apparently encouraging student participation in affairs, and in view of the restlessness of many students, there has been considerable concern as to what the students might do. Events have fitted into this picture, though they have not, in most cases, proved as serious as feared. At the time of the turn-overs, students took part in welcoming the victors and aided in propaganda work for the new regime. They then turned their attention to the removal of undesirable features of their institutions. A few illustrations will indicate what that meant.

President Wu describes the agitation at Ginling as follows:

"Most of these suggestions or opinions voiced the students' desire for the abolition of such things as the office of the Dean of Discipline, the English comprehensive tests, roll call at classes and reduction of credits for over-cuts, changing into gym suits for P. E. classes. They asked that the required four hours a week of gym classes be reduced to two hours for freshmen and sophomores, that there be less required reference reading in English and that the discussion method be used more in class instead of lectures.... It was after the University of Nanking students demanded the organization of a governing body consisting of equal representation of teachers, staff, students and servants that I received a letter from our student body on Sunday afternoon, May 29th, asking for the same thing.... We have had meetings with the students and it came out that the majority of them complained that the officers had not kept the whole student body informed of the decisions of the administration and that in certain instances the officers had acted as if representing the entire student body without consulting them. The faculty had known of this situation and they knew that it was only about a dozen students who were the active agitators but we are glad now that the students themselves have brought this out into the open."

President Wei reports agitation at Huachung as follows:

"The students are slowly settling down to their work, but during the last week we had quite a bit of uneasiness. At first, the Students' Self-Government and the Senior Class petitioned the faculty to abolish the intermediate examinations, which are peculiar to Huachung in this country and are required of sophomores at the end of the second year before promotion to the Junior Class and the final examinations for the degrees which we started way back in 1931 before the old government required them of all colleges, which it did with the year 1938. At first the faculty made some modifications as to these requirements, which the students did not accept, and then the commotion on the campus became worse--so much so that beginning with Wednesday morning the Senior students started a strike and refused to go to classes whereas the other students went on with their work as usual. There was quite a bit of opposition between the Senior Class and the other students. Petitions came to the faculty again. The decision made by the faculty was to have the term examinations for the Sophomores

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and the Seniors at the same time as the other classes; to suspend for this year 1949 the intermediate examinations until we are able to clarify the whole question of examinations with the new government; and also to postpone the final examinations for the degrees until a later date when clarification of the question has been made with the new educational authorities in this center."

In certain cases, student action appears to have been more serious, as at Soochow Law School, but we do not have adequate details to say more. On the other hand, it has been reported that the authorities have definitely discouraged excesses. In one case, when the students complained about examinations, they were told that there would be more rather than fewer under the new dispensation. In another, the administration was ordered to hold final examinations at the usual time.

Many students have left to join People's Government Training Schools (two-month courses) and to serve at once in propaganda work. Those who remain will probably all undergo short periods of instruction in the "New Democracy."

Obviously the events of the past few months have not been conducive to concentration on studies, and the year's work can hardly have been up to standard. The attraction of outside activities connected with the desire to demonstrate sympathy with the new regime continues to interfere with orderly schedules.

WESTERN PERSONNEL

Requests for the return of Western personnel or the sending out of new have come from Nanking, St. John's and Yenching. The military authorities in Nanking are quoted as stating that "while they are definitely against American imperialism they are not concerned with individual U. S. citizens because the American people are friendly toward the Chinese and as long as American citizens are not against the Communist regime they are welcome to stay on in China."

President Wei reports on a conversation with an official in the Wuhan area by saying, "It seems to be quite clear that so long as the westerners on our faculty and staff have no political connections with governments abroad and have no intention of doing anything detrimental to the interests of the Chinese people or in opposition to the policy of the new government, they are welcome to contribute their services to Education, Medicine, and Social Work. Missionaries, of course are free to carry on their evangelical work as such without any political motive." The requests from Yenching suggest that this same policy holds in the North. Yenching reports that there has been no effort to keep foreigners in the background, and three Westerners are on the Administrative Committee. There have been requests for Western personnel for the fall term from two institutions. President Wei doubts the ease of securing an entrance permit, but the requests from others suggest some understanding in those cases. The most serious problem is that of passports. We have been given reason to hope that passports will be granted to "essential personnel for the Christian Colleges." We are now looking, in cooperation with Mission Boards, for suitable people to send, believing that advantage must be taken of any openings.

FINANCES

The chief problem facing institutional treasurers has been that of securing adequate cash to pay salaries and cover other current expenses. Even before the turnover there was a shortage of currency, the old gold yuan having become practically worthless and silver dollars, the most desirable form of wealth, being inadequate in quantity. There were times when that item, normally worth about half a U.S. dollar,

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cost considerably more than one greenback.

Wherever the Communists took over, there was an unavoidable delay in setting up the machinery for handling foreign exchange. During those days some institutions lived on commodities accumulated for such an emergency, some sold carefully hoarded gold bars, some borrowed from the new authorities, and some simply delayed payments.

So far as we know, it is now possible for all of the colleges to take advantage of the means for transfer of funds which the United Board prepared for the present situation. Checks on New York accounts have been coming in of late, indicating that it is now possible for the colleges to sell drafts as needed. Quotations from two letters from Miss Elsie Priest, Treasurer of Ginling and the University of Nanking, make the situation vivid. "The silver dollar is still supreme. The people as a whole have been very slow to accept the Jen Min Pih and if you ask the price of even an egg on the street, it is quoted in silver dollars. I think it may take a long time for confidence to come in the new currency. We operate our old bank accounts now converted into the new money.... When it comes to financial reports - we have had to deal in five different types of money this year and to attempt to strike any balance between the reports gives a very weird result."

"Hongkong checks and money became impossible to negotiate - not acceptable at all, but New York checks and drafts were in order and accepted. The rate in Nanking and Shanghai differs, but we have an arrangement now to sell in Shanghai and accept the proceeds less 1%, and usually we can secure almost instant credit this way. It is working out quite satisfactorily."

What these US\$ will buy remain to be seen. Apparently serious inflation is developing, and we do not know how well exchange rates will keep pace. However, this situation is nothing new, being that which we have faced for many years.

In this connection, President Wei quotes an official as saying that "funds contributed to our support by private individuals or groups abroad in America or in England would be permitted so long as there is no political connection or motive in contributing those funds to our educational work here."

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Official statements in regard to religious freedom have naturally been received with reservations, though they seem to be accepted by many people in China. President Wei writes: "The Government stands on the principles of Religious Liberty, and therefore there would be no interference with religious activities on the campus. Our friend was not able to assure me whether religious courses would be permitted inside the curriculum. Perhaps they will have to be extracurricular. This, if true, will not interfere with our theological courses, as they have been given in Huachung in addition to the requirements for graduation from the University." A discordant note has been struck by Tsinan, from which comes word that, "We have had numerous intimations that the new government will not permit religious training, or a church, within a university."

So far practice gives rise to optimism. From almost all centers come reports of continued and uninterrupted religious activities. A few quotations will illustrate. Dr. Bliss Wiant reports: "So far there have been no limitations upon the Christian activities of our campus. We are peculiarly free of any restrictions. Our chapel services have continued as of yore with a little decrease in attendance. The social service aspects of the Christian Fellowship have grown in intensity and have demanded the respect of all."

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Dr. Wei writes from Huachung: "One thing is very remarkable and encouraging. During the week beginning with Sunday, May 15, we had the Sunday services as usual on the 15th, no Morning Chapel on Monday because it was the day for the weekly assembly, which was conducted quite peacefully and calmly in spite of all the uncertainties and anxieties of that day, and because of the student activities in the city there were no Morning Chapel services on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday the students themselves got together and conducted Evening Prayer with an attendance of over 50. The same thing happened on Friday, and the attendance was over 80, including some teachers who had been able to get the notice. Saturday evening the students asked me to conduct a service for them in the Music Studio. Again, between 80 and 90 people turned up, and I spoke on my own religious experience, and my message was quite well received. Following that, the students had a discussion on the Christian Faith, which was a continuation of the discussion during the previous two-three weeks. There seems to be an urge on the part of the students for our regular religious activities. When the regular Morning Chapel was resumed on Wednesday morning, May 25, (Tuesday morning was a holiday), the attendance was much larger than ordinary times during this particular period of the academic year. The attendance kept up through the whole week, and even this morning, the first morning Chapel of the week, we had the same attendance."

INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTIONS

CHEELOO

Cheeloo-in-Tsinan reorganized its local administrative committee under "Acting President for Tsinan," D. L. Yang. Otherwise there has been little interference with internal affairs. At last writing (May 8) the campus was still being shared with a Communist institution. A note of growing discouragement has been noted in letters. Cheeloo-in-Hangchow come through some rather tense days successfully and has carried on under a re-organized University Council of twelve members representing all grades of the staff, and with two student members. School closed June 20th with about 155 students in residence. Cheeloo-in-Poochow has so far remained comparatively unaffected by developments in China and graduated over 16 doctors on June 27th. President Wu started for Tsinan in May but was delayed in Tsingtao until that city was liberated. It is believed that he is in Tsinan arranging for return of the other units of the University. The plan is to open classes for all years in the fall.

FUKIEN

The University has completed the academic year successfully in spite of serious troubles. The Administrative Committee headed by Dean David Chong has done an outstanding piece of work in handling student and labor problems and in winning the confidence and cooperation of the staff. It will probably carry on for the present. A summer session has been started as a wise way of keeping faculty and students occupied during what is in some ways a period of waiting. The University has been badly hit by the loss of Dr. and Mrs. Scott, who are coming home because of his health, and of Miss Eunice Thomas, who is retiring this summer.

HANGCHOW

Hangchow had a few tense days connected with the turn-over, but no one on the campus was injured. Nearly 50% of the students went home during the crisis, but some 150 later returned to complete the year's work. About 140 students left to enter the People's Government Training School. As of mid-June there were about 400 students preparing for the final examinations scheduled for that week. An Administrative Committee

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has been set up, composed of 2 professors, 2 instructors, 2 students, 2 servants, and 2 office workers. Mr. Ho Wei-tsung, a leading member of the Board of Directors and an elder in the College Church, was appointed Chairman. President Li tendered his resignation, which was not accepted by the Directors. Instead, he has been granted a year's leave, long overdue after eleven very trying years.

HUACHUNG

Huachung came undamaged through the turn-over on May 17th. Classes were suspended to permit the students to "explain to the people the principles of the new government," but resumed on the 23rd. There has been no change in the administration. Term examinations began June 14th, and the school year ended June 25th. Students were to be permitted to stay in the hostels during the summer. Two hostels were being turned over for the quartering of Communist students.

HEA HAN

A letter from President Lucy Wang, dated July 7, tells of her recovery and reports that she will be back at her post in August. Dr. Patricia Yue is acting for her temporarily. Dr. Doris Hsu, who has served so ably and loyally as Acting President, is in Hong Kong on her way to this country for a year of refreshment. Dr. Violet Wu is serving as Dean while she is away. Commencement was held at the usual time, with 27 graduates. In order to protect the campus, a majority of the faculty and a group of students cut off from their homes are staying through the summer.

LINGNAN

While the political pot boils and Canton is bursting with refugees, Lingnan has been relatively unaffected. The first summer session ended July 4th; the second was due to start the 20th. Entrance examinations for the fall term were held in Canton and Hong Kong the weekend of the 9th. The new year is scheduled to begin August 29th. President S. C. Chen wrote on June 4th: "The spirit in which the faculty, staff, and students are facing the future is strong, and we believe that the Christian spirit of Lingnan will find continuing opportunity for expression and growth."

GINLING

Ginling came through the turn-over without damage. Classes were suspended for only one day, and college work has gone on regularly. There has been no change in the administration, Dr. Wu continues her leadership. Restlessness on the part of a few students and certain members of the staff has not prevented peaceful completion of the year's work. Baccalaureate was to be held on June 26th and Commencement on the following day. Efforts are being made to keep the plant occupied during the summer, and plans are for regular opening in the fall.

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

President Chen remained with the university through the turn-over and continues as head of the administration. Though the various groups on the campus--professors, instructors, clerks, servants--have formed unions, there have been no drastic changes. Representatives have been invited to attend some of the administrative committees. The new chairman of the Student Self-Government is, strangely enough, relatively conservative.

Enrolment during the spring semester was 850. Between 50 and 60 students left to join the army for political work. Commencement was scheduled for June 20th, with 61

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out of the 95 seniors expected to be able to complete their work in time.

ST. JOHN'S

Although St. John's suffered considerable damage during the fight for Shanghai, it continues to operate under its regular administration, with some participation by student committees. Damage to buildings was chiefly from detonation of a near-by bridge, which broke some 2000 window panes, and from rifle fire. Classes, which were suspended before the battle, reconvened for summer school on June 13th. The Communist troops which occupied the campus moved out as promised.

SOOCHOW

Detailed word from Soochow is lacking but the University appears to have carried on almost without interruption. Drs. Hance and Dyson plan to come home this summer; the latter hopes to return with Mrs. Dyson next winter.

It is reported that the Law School in Shanghai faces a doubtful future. Classes were suspended because of disruption by students, and it is not known whether they have been resumed. This development, if true, is not unexpected, because of the character of the institution.

WEST CHINA

The year 1948-49 has been an unusually quiet one in West China. The University closed June 28th as scheduled. The only unpleasant feature of the closing was the failure of all but one hundred students to take their examinations. This was a result of the National University's doing away with final examinations because of lack of funds. West China students, however, have agreed to take Supplemental Examinations two weeks before the opening of the fall term. Registration for Entrance Examinations began July 1st. Four thousand students were expected to take the examinations in Chengtu and Chungking around the middle of the month.

The University reports a 15% cut in personnel, which added to last year's 10% cut, makes a total cut of 25% in two years. Though there is still need for retrenchment, this is encouraging progress. President Fong and Vice-Chancellor Lindsay have been re-elected for the coming year. Emergency plans have been made for any "interim crisis", and a special policy committee has been appointed to continue preparations for possible eventualities.

YENCHING

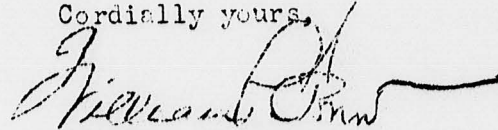
Reports from Yenching continue optimistic and hopeful. Perhaps the clearest indication of their hopes for the future are the repeated requests for western personnel to be sent out in time for the fall term. The appointment of three Yenching people to the new National Education Board leads the people there to hope that they can contribute effectively to the development of the educational policy and program of the new regime. The future of the School of Religion is being discussed, and there is hope of at least temporary continuation. A recent cable from Dean Chao requesting the early return of Prof. David Fang, who has been studying at Union, supports this belief.

The University lost some two hundred students, most of whom left to take an active part in the work of the new regime, but filled most of the gaps with transfers from other institutions. One hundred and seventy students were graduated at the end of June. Plans for the fall call for an enrolment of 950, of whom 450 will be new students.

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This has turned out to be longer than expected, but so much has happened during the past two or three months that it has proved difficult to present the facts much more concisely. We are planning to send you another summary of developments some time in September.

Cordially yours,

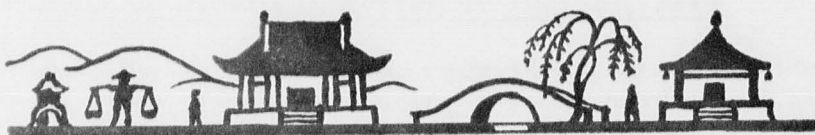


William P. Fenn

Associate Executive Secretary

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Grace M. Boynton
Yenching University
Peking West
North China
July 29, 1949

Dear Friends at Home:

My last general letter was written on March 31 and described our situation immediately after liberation. I was then living on campus, and beginning work under the control of the new order. I was already aware that Yenching was probably to receive very favorable treatment, and now that six months have passed since the Siege of Peking, I can bear witness to a continuation of the experience which aroused surprise and gratitude at its beginning. Yenching went through to Commencement on July 2 without incident. After graduation, our students went on to take the course in political indoctrination which is required of everyone before beginning work. No one can get a job who has not been in attendance upon the government program of instruction, although no one, so far as I know is under pressure to accept the views expounded. Here on our campus, the members of the faculty are organizing themselves into study-groups and are reading and discussing the speeches of Mao Tze Tung and certain materials from the writings of Marx, Lenin, and Stalin. I am myself beginning with the study group for foreigners, and perhaps in my next letter I can tell you more about my impressions of the theoretical side of our new regime. In this letter I believe I shall tell you what I can about concrete details connected with it.

A new spirit is abroad and is especially noticeable among students. It is calling upon them for the complete sacrifice of their physical comfort, personal security and above all for the giving up of their prestige as educated people. The government is in great need of workers who will follow the armies and educate the people and help in the organization of the new society. They called for volunteers to be trained for such work and hundreds responded, among them about seventy Yenching students. Their training began with sleeping on the floor of the dormitory where they were housed, with eating only two meals a day.. nourishing but monotonous, and being given eight hours of intensive book work, the remainder of their day organized in recreation and exercise. The whole time they were under a very strict discipline. And they have accepted the regime with joy. Today they were marched to the railroad station to wait for a train which is to take them south; it began to rain, and the train did not arrive. They remained without shelter in the wet, for the station has no train shed and the little platform could not begin to protect the hundreds in ranks. I was told that they must remain where they were..even sleep by the tracks.. I don't know when they finally got off, but the students who were not chosen to go are envious of those who are subjected to this sort of ordeal. In the past I have known individuals who were prepared to make such sacrifices, but I have never before seen hundreds imbued with such devotion. The look in the young faces is a thing to ponder...and as I look, I feel that much good must come from it. Whether there must also come a bitter disillusionment, no one can say.

It is this new devotion, this willingness to suffer in service to the people which is constantly before me, and which I should like to keep before you as I go on with the small events of my personal experience, which may be of interest to you. I told you that one of our own graduates, a dear former student of mine, came to me as soon as the siege was over. She is among those who have been members of the Party for many years. In 1938, when she was in dangerous underground work, she sent her little four-year-old daughter to live with me in my village house. The child was in my care for two years until I returned to America on furlough in 1940, and I had never seen her again. I learned from her mother that she was in a school in Harbin, but would soon come to Peking, where perhaps she might go on with her education. We discussed having her return to my care, and having her study in Yenching Practice Classes under the supervision of our Department of Education. And so, one day a few weeks later, I saw my little girl again. Now she is fifteen years

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old...taller than I am, rosy-faced, and very sweet and gentle in her manner. (I had been afraid of finding a young heyden coming out of her very adventurous and wild experience in the intervening years!) I was charmed, and she remembered me with affection. But when it came to the idea of living in the big campus house with me, and of studying in our safe and quiet world, this child of the revolution mildly but decidedly refused. Her reason? She does not wish to be secure and comfortable. No ivory tower for her! She wished to return to her very harsh living in Harbin and go on to a mastery of the Russian language which she already speaks well. And I? I applauded her, in spite of misgivings on many points... much to the relief of her mother who had a questioning eye upon me. And perhaps my turn will come later. There are no Universities, I believe, in Harbin.

I was sorry to be found by my little girl and her mother in the big campus house, and returned, as soon as I could, to my village home. It was not long before Communist soldiers in great numbers began to move into my part of Haitien and all the people around me had to take them in. At first no one came to my gate, but finally a very polite young officer asked to see me, and said he needed two of my rooms. Everyone else was giving up space, so it seemed fair that I should not be an exception, and after my young officer had installed himself and his office desk and his telephone in my living room, (he registered great approval of a good foreign bed of mine and has that in his working apartment) I found he was in command of all the troops in the vicinity. His young boy-soldier servant has moved into another room, and I accommodate the cook next to my own quarters. So now we have the young Communists and the old missionary going on very peacefully in the same courtyard. My gate is open all day, and many people I don't know come and go; but I can still be quiet in my garden. So far there has been no impertinent intrusion and no meddling with my personal affairs although I am told I am constantly watched. They also add that it doesn't matter what I do; no one takes offence. This seems quite remarkable since my country is increasingly unpopular and regarded as an ally of the Kuo Min Tang. I am the only member of the Yenching faculty living alone outside the campus so I am the only one who has been called upon so far to entertain the comrades. I feel quite distinguished and so far, I am entirely comfortable and happy in the arrangement.

But am I comfortable and happy in viewing the situation as a whole? That is a different matter. My students, who are ready to endure hardships for the sake of teaching the people their new message, are taking them something which is very far from the gospel of Jesus Christ. One girl who turned away from religion in order to join the Party wrote a statement which she entitled "I have found a meaning for my life." And this meaning, while it was full of idealism in many ways, made sorry reading for her missionary friend. I have much searching of soul to do, and I believe the New Order proposes to take a very vigorous hand in the searching. But my problem is not mine alone; it confronts the layman in America as well as the missionary in China. We must do something about it together.

Yours very soberly,

Grace M. Boynton

Miss Boynton is a missionary of the North China Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, stationed in Peiping where she is a teacher at the Yenching University Women's College.

This letter was distributed by the Missions Council, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Mass. Notification of change of address should also mention Miss Boynton's name.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

10 AUGUST 1949

LETTER FROM LOUISE E. SAILER
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

7/13/49

"Tomorrow, two of our Yenching couples, the S. D. Wilsons and the Lucius Porters, are starting back to America--they have reached retirement age--and since sending letters to the States via Hongkong is like tossing them up into the blue and hoping they will land eventually at their destination, I cannot let this opportunity go by to send you word of Yenching, some of its doings and thinkings.

"The school year ended in good shape, Commencement exercises being held on June 28th. We had our Women's College party for the Seniors on the 25th, this year in the form of a simple evening reception in the large room in Miner Hall, instead of the "banquet" of yore. This seemed in keeping with the times, and I think everyone enjoyed herself, in spite of the pouring rain. Dr. Luh first spoke, on the need that young women remember that they are young women, trying not to lose the graces of womanhood even in the midst of the strenuous activity of this new society in China. It was a timely warning, for gray or khaki-colored uniforms that workers for the People's Government all wear tend to make daintiness and beauty and even tidiness seem rather unessential. Then one of the graduates spoke in appreciation of what the Women's College had done for the class through their four years. Speeches over, we had some music - piano and vocal solos from a few of the musical members of the class of 1949, and then, delicious though simple "eats" which, of course, really make a party a party, in America or China!

"A few of the girls soon left, but very, very few. Almost all stayed on till July 10, when the training class for new graduates opened at Tsing Hua, our neighbor university. About two thousand young people from the universities of Peiping and Tientsin will be there for a month, receiving training in the ideology of the new regime. I believe the plan is to have two important lectures a week, by such eminent men as Chou En-Lai, the rest of the time being devoted to discussion of points raised in the lectures. The Communists are certainly masters in techniques of popular education, and I feel sure the month will prove a very interesting one. I would like to attend those classes myself! Some of the Chinese faculty wives are going over, I believe, for a few of the sessions opened especially for visitors, but I fear the presence of Americans would not be welcomed. Those who receive the full month's training will then be considered available for various sorts of positions either under the government or with private concerns.

"Just after Commencement the names of those members of our University community who are members of the Communist Party were announced publicly by a written notice displayed in front of the library. Two of our women students are full members of the Party, and about ten are candidates for membership--almost like novitiates. The number of men students is proportionately larger. Three members of the lower staff are members, including one faculty wife, and two or three more are candidates for membership. To be a member of the Party is to take upon one's shoulders a great deal of responsibility, and signifies a willingness to act at the bidding of the Party. Students are expected to be models in all respects, to study hard, to help in any undertaking that is for the benefit of others, to forget their own interests in devotion to the interests of others, especially the workers. This is a great advance for China, where for centuries the manual worker and the farmer have had little done for them, and where students considered it demeaning to do anything with their hands.

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"Early in the spring a call went out from the government for university and middle school students who would volunteer to leave school, and go into the city for strict training preparatory to being sent south to help take over cities like Hankow and Shanghai. About seventy-five Yenching students responded to the call. The government asked that science students should not leave their studies, since China so desperately needs well-trained scientists, but both the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Public Affairs lost rather heavily. My husband and I were part of the crowd that saw them off one morning at the Yenching gate. They went off in trucks, with a bedding roll each and a very few of their most precious personal possessions; and as those leaving and those staying behind broke into one of the stirring Chinese Communists songs we felt the vitality and the exuberance, as well as the deadly earnestness and the spirit of sacrifice and devotion that is being poured out for China these days by her young sons and daughters. We felt exalted, yet there was a tightness in our throats as they went off, waving and singing.

"Since then, they have been in strict training in the Language School buildings, eating the simplest and coarsest food, sleeping on the floor, three or four in a small room, wearing ill-fitting gray uniforms, studying and discussion and working very hard indeed. They have kept expecting to be sent off at any time, but the weeks have lengthened into months and they have not been able to go because of lack of transportation facilities, lack of food in the south for so many additional mouths, and lack of housing facilities in the crowded southern cities.

"Then suddenly the authorities decided to stop the policy of quartering some of these south-bound groups on the people in Peiping, and, instead, to put them in the buildings where the college students in the corps have been living. This meant moving the students out. Our Yenching campus was selected as the only place that was suitable and the University authorities agreed to do their best to make buildings and other facilities available to them. In less than a week after it had been decided that they could come, they were here, six hundred strong! Of the group, one hundred and twenty were women, and one of our dormitories was assigned to them, the few students left there moving out to one of the other three. The guard of soldiers is downstairs in McBrier Hall, the men occupy one of the men's dormitories and also the top floor of Sage Hall. Special kitchens with large built-in kettles and matting roofs were erected behind the dormitories and all is now in full swing. It is a great pleasure to have our own former students back again with us, and to have a chance to see a little bit of their friends from Tsing Hua, Peking University and the Normal University. They are so busy we see nothing of them except on Sunday, and then only occasionally. After the last long spell of rainy weather the University hedges bloomed with blankets and underwear out to day, and we hear occasional bursts of song, but otherwise we would hardly know there were any visitors in our midst.

"Tomorrow a large group of our regular students leaves for the city for a month's training--a "youth camp", as they call it. Many students could not go home this summer because their homes were too far away and travel was too expensive, or because they live in Nationalist-controlled territory, or because their homes are over-crowded or their mothers and fathers work in institutions and they have no settled homes. These, as well as students who needed to make up credits in summer school, were given permission to stay on the campus. We expected about seventy girls. We will have no more than twelve or fourteen for the next month--all the rest will be taking training.

"We do not know what the prospects are for the fall. Our entrance examinations will be given about the middle of August, here and in Tientsin and in Shanghai. It is probable that no longer will a middle school diploma be required of those who sit for the examinations, but any student who can bring a certificate showing that he completed two of the three years of senior middle school by the end of the academic year 1947-48 and a certificate issued by the organization or institution which he is now serving may be a

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candidate for admission to the University. It is felt that the examinations should be of such a nature that students who have had some working experience will find that that experience will be of help to them rather than a hindrance in tackling the entrance examinations and the college work to which they lead. We aim at a student body of about nine hundred. This will mean about three hundred girls, if past experience can be relied upon. Many of the most active of the middle schools students have already left school in order to work under the government, and this may mean that our student body will on the whole be more conservative in nature than it has been. We hope that as in former years it will represent all shades of social and political opinion, and be a real cross-section of educated Chinese young people.

"More and more the women students are taking an active part in the management of their own affairs. Each dormitory elects its own representative to consult with me regarding all phases of dormitory life, and this group has been more active this year than ever before, arranging for various activities of a social nature, such as musical hours, dormitory libraries of books to read for fun, games to be played during leisure hours, etc., etc. Problems of discipline and behavior they tackle with dispatch, understanding and intelligence. It is up to them to talk with culprits who stay out later than they should, or forget to sign in the black book when they spend the night elsewhere than in the dormitory. Five of the leading women students are in the Student Government organization, each with her own particular duties, and they compare very favorable indeed with the men students in initiative, brains, public spirit and common sense. I especially enjoy this side of my job--dealing with the students in regard to student matters and matters that concern the welfare of the University as a whole.

"Thus far, our health record this year has been good. Last summer we had a crop of appendicitis cases, but this year we have had only two appendectomies. Dr. Li discovered some incipient lung trouble in some of the girls whom she examined before they joined the group preparing to go south, and that made her think she ought to give fluoroscopic examinations to all the women students more often than has been done in the past. Those girls who have any signs of weakness in this regard are assigned to one of the corridors in one of the dormitories, and they eat at a special table, their chopsticks and dishes being boiled after each meal under the watchful eye of one of the infirmary staff. We have had a lot of intestinal disorders due to the coarse food that is eaten, but that is to be expected. On the whole, the girls look healthy, though they do not have the stamina that they had before the war when the standard of living was much higher than it is now.

"We have lost a small group of pre-medical students who decided not to wait to prepare for the PUMC examinations, but to go to the large government medical school in Mukden, in Manchuria, where they can specialize from the beginning, and graduate two years sooner than they would have graduated if they had tried for the more thorough Rockefeller institution. Most of those who left will go into public health in the country, and we all agree that just now China needs those with less thorough training as well as the better trained, just because doctors are so terribly scarce. Another group is working in the city. One of our good friends is assigned to work in the red light district. At first she worked with the prostitutes, but now she is working with the small tradespeople who have no shops, but display their wares along the street. She is having a most interesting experience, and is learning a great deal about society and about human nature. The government realizes that complete reform cannot take place immediately but it is working toward gradual reform, with individuals and small groups. We do fear for the health of these young people who live on such poor food; tuberculosis is always a threat in China, and certainly great care must be exercised if this generation of young people does not fall victim to it in large numbers. We hear that the armies that have gone south are suffering very much indeed from dysentery and malaria--these northerners are not used to the southern climate and ways of living.

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"It is time for me to stop. I hope from this letter you have not gotten the impression that Utopia has arrived in China. All of us realize that that is not so. The leaders of the new regime speak often of the mistakes they have made and of the mistakes they are sure to make in the future, and certainly there are terrific problems ahead, and many of us fear the disillusionment that it seems to us must come. But we are thankful for the hopefulness, and joy, and devotion to China that expresses itself in service of the poor and the uneducated and the needy.

"Warm good wishes to you, each one, from all of us here."

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CONFIDENTIAL

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER DATED 26 AUGUST 1949
FROM DR. ELISS WILSON, YENCHING UNIVERSITY

"The summer days are over and another session is upon us. According to the previous schedule classes will actually start on September 26. We have had to delay this also due to the fact that the government colleges have held their entrance examinations later than usual. We have not held ours before theirs for we did not want to start our examinations.

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"We have had something over 2000 students take our exams in Peking, Tientsin and Shanghai. We will need to admit about 400 to 500 in order to keep our dormitories and run the institution. Formerly we have sought admission. This year the situation is different. We are waiting for the quality of the student body. Again it may not particularly suit us. We will wait and see. The emphasis will be on industrial and scientific training rather than on the social sciences as in the recent past.

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"The government will pay about 25% of our students to pay their board fees but we have DLT FENN ABCHICOL NEWYORK the field of tuition or running expenses. The government schools are to be raised to the extent of about 70% of their students and of

ENROLMENT OVER 900 STOP PREDOMINANT INTEREST PREMEDICINE ENGINEERING
CHEMISTRY ENGLISH STOP MINOR CHANGES CURRICULUM MEETING URGENT NEEDS
ACADEMIC RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FULLY MAINTAINED STOP MAIN DIFFICULTIES
HOUSING LOWER STAFF LOW EXCHANGE STOP HOPE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY INDUSTRIALISTS

"As to HELP ENGINEERING STOP FINE STUDENT FACULTY COOPERATION STOP LUCIUS PORTER
of worship.
YENCHING REPRESENTATIVE IN AMERICA STOP DETAILS FOLLOWING

"As to academic freedom we will enjoy approximately as much under the present regime as we did under the KMT. Students are generally enthusiastic about the new principles of democracy. Thus the tension between the old and the new of the last few years is entirely gone.

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"The officers of administration are deeply grateful for all that the trustees have done to ease our worries and set us free from financial fears. We are so thankful for your attitude of being willing to go with us, every step of the way. This inspires courage and confidence. We want you to know that these splendid acts of devotion have not gone by unnoticed or not appreciated.

"As soon as we can we will send you a copy of the budget for this year."

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CONFIDENTIAL

14 SEPTEMBER 1949

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER DATED 26 AUGUST 1949
FROM DR. BLISS WIAN, YENCHING UNIVERSITY

"The summer days are over and another session is upon us. According to the present schedule classes will actually start on September 26. We have had to delay this year due to the fact that the government colleges have held their entrance examinations later than usual. We dare not hold ours before theirs for we did not want a flood of examinees.

"We have had something over 2000 students take our exams in Peking, Tientsin and Shanghai. We will need to admit about 400 to 500 in order to adequately fill our dormitories and run the institution. Formerly we have chosen one out of ten who have sought admission. This year the situation is different. This may mean a lowering of the quality of the student body. Again it may not particularly mean that. We will wait and see. The emphasis will be on industrial and scientific training rather than on the social sciences as in the recent past.

"The government will help about 25% of our students to pay their board fee but so far we have no promise of help in the field of tuition or running expenses. The government schools are to be helped to the extent of about 70% of their students and of course, free tuition. If a student at Yenching pays the full fees for tuition and room he will have to pay 800 catties of corn or say about \$104,000 local currency which equals about US\$40. This is a comparatively high rate even for Yenching. But if students cannot afford this much they have the option of paying on a second level of approximately US\$25 or of paying whatever they can afford. The last category must apply for special treatment. It is evident that if we are to compete with Tsinghua which is only a mile away that we must have some scholarship aid to offer our students. We hope that we can find that help among our American friends.

"As to religious freedom there will be no change whatever in our schedule of services of worship.

"As to academic freedom we will enjoy approximately as much under the present regime as we did under the KMT. Students are generally enthusiastic about the new freedom and the new principles of democracy. Thus the tension between government and students of the last few years is entirely gone.

"The officers of administration are deeply grateful for all that the Trustees have done to ease our worries and set us free from financial fears. We are so thankful for your attitude of being willing to go with us, every step of the way. This inspires courage and confidence. We want you to know that these splendid acts of devotion have not gone by unnoticed or not appreciated.

"As soon as we can we will send you a copy of the budget for this year."

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CONFIDENTIAL

20 SEPTEMBER 1949

A CABLE DATED 14 SEPTEMBER FROM PRESIDENT C. W. LUH

YEN CHING UNIVERSITY

ENROLMENT (IS) OVER 900. (THE) PREDOMINANT INTEREST (IS IN) PREMEDICINE, ENGINEERING, CHEMISTRY, AND ENGLISH. (THERE HAVE BEEN) MINOR CHANGES (IN THE) CURRICULUM, MEETING URGENT NEEDS. ACADEMIC (AND) RELIGIOUS FREEDOM (HAVE BEEN) FULLY MAINTAINED. (OUR) MAIN DIFFICULTIES (ARE IN) HOUSING (THE) LOWER STAFF AND WITH (THE) LOW EXCHANGE. (WE) HOPE (THAT) GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY AND (THE TIENTSIN) INDUSTRIALISTS (WILL) HELP ENGINEERING. (THERE IS) FINE STUDENT FACULTY COOPERATION. LUCIUS PORTER (IS) YENCHING REPRESENTATIVE IN AMERICA.

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Return to Mrs. Mead

CONFIDENTIAL

21 SEPTEMBER 1949

"FORTNIGHTLY LETTER" FROM YENCHING WOMEN'S COLLEGE

DATED 26 AUGUST 1949

NOTE: This letter comes with the request that it reach the regular mailing list of former "Fortnightly Letters" Dean Louise Sailer of the Women's College has the following to say about the writer:

"I think it would not be amiss for me to tell you a little about the writer. She is Mrs. Martyn Hughes, wife of an Anglican priest who is in Yenching as a representative of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, familiarly known as the "SFG." Mr. Hughes is the son of a former Congregational missionary in south China, though he himself was sent home to England at the age of about seven, for schooling, and so never had a chance to become acquainted with China till he came out after completing his training. He is a young priest, and teaches in our School of Religion and looks after the Anglican students in the University. Mrs. Hughes has had training and experience in the teaching of English and is considered one of the best teachers of literature. She is teaching full-time in our English Department. The Hughes are excellent with students, and their home is always open to their student friends. They are young and gay, and understand youth. They are also excellent actors, and active in our faculty dramatic club, which reads plays every fortnight during term time, the audience consisting of all who wish to come. Mrs. Hughes is an Oxford graduate, with a very marked English accent!"

"Dear Friends,

"It is with great pleasure though some natural shyness that I start to write in this series of 'Fortnightly Letters.' I am shy because I have never seen or met any of you who will read this, but I am pleased at the prospect of so many new acquaintances.

"I noticed as I looked through the files of the 'Fortnightly Letters' that the last one was written at the end of April. The long gap is due not to laziness on our part but to the fact that we are now reduced to an old-fashioned system of communication and reply on the services of the courteous traveller to get letters out of the country.

"Although communication with the outside world has been so greatly curtailed, the last few months have seen the different parts of China, hitherto separated by fighting fronts, become far more accessible to each other, which is one reason why I am writing now, in the middle of the summer vacation, from an almost deserted campus. There are a handful of engineering students taking a vacation course, and a few whose homes are still inaccessible, but at one time there were only fourteen women in the dormitories and these were acting as meal-time hostesses for the men students in the women's dining hall!

"For a little while some University buildings were occupied by a group of 'The Southward Bound Corps' (a group of young people recruited from the Middle Schools and Universities to follow the armies and assist in the reorganisation of cities and countryside after 'liberation'). Many of these people were Yenching students who had left us during the winter, and it was amusing to try to recognise old acquaintances in the drab khaki uniform. They were in the last stages of their training, and in spite of the terribly wet weather were happy to rest a little in the country after four months hard work in the city, before they undertook the long journey south where they would certainly face more hard work under harder conditions.

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"While we at Yenching were entertaining these people and others who came and went in various conferences, our own students had scattered, some to their homes but the majority to various 'camps' organized by the Government for teaching the people new ideas and principles that now govern the greater part of China. These 'study conferences' were really a remarkable phenomenon and the Government deserves credit for having organized a scheme under which all 'intellectuals' from middle school children to University teachers were 'educated' for at least a month in lecture courses and study groups under the leadership of government officials. Perhaps the most interesting of these camps was one at Tsing Hua University (our next door neighbor) where 2,000 University graduates from the Peiping and Tientsin area lived and worked for a month. Many of our students went there with great misgivings, fearing that they would find it difficult to resist the pressure of propaganda. Christians, particularly, were anxious. Our friends came back in their free time on Saturdays and Sundays during the month and we waited anxiously to see what effect the study was having on them.

"Most of our students while they disagreed with some of the things they were told--and they were not afraid to voice their disagreement in their discussion groups--felt that the camp had been beneficial in two ways. In the first place, they now understood the purposes and to some extent the plans of the new government, and knew what fields of service for the people were open to them. Secondly, they were able to meet and to appreciate the point of view and needs of other Chinese students who had had fewer of the material and intellectual advantages which Yenching offers.

"The Christians felt that the Communist criticism of religion was often based on inadequate and false information. One Christian girl from Yenching, on being questioned about her faith, recommended that her questioners should study Christianity more thoroughly. On the other hand many thought that the 'faith' in the principles of the revolution and its leaders on the part of non-Christian young people, and their devotion to the service of their fellow-men were a challenge to Christians to clarify their own beliefs, and to criticise their own way of living. Throughout the month's camp the Christians, in response to this challenge, got up every morning before 5:30 to meet for prayer and meditation.

"One satisfactory result was that after his 'graduation' from the camp every student was offered a job in the civil service or in government-controlled industry. These jobs could be refused, and some preferred to find work privately, but at least no student was faced, as in former years, with the prospect of unemployment. Some people with no particular taste or bent were assigned to general administrative work in various areas, but a real effort was made to fit square pegs into square holes and some girls got very interesting jobs; one music graduate, for instance, is going to select and arrange the music for movies; another's secret, but, she feared, unfulfillable, desire for librarianship was satisfied.

"The fact that all the graduates were going on to camp made our own Commencement ceremonies seem less final than usual. In accordance with the new fashion of austerity and simplicity much of the academic pageantry was banished this year. We in the Women's College, however, felt very proud of our girls, neat in their plain blue dresses; and we thought that, in spite of the absence of caps and gowns, they looked much more academic than their brothers who only achieved a motley array of open-necked shirts and slacks.

"Commencement came as the conclusion of what had seemed a very long semester, especially to a person like myself used to the short terms of England. It was, in fact, the first semester since I came here two years ago that we worked through steadily with a minimum of holidays and no strikes. The atmosphere was peaceful without any of the seething unrest and discontent of the past years, and the majority of the students settled down to regular work. They were encouraged by the government to put their greatest effort into study--the proper business of the student--leaving politics to those whose schooling is over.

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"A few active 'politicians' among the students, however, were not idle and every day from six A. M. till breakfast time the campus was dotted with little groups meeting under their leadership to read the newspapers, discuss important political pronouncements, or sometimes, if the grass was wet or hearts were particularly light, to play games or to dance! As the term drew on towards examinations these occupations changed and one would hear the same leaders earnestly instructing two or three companions in the mystery of phonetics or the subtleties of a frog's physiology, for the politically-minded students--members of the New Democratic Youth Corps--are expected to be leaders in every field of University life.

"Besides these regular early morning meetings there were a host of other meetings which everyone in the University found himself or herself called upon to attend. We no longer met to protest in anger and impotence against this or that action of police or government, instead we tried, in small groups and committees composed both of students and faculty members, to work out plans and programmes for study and life in the coming year. Students were frank in their criticisms and suggestions and a great deal of interesting and fruitful work was done. In future teachers will always be able to reply to criticism of course content or teaching method, 'But this is what you asked for yourselves!' After which no doubt there will be further meetings for mutual criticism and self-improvement!

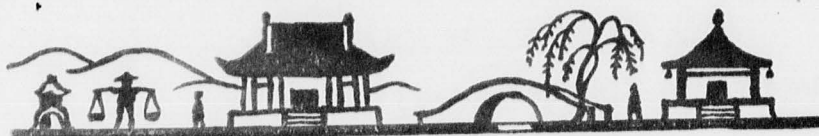
"During the earlier part of the semester the quieter corners of the campus were often disturbed by the laughter and song of students carrying gardening tools on their way to the plots, where, with much enthusiasm, they planted beans, cabbages and tomatoes. Alas! An unexpectedly dry spring and increasing pressure of work as the semester progressed cooled their ardour and the crops harvested did not fulfill the high hopes with which they were planted. The work was not wasted, however, for it gave boys and girls, fretting a little over book work while their contemporaries were actively engaged side by side with peasant and worker in building a new China, a chance to feel that they too shared in the manual work of the masses, and were not incapable because they used their brains of using their hands also. Many, too, discovered that even digging must be done in the right way, and it was good to see a group of young intellectuals actually paying the respect so often talked of to the farmer class in the person of a village lad called from his work of cutting the grass to show them how to handle a hoe and prepare the soil for seed.

"This letter is, I'm afraid, very 'scrappy'--a semester seen from the distance of the summer vacation. To-day, in Peiping, next year's freshmen are taking the entrance examinations and we stand on the brink of the new year. I think, personally, that next semester will continue in the same way as the latter half of last semester, its principal work being the gradual adjusting and settling down under the new regime of both the institution and the individuals in it. The first excitement, the slogan-shouting, singing and dancing that greeted the 'liberation' are over--now the work of Yenching and her students is to find out how best to help all that is good in the new order to establish itself and flourish.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ M. D. Hughes"

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Lucius C. Porter
735 College Street
Beloit, Wisconsin
August 27, 1949

Dear Friends:

In May 1947 I sent you a "Return to the Field" letter. This one must be headed, "Back from the Field." Some of you may be asking why back so soon after only two years at work? There is a two-fold answer.

1. On account of age. Mrs. Porter and I have reached the retiring age limit of both The American Board and of Yenching University. To be sure we have never felt better, and no two years of our service have been such enjoyable working years; we've been busier and happier in the busyness than ever before. It has been fun to help the youth of China prepare to become creative citizens in the China of the future. BUT reaching sixty-nine years puts a period, and quite properly, to formal activities; it is wise to have younger substitutes take over, before one has continued to the point of being a nuisance.

2. The second reason for leaving is that we ourselves, and all our Chinese colleagues, feel that we can really be of more service to the Chinese and to China in this coming year by being in the United States helping people to understand what has happened in China, and how the bulk of Chinese students, intellectuals, and informed Chinese feel about what has happened.

Let me try then to make a brief statement as to what HAS happened in China. The armies under Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, which you call Communist armies, call themselves "The People's Liberation Armies," with the number system usual in all armies. It was the XIII Army that "liberated" Yenching and Peiping. These armies in the years since VJ day have overcome the Nationalist Armies in Manchuria and in various other parts of China. After taking Mukden, in Manchuria, they swept down within the Great Wall and have now seized practically all of the eastern half of China. Canton will soon fall. Just as a matter of fact there is no force in China that can resist these armies. Their ultimate control of the whole of China seems inevitable, and must be accepted, whether one likes it or not, as accomplished fact. To this fact of the control of China by the People's Government of Mao Tse-tung and his associates the other nations and peoples of the world must adjust themselves and their policies. To me this sweep of the People's Armies over China is one more act in the great drama of revolution that has been enacted by the Chinese since the Boxer Movement of 1900, and even before that. One can name earlier stages in that revolution - Boxer movement, Sun Yat-sen's revolution of 1911, overthrow of Yuan Shih-k'ai's imperial ambitions, overthrow of the War-lord system, the Student Movement of 1919, Dr. Sun's revolutionary government in Canton, with Chiang Kai-shek's campaign north and the eventual unification of China under the Kuomintang. In each case the revolutionary spirit has gone a little deeper into the life of the people, permeating from the more intellectual and progressive foreign trained leaders to students generally and on to influence some of the labor and peasant classes. Now a movement specifically based on these classes, and one that has won the support and devotion of many of them, is accomplishing another stage in the tremendous task of modernizing the millions of China and bringing them to share in the development of their nation. We may regret that the leadership of this stage of the revolution is inspired by the teaching of Karl Marx and the example of Soviet Russia. We may regret that other ideals, closer to what we believe to be our own partly Christian democratic type have failed to win the response of a creative dynamic. But, in spite of any and all regrets, we must accept the fact of a China aroused and hopeful because the common folk have become the concern of military and political leaders.

There will be further stages in the great revolution of the Chinese people. It

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may well be that other leadership will inspire subsequent stages. One remembers that once the Kuomintang was received with enthusiasm as the party to save China. It has lost the "mandate of Heaven" because of its pride, incompetence, inefficiency, and corruption. It has yielded to the temptations of power and control over wealth. Perhaps the present leadership, even though devoted to the Communistic ideal of Marx, may be unable to resist the terrific temptations that inevitably follow possession of power. But for the time being these are the leaders and they have aroused a mighty dynamic in the hearts of the millions of Chinese.

Another question you will ask is this, - How has Yenching fared during the months after the People's Government came into control of North China?

The answer is that no phase of our academic program has been interfered with; no form of our religious activities has been changed in any way. In fact, Yenching has received especially favorable treatment from the new regime. Our Chancellor, Dr. C. W. Luh, and his administrative committee members have had personal contact with Mao Tse-tung and the leaders of the new government. In discussion about the program of higher education in North China our Chinese staff has been consulted. The government has formed a Commission on Higher Education consisting of some twenty persons who are to draw up a program for the universities of Peiping. Eventually their report will form a basis for the program in that field for other parts of China. Dr. Luh, Prof. Chang Tung-sun, and Mrs. Prof. Yen Ching-yueh (Kit King Lei) were appointed by the government to this commission. Dr. Luh and Mrs. Yen are both professed Christians. Yenching was asked to appoint three new instructors, one each in the departments of history, political science, and economics, to present the Marxian view of these subjects, but no hindrance or restriction was placed on our teaching of other points of view. The Political Science Department expected that the People's Government would abolish it. But when the chairman, Dr. Agnes Ch'en, Ph.D. of Bryn Mawr, asked about that, she was told to continue the department in order to train People's Government diplomats adequately to meet the capitalistic notions of the nations of the world in diplomatic relations. An extra year was added to the four-year course to allow for more study of political-science English.

As to religion at Yenching, we feel that the new situation has already begun to call forth more earnest thinking on the enduring Christian values and their presentation than we have had for some time. Dr. T. C. Chao, dean of our School of Religion, is inspiring other Christian leaders to re-appraisal of their work. There is already evident a revitalizing movement among pastors and church members, under the stimulus of the challenge of Communist ideology. Some students have lost their faith as they meet a movement that does on a wide scale more social service than any Christians have been able to do. If the Church has nothing more to offer than improved health, a higher standard of living, more security for a livelihood, better chances for education and development, it cannot match the appeal and the work and deeds of the new regime.

When we left the campus, there was in session at Yenching a conference of Christian leaders of North China discussing together how to make the testimony of the Church more vigorous and more an evidence of the "abundant life" - spiritual in addition to material life - Jesus came to bring all men, than it has been in the past. Our Congregational Pastor, P. H. Wang, has been inspiring many with his sermon on "New Discoveries in Christianity" - discoveries that have come to him as he considers the challenge of Communism. He is attending this conference and is pushing his idea that in the new era Christian pastors must find ways to support themselves by teaching or business work so that their Christian work will be a free offering, like St. Paul's, so that they will be no man's debtor and never be supported by the Church or its membership. The currents of new life are beginning to flow within the Christian movement. Always there is the challenge to work beside the existing system, endeavoring to "dilute and adulterate" its extreme materialism

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and unspiritual ideals.

While this Christian conference was going on upon our summer campus, Yenching was offering dormitory space and classrooms to the People's Government for 600 members of the volunteer "South Going Corps" which is in training for work immediately behind the front-line armies - the work of setting up civilian government and improving social conditions. The group had been unable to go South as soon as had been expected, so the quarters they had occupied in Peiping were needed for some other purpose. The Yenching offer solved the government's problem. So when we left, a Christian conference and a Communist training conference were going on without any hostility or inconvenience. Of course, the training of the 600 was entirely managed by the government. That picture of Christian and Communist training carried out on our campus seems to me a sign of the possibility of working together which is what our experience has taught us.

Christians must be ready to adventure with Jesus in every area of human life. Will you not express your Christian faith by continuing to support by your prayers and your gifts our adventuring with Him in the new China?

Faithfully yours,

Lucius C. Porter

Rev. and Mrs. Lucius Porter have been missionaries of the North China Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. They were stationed in Peiping where Dr. Porter taught at Yenching University.

This letter was distributed by the Missions Council, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts. Notification of change of address should also mention the Porters' name.

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CHINA LETTER

Yenching University
Peking, China
September, 1949

Dear Friends:

A year and a half is a long time to be silent in writing to you all. However, we have tried to answer all letters that have actually arrived. During the past ten months the arrival of mail has been an exciting and oft-anticipated but rarely-realized event. The future is still more uncertain but we want you to know that mail or no mail you are in our thoughts and we trust that we are in your prayers and meditations.

MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

Our first task as missionaries is to share the gospel of good church music and of the finest music which is available. In the spring of 1948 our Chorus sang a program composed of selections from great masterpieces of choral compositions beginning with the earliest oratorio and ending with the one and only oratorio in Chinese, written by Dean T. C. Chao of our School of Religion (also one of the vice-presidents

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Last fall we opened the school session with the rehearsal of the MESSIAH, now an established tradition on our campus. Twenty years of singing this oratorio here have given it prestige above all other choral works. In spite of increasing tension due to the encroaching war upon us the group remained intact. We would have sung it in the city had it not been that two days before the announced date of the performance our campus was captured by the Communist army while Peking was still in the hands of the Kuomintang. We could not get through the battle lines but the annual performance in our Bashford Memorial Auditorium took place on December 23. We sang to a large and attentive, reverent audience. No doubt this was the first time an oratorio had ever been produced in Communist China.

To attempt a second major oratorio for the spring semester seemed questionable due to the uncertainties of life under the new regime. Enough copies of Mendelssohn's ELIJAH were available for a small chorus. The new authorities announced that no change in the life of the campus would take place. On the strength of that promise the Chorus proceeded to study this difficult but very dramatic oratorio. The response was unexpectedly gratifying. Without any interruptions or interferences the rehearsals took place so that the parts were thoroughly learned. The first concert took place in the Asbury Methodist Church, the largest Protestant sanctuary in the city. In order to eliminate the necessity of negotiating for permissions to give a formal concert we made no charge for admission and took a free-will offering instead. The church was packed to the doors, window sills were even crowded on that hot night, June 10th when the ELIJAH was first produced by a student group in the city and perhaps in all China. All our labors brought in a harvest of satisfaction. Two nights later it was given on the campus. Our fall session will open in five weeks. We are planning to start the MESSIAH again.

The Chapel Choir has sung every Sunday during the year and has maintained a fine spirit of devoted helpfulness even during the coldest mornings when the sound of heavy artillery outside often vied with the sounds of the worship inside the chapel. Their constant desire to keep the "altar fires burning" has been a source of help to us all.

Requests for additional copies and notification of change of address should always mention the name of the missionary and be sent to Mr. William W. Reid, Board of Missions and Church Extension, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, New York.

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The "Chanters", one of the small groups of students (there are now eleven in all) which meets weekly in the name of the Christian Fellowship (our campus church) and which is committed to a program of learning and sharing Christian choral music, has met regularly in our home. In the spring of 1948 we sang Bach's Ascensiontide oratorio to several church groups. This past year it sang Easter portions of the MESSIAH at the Union Church in Peking on Easter Sunday afternoon to a fine audience. During the spring semester selections from the Tudor School have been shared on many occasions. The rich life of this group has resulted in the confession of their faith in Christ as their Lord and Master of several persons, particularly that of a senior girl this year who, after having considered it for a year decided to be baptized. She was one of a group of 2600 graduates from the various colleges and universities in the city and environs which was undergoing indoctrination at Tsinghua when she seemed driven to the decision to become a Christian. She was baptized in our home at a rehearsal of the Chanters with the dining room buffet as an altar and Hoffman's head of Jesus over the buffet -- an event which hallowed our home.

FAMILY

Mildred has been unusually busy this past year with some 17 students to train in voice culture. All the soloists for the two oratorios were prepared under her discipline. Many times have vocal solos been given in the chapel, in recitals and in other performances off the campus. She herself has sung on many occasions and is an inspiration to her students.

Leighton has been with us for more than a year. His life has been very rich and rewarding and full of experiences of a historical nature. The various activities of the campus which are available for youth he has enthusiastically engaged in as far as time and studies would permit, such things as cross-country running, basketball, all the musical activities including the choir, chorus, chanters, band, orchestra, bass soloist, concerts and recitals..... Ohio State will most likely be his next school.

Cecilia is now ready for college. She will study for a year at Yenching. Thus will her first college year begin at the end of September.

Ben is now ready for high school.

Allen found a lovely wife about a year ago and presented us with a granddaughter in due time. We long to see both these charming additions to the family. Allen is now an electric engineer at the G.E. works in Schenectady. N.Y. He hopes,

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GENERAL ACTIVITIES

The changes in government which we anticipated would come are now on the way. Even though there is intense anti-American feeling in certain quarters none of us personally have had the slightest indication of it. The Chinese are peculiarly able to separate their extreme sentiment against our government from their regard for us as individuals. Our government has undoubtedly made serious mistakes which should be and will be acknowledged. But it seems true that fundamentally Americans are sincere in their love of China. Those of us who are here must prove ourselves in this regard. We must be willing to endure criticisms both deserved and undeserved. We must not revile when reviled especially since we are avowed Christians.

CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Communists have openly declared that they would protect the right of people to their own religious beliefs. They have also declared that they were opposed to all religious beliefs and would substitute for them dialectic materialism. These two opposing principles of life have created terrific tension among all Christians and perhaps among other followers of religious ideals. For this reason many professed Christian youth have renounced their Christian faith and have become either neutral or militant in opposing Christianity. It is true that there are still a few professing Christians(?) in the Communist Party. One such spoke to a group of Christian leaders who met for two weeks on our campus in a conference. He advised Christian leaders that they should take full advantage of the Communist principle of freedom of religious faith and hold fast to their faith. The official condemnation of Christianity is truly powerful and insistent. If the Church can survive this test it will surely be planted firmly in the life of the Chinese nation. In spite of the debacle of many Christians from the fold there is every indication that the Church will endure the strain. Many Christians have founded their faith on the rock. The tempests are violently beating upon the structure but they are standing fast. All Christians everywhere should thank God and take courage. We should unite in prayer for these so sorely tried and tempted. Abundant support of all kind should be manifested in word and deed. If Chinese Christians can hold fast, the results will be of

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tremendous purport for the future of the whole Christian church throughout the world.

You would all be thrilled to know of the many acts of devotion, the many declarations of loyalty, the many clearly expressed principles on which faith is founded which have come from our colleagues and our students in times of direct and open challenge. The only hope for the Christian way of life is that its international aspects shall spring into vitality and reality. We hear on all sides how important it is that all Christians shall realize this sense of fellowship around the world. The pressure here is creating the necessity for this global fellowship. The challenge to you and to us all is to demonstrate the fact: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come." The spirit of the 12th and 13th chapters of Paul's Epistle to the Romans should be incarnated in our lives. First century Christianity is being revived. We are called to witness for Him in ways none ever dreamed would be required. "Let us gird on the armor of light and cast off the works of darkness. The night is departing, the day is approaching."

No doubt many of you are anxious to express your desire to help these hard-pressed fellow-Christians at this time by making a contribution. I assure you that your help will be more appreciated than you can imagine because most of you have never been persecuted for righteousness sake. The sense that you care will do more than anything else to cement the friendship of many years and will thus endure this tide of the anti-Christ. Contributions should be sent through the Board making checks payable to Albert E. Beebe, Treasurer; and mailing them to him at 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y. with a note stating their purpose. Many have already done this. We add our word of thanks and appreciation to those of the recipients of your gifts whose letters you have already received.

Gratefully, lovingly, and hopefully,

Bliss Wiant

The "Blissful" Wiants (Mildred, Cecilia, Ben)

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"FORTNIGHTLY LETTER" FROM YENCHING WOMEN'S COLLEGE

DATED 2 OCTOBER 1949

Dear Friends of the Women's College,

Yenching has started another year under most favorable circumstances. Last year came the turnover from the old rotten Kuomintang to the "New Democracy". This took place unbelievably peacefully, without any looting or loss of life. This will be our first complete year under the new regime. We may not agree with all their principles, but no one can live here without being impressed by the honesty of the officials and the hard work they are willing to put into their jobs; also by the new spirit of hope among our students, and among many older persons. For instance, there is my best Chinese friend, Frederika Li; a year ago, she was wishing that she had not brought three boys into such a corrupt world, where everything seemed to be going from bad to worse, and one hated to think about the future. Now her boys are enthusiastic about the new government and she is proud to think of them as taking part in the regeneration of Chinese society. Of course some of us have lived through another new hope back in 1927 with the advent of the Kuomintang and Chiang Kai Shek, but that revolution did not go deep enough. Chiang never cut loose from corrupt officials, never really improved the livelihood of the people, never profited by much good advice given him by Dr. Stuart.

The People's Republic of China was formally inaugurated yesterday October 1, in the great square in front of Tien An men, the magnificent gate of the old "Forbidden City" where the emperors used to live and hold court. On that day Peiping became Peking again, that is, it is again the capital. The students had one whole day in which to prepare banners and lanterns and songs for the great celebration. The new flag is a red ground with five stars of gold, one large one for the Republic of China, and four small ones for the four groups - the peasants, the workmen, the petty bourgeoisie (which includes the intellectuals), and the national capitalists. From now on the Chinese Independence Day will be October 1 instead of October 10 as previously.

Classwork began last Monday, so we had barely gotten started when this grand event interrupted work, but we have confidence that after this there will be no more interruptions. This government expects students to attend to their studies, and in general there is good discipline. There will be no more student strikes, for most strikes previously were against the government in one form or another, and now few persons are against the government.

Yenching has been accepted by the new government as making a distinct contribution to Chinese education in several fields. This has been accomplished largely by the intelligence and good sense of our Chancellor, Dr. C. W. Luh, who has known how to distinguish the essentials for which we must stand, from the non-essentials. We have the essentials of academic and religious freedom. Lectures in dialectic materialism and new democracy have been substituted for those on the People's Three Principles required by the Kuomintang. These are for all students. Students in Public Affairs have a few other requirements, but Science has so far been let alone. We biologists are waiting to see about Genetics, but we are pinning our faith on the independence of Chinese intellectuals. The Christian Fellowship is, many well-informed people feel, as strong, or stronger than ever, and some of the leading Christian students are leaders in general student activities.

The special fields encouraged by the government are Industrial Training (practical engineering), Pre-medicine, International Relations, and English Language. Other departments carry on, but the students have crowded into those special fields. The Science College is conducting laboratory classes in the evening, and the English

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Language Department has drafted almost every foreigner on campus to teach Freshman English.

Registration took place a week ago and classes began on Sept. 26. More than 800 students are already registered, and there are about 100 more around trying to arrange for scholarships or loans so as to pay their fees. Everybody is hard up financially. It has been a poor crop year; too dry for spring wheat and too wet for summer corn. And some families who were comfortably fixed have suffered in the levelling process of this new society. But as Frederika says, no one minds eating plain food and wearing plain clothes when every one is doing it, and when there is hope of better things to come.

You will be interested in how the new society idea is being applied at Yenching. Precessional Conference was open to all staff, workmen and students as well as faculty, on the first day, to hear reports on finances, organization, curriculum, welfare, housing, etc. On the later days, which were for discussion, all faculty were invited to attend, and 15 delegates from each of the other groups. The students made very intelligent suggestions, but the workmen for the most part seemed interested especially in trying to get more privileges for themselves. All spring we have had a dormitory janitor, a powerhouse workman, a library charger, and a clerk attending Academic Council, as well as two students. The janitor and the workman used to sit on the back seats and listen attentively to all financial reports, and then slip out quietly when curriculum matters appeared on the agenda. Council has now been reduced to 21 members to make it a more efficient working body. It includes the Chancellor, 5 Deans, the Controller, 6 "elected" professors, 1 lecturer, 1 assistant, 2 staff members, 1 workman, and 3 students. It will be more like the old Faculty Executive Committee. The ordinary professor will no longer have any say about academic policy. It is this general method of organization that has given the name "democratic dictatorship" to the new government, and we are simply following suit. Of course we have completely scrapped our old constitution and made a new one to fit the times.

At the Precessional Conference, Dr. C. W. Luh outdid himself in his report on the "state of the university". He talked from 9:00 to 12:30 and again from 2:00 to 4:00 p. m. He paid splendid tribute to Dr. Stuart and to Stephen Tsai for all they have done to make Yenching what it is. In spite of all the anti-White-Paper propaganda being slung around, we were told that the government is glad to have all of us foreigners at Yenching and would like to have more, and hopes that we understand that all these maledictions do not apply to any of us as individuals! This sounds a bit naive, but I really believe they mean it, and all this slander is surface talk, perhaps instigated from outside. So please do not you in America take it too seriously, but please do everything you can to encourage the American government to recognize the People's Republic of China as soon as possible. We expect that a lot of nonsense will cease when that is accomplished. And then maybe mail will flow freely again. I have had a few business letters this past week and one Sunday Edition of the New York Times for May 1!. Do help us to get back to normal international relations.

We very much miss the Porters and Wilsons, the latest departures. Many old pillars have left in the past year, but some very fine new young foreign couples have joined us since Yenching re-opened after the war:- the Crothers (Presbyterians), Stowes (American Board), Hughes (Anglicans), Lee-Roolfs (London Mission). Several professors who have been away for refresher since V-J Day have returned recently:- Ralph Lapwood, Tony Liao, Chao Ch'eng-Hsin, Cheng Lin-chuang, Kuan Jui-wu, David Fang, Hou Jen-chih, Ch'en I. We have no Director of Studies; it does not seem possible to find any one to take Lin Chia-tung's place. Bliss Niant is acting as controller, and Mr. Kuo P'ei Tien is making an excellent bursar. Ralph Lapwood is trying to live up to S. D. Wilson's reputation as Dean of Natural Sciences. Louise Sailer is still chairman of

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a committee which is acting in place of a Dean of Women but expects to turn over her duties to a Chinese woman just as soon as there is opportunity for an election by the Women's College.

You will be interested to know that the houses in the Korean Garden are being repaired and made into two-room units to house staff families. There has been great pressure to house all members of the Yenching community, not only the professors. We have also been buying up as many houses in the neighborhood as possible. There are no longer any complaints about salaries, for we do not want to have salaries higher than in the government universities. It is really a help to know that the top officials are not millionaires! So presumably we are using our income economically. We have been officially inspected and complimented on the efficiency of our organization and finances.

We are looking forward to a good year, and hope you are also. Greetings to all, come and see me in Cambridge where I shall probably be after the fall of 1950.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Alice M. Boring

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UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y.

Yenching

EXTREMELY CONFIDENTIAL

19 December 1949

A LETTER DATED 1 NOVEMBER, FROM DR. C. W. LUH
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

When it arrived, **this** letter appealed to us as so illuminating and significant that we felt that it should be shared with close friends, not only of Yenching, but of all the Christian Colleges. However, the contents are of such a nature that we did not feel free to share them without first consulting the author. We therefore immediately cabled Dr. Luh and now have his cabled permission to do so. The letter goes to you without addition, deletion, or alteration. You will appreciate the necessity of keeping it strictly confidential.

Although the views expressed in this letter may not be shared in their entirety by all of Dr. Luh's colleagues or by administrators in other institutions, they are significant as representing the thinking of one of the leading Chinese Christian educators. They also undoubtedly reflect, in varying degree, the struggles through which many others are going. We urge you to give it careful and sympathetic consideration, for we believe that it provides essential background for an understanding of what is happening in China today.

W. P. F.

Dear Dr. McMullen:

About five weeks ago I actually started on writing you a long letter which might give you a sort of bird's eye view of our spiritual and financial problems. In fact I finished two full pages, but then had to stop. Meanwhile we have been quite busy with the reorganization of the administrative set-up and with quite a few of our faculty members participating in the People's Political Consultation Conference. I am now through with the terrible rush. Let us see how my new resolution will carry out, for I mean this to be a long letter.

I might just as well start with the Conference mentioned above. We had nine professors representing different people's organizations attending it.

Dr. T. C. Chao, Dean of the School of Religion
Mr. Chang Tung-sun, Professor of Philosophy
Dr. C. Y. Yen, Professor of Sociology
Mrs. C. Y. Yen (Lei Chieh-ch'ung), Professor of Sociology
Mr. Chien Po-tsan, new Professor of History
Mr. Shen Chih-yuan, new Professor of Economics
Dr. Lin Han-ta, new Professor of Education
Mr. Ma Ssu-ts'ung, new Professor of Music
C. W. Luh, participating as a specially invited member

Dr. C. H. Chao, Dean of Public Affairs, auditor
Dr. T. C. Weng, Professor of History, newly elected
Dean of Studies, auditor

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No other educational institution had so many members participating. Among the new professors, you know Lin Han-ta, whom Hangchow elected as their new president, but he did not accept the offer. I can assure you we did nothing to pull him away from Hangchow. We offered him the professorship long after he had already made the decision not to be a college president.

Hangchow also tried to pull Dr. S. L. Ch'u away from us. Frank Price wrote me wanting me to urge him to accept the offer but I found the door already closed. The only thing we have actually done to pull a man from another Christian institution was an invitation to Dr. Y. T. Tu to head up our engineering course. We failed in that. Sam Dean is now the acting chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Please excuse me for writing in such a desultory style, for I like to feel I am chatting with you face to face. Fortunately Bliss Wiant will be writing to you in a more business way. I presume what you want to hear from me is more gossip than business. You can at least sense I am not in a depressive mood. In my feeble way, I believe I have got some "gumption", sticking to my job until I see it through or see it bust.

My work is much easier now than in the spring. Everything is put on a committee basis. Everything is time consuming. But I should not worry about other people's time if our work must be done that way. The same holds with Bliss Wiant. Being an American he had to consider every step he took. You know Bliss hasn't got that kind of temperament. He does not need to feel his work is such a burden now. As I said above, Dr. Weng was elected Dean of Studies, a much more responsible position than Dr. C. T. Lin used to occupy. The highest administrative as well as academic authority in the institution is the University Council, composed of twenty-one representatives, including professors, assistants, staff members, students, and workmen. There is every indication we can work smoothly. As chairman of the Council, I am nominally the head of the institution. I hope we can work out a modus vivendi so that my position will be even less important than it is now. I am being addressed with various epithets, "Chancellor", "President", "Chairman", more often simply as "Mr. Luh", fortunately not "Lu Po Shih" ("Dr. Luh"). I still don't feel I can accept the chancellorship, for the status of our Board of Managers is not at all clear. We have to reorganize the Board but do not know how to. As it is now constituted, it is more of a hindrance than a help. But you know how the Board used to stand. Especially now, with our financial support mainly from America, our intimate relation should be with New York and with the new government.

My main task is to hold the group together and to explore the possibilities of a Christian institution operating under a socialistic regime (probably fast becoming really socialist). In temperament and belief I am a Christian socialist, if there be such an animal. My religion has always been the religion of the carpenter Jesus who had to pray for his daily bread and did not know where to lay his head at night. In a "capitalistic" country such people are sometimes tolerated, though often looked down upon as weaklings. In a state of turmoil as we Chinese are going through, our pressure comes from the other direction. Thus you can realize what a job it is to pull the old and the new together. I wish I could always be sure who is new and who is old. Talking, believing, living,--"faith" and "work"--which expresses the man? Sometimes I can feel so lonesome, but then there are always nice people, Americans as well as Chinese, who

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will drag me out of that miserable mood.

Well, Yenching is flourishing. We were counting on about 900 students but we have almost 1,000. Five hundred odd students are taking various grades of Freshmen English. Poor Miss Cochran! One day she is fretted, the next day she simply expands with the importance of the department. What concerns you most is that students' fees constitute only about 5% of the total budget. Before the war, it was 12-14%. We were never very promising as compared with Christian institutions, but we have to get still worse. For a private institution, Christian or otherwise, to exist mainly on receipts from the students, will be an anomaly and impossibility from now on. Then the question is whether it is worthwhile maintaining such exhaustion pipes. You in America have already given us a very positive answer, so it will be superfluous to go into it.

Students' interests are centered in Mechanical Engineering, Chemistry, Pre-medicine, Western Languages, with Journalism and Economics in close competition, though not drawing the same proportion of students as they did in pre-war years. Western Languages is related to foreign relations and international trade. We have so many graduates in those offices, especially the former, so we are actually offering a vocational outlet. We also hope we can develop our program of teacher training for Middle School English. From now on secondary school students will not be able to devote so many hours to learning the rudiments of the English language. A new teaching method has to be worked out. In this part of China, English will long continue to be the first foreign language in secondary and higher education. We have the Wellesley Fund to depend on and we are temporarily using the teaching equipment of the College of Chinese Studies. Crothers works into the program admirably.

Besides English, the other old programs are Economics, Journalism, and Pre-medicine. The Pre-medical curriculum is as it was except that we now have more qualified students. Not more than 50% of them will pass on to the P. U. M. C., so we shall have a problem of placement two or three years from now. Miss Boring will return home next year, but her successor has been designated. The work can continue without any modification. Economics and Journalism both need strengthening, not only to replace the vacancies on the faculty but mainly also to adjust ourselves to the new circumstances. The place of journalism in a private institution and as a four year college course is not certain. So far as the teaching staff is concerned, the department is at least on the same footing as in 1936. The curriculum has to be greatly modified. It is being worked out. Economics, as I said above, is no longer the Mecca of students bent on business and foreign trade. I am afraid the number of students will become even smaller. It is one of the departments most affected by the change of political events. How the new is to be blended with the old, technique to accommodate theory, or vice versa, that takes almost encyclopaedic knowledge and long-range perspective. Some of the teaching members are not so experienced.

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Perhaps your chief concern is with engineering. The experience of the last few years has convinced us that a separate department of Mechanical Engineering has to be established. The interest of chemistry students is predominantly in the line of chemical engineering, or what is more generally called industrial chemistry in America. For this year Mechanical Engineering is financed by the reserve fund contributed to us by Chinese supporters. Part of that money is diverted to equipment and repairs for leather tanning and ceramics. By next year we shall have nothing to depend on, with M. E. already adequately equipped but industrial chemistry expanding. Salary is not our urgent problem, for we are rather ashamed to tell you how much we are paying our professors. In spite of the devaluation of the American dollar, a professor is receiving less than half of his 1936 salary in dollars, but an assistant receives about $2/3$. Still the two departments will cost us not less than \$40,000 in 1950-51, general chemistry not included. There are two possibilities of local support, from the Tientsin industrialists and from the government. As to the former, there is no lack of good will. Much depends upon how business will pick up and how freely the manufacturers can donate their profit to private education. So we have to bank our prospect more on government support.

This naturally leads to our relation with the government financially. In the last semester, the Commission on Higher Education helped us out to the extent of about \$20,000, probably more in terms of purchasing power, in one form or another. We had high hopes for a very substantial contribution for this academic year. Then came the national wide drought followed by flood. The total budget for higher education in North China has been cut to 60%. Salary alone for the government institutions will cost that much. But I have no doubt something will be done for us. You will know from Bliss's report how much of a gross deficit we have to stand for this academic year. Part of that we can raise locally, but it will be quite a few months before I can estimate how much. A good deal of that deficit should be charged to rehabilitation. That is, some of the things we should have done two years ago when there was such a fund. We shall have to call on the Managers' Current Fund, but that has to be done most sparingly.

We must surely work toward local support in the engineering programs. It will not be difficult to support M. E. as it is now planned. In chemistry, by common consent, certain lines such as leather and ceramics are allocated to us. We have the first claim on the government for those courses. The National Peking University and Tsinghua tacitly agree not to occupy the field. There are certain initial expenses we have to put in. The tanning project can be practically self-supporting, but ceramics can not, for a good deal of the work will be research. There are other projects which we may take up, such as soda, glass, etc., provided we can make the proper contacts with the North China industries.

In general, we take it for granted that Yenching will continue. The question is in what form, under whose auspices, and to what extent a private institution. Way back in January, I sent an indirect message to President Mao asking that Chinese faculty and staff members be paid by the government, leaving our foreign resources for Western personnel, research, equipment, and general maintenance. He agreed to that in principle. Undoubtedly we have to work toward that condition as a first step, and it does not matter to us whether the funds will be from the People's Government or from private

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Chinese support. It may take a few years even to approach that end. This is indeed a life and death problem not only for Yenching, but for every private institution. Yenching, unfortunately, has been your heaviest financial burden, for no other member belonging to the U.S.C.C.C. depends so largely upon American funds. However, this weakness will probably be shared by the others in the immediate future.

Now that the U.S.C.C.C. has made such a heartening resolution to support the field with the resources it can muster, and at the same time we ourselves are so seriously planning to get on our feet, our common and central problem seems not to be just fighting for existence and what we exist for. Personally I always felt it rather uneasy to assert that we exist for the Church or for Christianity. In the daily work of school administration such a supreme ideal does not tend to give us guiding principles to meet concrete issues. You know I am not saying this irreligiously. I have the same difficulty in the interpretation of "academic and religious freedom", which we all insist must be the sine qua non for our very existence. The issues we have to face are again very concrete, and I presume there will never be an occasion when we Christian educators, Chinese as well as missionaries, can all point our fingers to one particular point or decision and say, "Here is the limit". We fully understand the feeling of our sincere supporters, and as a group will try to prove we are worthy of their friendship.

Some time ago, in a discussion group on this particular issue, I made two negative statements. First, for the Chinese, whatever we could bear to stand under the old militaristic regime, we should be able to stand under the new regime. And for the Western members, whatever they could bear to tolerate at home, they should accept with equanimity in a foreign country. We are not in danger of being sorely pressed. The negative way is the only way in which we can be clear where we all stand.

Formal worship, discussion groups, prayer meetings, which are dear to the heart of most Christians, --- these are and will be tolerated. "Religious freedom" is fully guaranteed in our new "Bill of Rights". This, of course, includes the "freedom against religion". So far, I do not think any of us can honestly say his religion, in the sense I indicated above, has been in any aspect seriously molested. Religion can be taught in the universities as elective courses. With us they have been long listed under philosophy or other curricula. We have a School of Religion whose status is recognized. The Dean was invited to participate in the People's Political Consultation Conference. The new Minister of Education is not a Communist. One of the vice ministers is (or at least was) a Christian. (Dr. Sidney Mei, philosophy, Chicago, my former schoolmate). Many of our leading faculty members are known to be Christians. Still I am not fully satisfied. The difficulty is with ourselves, or with me as an individual Christian. I am not satisfied with my or our own Christian life. I feel that we as Christians are still not facing the political and social problems of a new China in such a way that Jesus can be proud of us as his followers. So if we fail as Christians, it will not be on account of external pressure, but for the lack of faith and self criticism which is indeed our universal and life-long problem.

Academic freedom is more of a real issue. There is one element in the new atmosphere which one must understand, yet which is so difficult to understand for some of our colleagues, mainly Chinese. Education or learning is no longer a means of escape from political life; one does or does not sympathize with the new way of looking at things political, but one cannot be neutral or indifferent, or try to withdraw into a closet or alcove. This new view is so incongruent with the old gentlemanly standard of the scholar and escapist that one may feel he is being rubbed in from all sides. Some of the Chinese are taking it more bluntly than any of the Western faculty members. For them, Chinese history has always been the change of dynasties. For we are stepping from feudalism directly into socialism (or at least the initial attempt of it), with-

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out adequate preparation. We envy you "capitalists".

Courses in political education are being required of all university students. They are meant for re-orientation, and as they are being taught now, I for one cannot see how they can lead toward a change in the mode of living. Communists or not, our young people have to be taught to live for the people, or at least to take it for granted that to live for the people is the correct way of living. Where orthodox Christianity has failed, one hopes this "New Democracy" might bring us along to a vantage point where we can see the man Jesus. I do not believe the courses in political education are in any sense a barrier to academic freedom. I hope they will succeed. We are not free to educate our students to be social miscreants.

The required courses are as follows:

Required of all students, "Historical Materialism and Social Evolution"	3 credits
"Principles of the New Democracy"	3 "
Required of Arts and Social Science students	
"Political Economy"	6 "

The relation between these courses and the social science departments has to be worked out, as I referred to above. Our Department of Political Science will center its work around international relations, Economics around foreign trade, but they have also to give courses in principles. History also needs some readjustment. The most "radical" students are not necessarily the Communists. And teachers who feel their work is now in jeopardy, are not necessarily those who really mastered their subjects during the old regime. This situation is not as serious in Yenching as in some other universities. There is bound to be some uneasiness. If one takes the viewpoint as that of the "investigation committees", academic freedom being only one sort of freedom, the atmosphere seems to be foreboding. There is certainly the possibility of the different viewpoints meeting at a common center, which is not the middle point, nor middle class mediocrity, but a comprehensive way of presenting the facts and interpretations to the general mass of students. When that is attained, and still found unsatisfactory by authoritative quarters, then indeed we can definitely take an issue as to academic freedom. The clash of prejudices is by no means the same as the curtailment of academic freedom.

I am sorry I have to refer to Bliss's report for detailed facts about Yenching. This letter hopes to cover our general perspective. Meanwhile I have heard from Dr. Fenn wanting us to "cable up-to-date institutional news". Again the burden of proof is on Bliss. I have not answered your letters recommending some young teachers. They came too late. We are quite decently staffed right now. I shall send you a complete faculty list as soon as it is printed. In some respects we are actually better off than in 1936. We expect only one more professor of biology to join us in the spring, to take Dr. Boring's place.

We are urgently in need of mission appointees. We want to feel that you are not only backing us up in finance which is of paramount importance, but also that our American and British friends are intimately with us. The spirit of international friendship on the campus is the best proof of what Yenching stands for. Understanding and forbearance on the part of our Western colleagues have been the main reason why I can stand the onus of administration at this juncture, quite contrary to my personal wishes. In my position there is not even a choice between failure and success, but only to keep on, hoping that the eventual outcome will justify the labor and the daily grind. In fact, I am learning to live, as many of us are, and to know man as he behaves in storm and stress.

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If Dr. Fenn still thinks of making a trip to cover the major part of the field, please cable me. I can try to make the contacts. Canton and Foochow are liberated, but there is no way of going to Chengtu except through Hongkong. It will be very inconvenient to take in all the institutions.

Dr. Wu Yi-fang came up for the People's Political Consultation Conference. Her estimate of the situation is essentially the same as mine, but our problems are not exactly the same. I do not envy her position at all.

This letter may reach you some time before Christmas. The whole faculty joins me in sending you the season's greetings. Heartfelt thanks to you, Dr. Fenn, Mr. Seaman who has come in to share the burden, and the Yenching Committee. Bliss and I just received a nice letter from Mr. Evans.

Cordially yours,

/s/ C. A. Luh

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY

Peiping, China

December 1949

Dear Friends:

Christmas at Yenching is just over for another year -- a far different one from last year's when we all woke to the white snow that had fallen during the Holy Night like a symbol of peace on the campus and the moving battlelines. We all wondered what this Christmas would be like. And here it has been and gone. A crisp clear one, with all the old traditions made somehow more vivid and meaningful by the months that have passed.

The Messiah was sung more beautifully than ever and to as full a house. The Chanters have outdone themselves, on campus and in town and to students at Tsinghua. They even were recorded by two recordsful of Christmas songs which have been used by many churches in the city during the season, with the Christmas slides sent out now from the newly reorganized all-church audio-visual distribution center at Teng-Shih K'ou. The scripts for the slides were in turn written by School of Religion students, who did much of the showing.

Open-house was Sunday night with faculty homes cooperating, as always. We ourselves joined with the Weng Tu-Chiens and Ed Payne in Lee-Woolf's living-room. We expected four-hundred to come traipsing through in bunches of thirty or forty. And were swept off our feet almost literally when six hundred cheerful and friendly kids poured in and out in groups as large as sixty and seventy. The only innovation this year was an interesting one -- for people who in these new days felt they could not honestly attend a Christian celebration, the newly-organized departments held another open-house after the regular one. I haven't heard yet how it worked out. But what with students eating tow ya-chi meals, eating at open-house in the dormitories in the afternoon, and eating at two open-houses in the evening, and many attending the fellowship celebrations that followed still later with dien-hsin ---- surely somebody bulged a little at the end of it all!

And that does not mention the Sunday service, the candlelight vespers, the Anglican Christmas Eve communion, the Saturday afternoon program of the Campus Sunday School and the Ch'eng-Fu Sunday School where there were two lovely plays, and the Children's Party at the Lin Hu Hsuan, Christmas afternoon. And who knows what else. It has been a full and joyful season.

The lake has frozen early and the students have got to work building steps and lights and resting-poles and amplifiers. And there is to be a big ice show this week sometime.

The face of the campus changes slowly -- the largest change being the continuing erection of the large new high school building right behind the grammar school. How the workmen work in such weather is hard to tell; but they keep at it on the south side and it should be done by the first thaw, ironically. More walks about the lake have been tamped down. We ourselves have been involved in remodeling brought on by a jammed faculty housing situation, brought on in turn by the enrollment of a more-than-capacity number of students. We have lived through six weeks of the remodeling of 53, the big old Ladies' House. It is now two comfortable

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apartments, with Lee-Woolfs on the first floor and ourselves on the second and third. This started a large fruit-basket-upset of moving the first of the month, and somewhat broke the log-jam that had piled up largely at the Lin Hu Hsuan. Faculty and staff are apparently well-accomodated now by such alterations, the purchase of Bottorf's and other property in Ch'engfu, and the repair of the very picturesque Korean Gardens.

The fall has seemed abnormally busy. Students have an unbelievable number of meetings, partly brought on by the new order. There is much that is intensely interesting to see -- the tremendous celebration last week of Generalissimo Stalin's birthday, the lectures, the plays. But the student body is to all general appearances content and hard-working and genuinely serious in all these activities. The new society is making a deep impression on the faculty too, and there are not a few changes of mind taking place in various degrees of pendulum swing. A pleasant addition to the campus has been the famous violinist, Mr. Ma Szu-Tsun, who gives concerts now and then, and has become known for his friendliness and charming family as well.

Enough of these activities have fallen on Friday evenings to have disjointed the Je Nao program more than was expected. However there has been fun in the giving of The Admirable Crichton, Candida and Mr. Pim Passes By.

As is becoming rather obvious by now, this is a pretty one-sided and not a very wide picture of some of the recent happenings here. May it be forgiven since it is the limited viewpoint of a not infrequently-distracted mamma!

At least we see at close range the pre-university happenings, we mammas! Our children come back from nursery and kindergarten and grammar school and highschool chanting the new national songs --- and some of them have a wonderful catch and lilt to them, -- dancing the yang ke cake walks, and reporting the extra meetings that even first graders manage to attend and miss meals for. The new texts are cut to pattern; and the students are being rushed through them pell-mell, as the education mill is geared to a higher speed.

We are less fearfully curious, but no less intensely curious to know what the Christmas scene will look like another twelve months from now.

In the meantime, loving greetings to you all.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Elizabeth H. Crothers
(Mrs. J. M. Crothers)

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(CONFIDENTIAL)

Peking, China
Dec. 30, 1949

"Recently I asked Dr. Weng Tu-chien, professor of History and concurrently Dean of Studies, concerning the future of Christian education in Peking. Within the past few days he had assumed the headship of the Bureau of Education of the municipality of Peking. Under his jurisdiction will come all the mission schools of secondary grade so that one of his major problems is to fit these institutions into the government scheme of education. His reply to my question was that all schools must conform to the principles of the New Democracy after which there would be PLENTY of room for the expression of religious freedom and life. I remarked that in Soviet Russia it would be impossible for mission schools to function and that if China intended to follow that pattern there would be no future for these schools. His reply was that Chinese culture was of such a nature that it would not follow the Soviet patterns blindly but that China would make her own adjustments. He said that if China were to follow the Soviet pattern all these schools would long ago have been closed.

"Thus are we all encouraged to go forward with our work as Christian missionaries. In fact, the Advent season just closed and the few days following Christmas have been full of activities of a nature that is entirely harmonious with the practices of the past. There has been no slightest diminution of interest or participation in these activities nor has there been any attempt to suppress these activities by the government."

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FEBRUARY 17, 1950

"FORTNIGHTLY LETTER" FROM YENCHING WOMEN'S COLLEGE

DATED DECEMBER 31, 1949

Dear Friends:

It is my turn to write to you for the Women's College this month. I am very happy that I have the chance to tell you all about our work and our life here in Yenching.

As some of you may have known that I had a year with Dean Ava B. Milam in Oregon State College last year. While I was in States I had the pleasure of meeting some of you. Now it seems that I am so far away from my friends again. I had a wonderful year in Oregon and enjoyed my work in Home Economics School, my trips to various places in Oregon and Washington with Miss Milam and my contact with all nice people. The year passed by quickly that brought my happy time in the States to an end. I came back to Peking on October 1st which was the big celebration of our new government.

December is a great month. Mr. and Mrs. Wiant have been very busy in practicing "Messiah". We all missed Miss Stahl at the piano and of course many people who used to be among the audience. The auditorium was full of people with quite a number from Tsing Hua University. On Christmas day the traditional children's party was on just the same. In the evening from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. all the students went around faculty houses. There were about nine hundred students at the President's House. In some houses the faculty entertained their own majors until 11:00. We had only one day holiday and it was really marvelous how both students and faculty went back to classes as usual on Monday morning. Some of us felt very sad all through the Christmas celebrations, because the news regarding Dr. Stuart's stroke had reached us two weeks before Christmas. We will always remember him in our prayers and are sincerely hoping that his health is improving day by day.

We are all eager to know about Miss Stahl's health. From Miss Cookingham's letter we learned that "Miss Stahl's health is improving". We hope that very soon she will be fully recovered.

Being a home economics woman, I must tell you a bit about Home Economics department. Since it is supported by Women's College I am sure you'd like to know about it. Under the present educational policy, home economics department should emphasize the child welfare training program in order to meet the need of developing nurseries. We still have to convince the public that dietetics work is just as important as the other. Actually there is a great demand for hospital and institutional dietetics, but the training program is not quite recognized by the general public. With the consent of Dr. C. W. Luh, the department will carry on its usual program with emphasis on two phases mentioned above. This is our present status. We hope the future will be in our favor.

Women's College Committee has been elected with representatives from workmen and students and faculty and staff. Three were appointed by Dr. C. W. Luh from this committee to form Executive Committee with Mrs. Sailer as the chairman. We are very

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happy to see her continuing in this office.

As usual we have more women students than we can house them comfortably in four dormitories. We have 317 students now. In addition to usual rooms we have to use one dining room in the third dormitory. We still need a social room for women students to meet their boy friends. The same question of opening up the dormitories came up several times this year but was voted down. Evidently it is not the wish of the majority of students to have the dormitories opened to the visitors. However this will always remain as a problem until we have a social room built for the use of all the students. At present down stairs in Gamble Hall is used by students self-government and the social room in Miner Hall plus the rooms opposite the Dean's office have been turned over to the Music Department. The Home Economics Department is still keeping the three rooms upstairs. As to the faculty houses there is a housing committee which makes the assignment for all the houses. Cheng Lin-chuang are staying at House 58. I do miss the members of 58 very much.

We are much busier than ever before due to the meetings of all types. I seldom see Nancy or Ruth Chou although we are in the same compound. You can imagine how we spend our time from day to day.

It is too late to wish you a Merry Christmas, but I can't tell you how much I missed you all on that day. I miss all my friends who are now in the States, especially on occasions like Christmas and New Year.

With best wishes to you all,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Caroline Chen

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