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UBCHEA ARCHIVES  
COLLEGE FILES  
RG 11

Girling  
Corres.  
Mossman, Merck 1930-1935

0437

1930

0438

208 So. Queen Street,  
Lancaster, Penna.,  
May 27, 1930.

My dear Miss Mossman,

I returned last night from a long conference with Miss Hodge chairman of the Ginling College Committee as the Board of Trustees is called, and found Miss Bender's telegram reading "Interview with Miss Mossman satisfactory. I approve appointment." I expected this approval but I was delighted with the telegram. Today came a fuller note from Miss Bender.

I am not the one with authority to say that you are appointed, but since Miss Sandberg is still in Cleveland and Miss Bender not yet back in New York, and Miss Hodge starting today to Cincinnati to the meetings of the Presbyterians it seems it falls to me to tell you something. I wrote Miss Hodge a note last night asking her whether in the light of this cable we could assume appointment. She has not wired to the contrary today, and I feel sure she would have received my letter before she left Philadelphia this morning. There are lacking two votes yet in the Committee on your papers; at least the New York office has not sent me word if they have come in, but a majority have voted in your favor so I think it safe to assume that your formal appointment and the contract to sign will be sent you as soon as both Miss Sandberg and Miss Bender return to New York. Miss Bender writes that you expect to see your family this week so you can I feel sure tell them that you are appointed. The only other red tape beside the two missing votes that I know of is that your medical report is checked by a New York physician who does all appointees but I am not expecting any difficulty there.

I shall send you a copy of the contract. I find that the Committee states the salary in the terms of American money as that is what is sent to China but the teacher receives the salary in Chinese money or Mexican which is stated in parenthesis. I also learn that the Committee is voting on giving the American members of the staff the advantage of exchange when it is more than two to one, but guaranteeing two to one. That is you would never receive less than \$1728 Mexican and at present rates of exchange you would receive more than that. My understanding is that you are applying for three years but I shall send both contracts so that you can see by reading the difference between them.

0439

5120 S. Parkway  
Chicago, Ill.  
May 29, 1930

My Dear Miss Grist-

I was so happy to get your letter this morning and to know that Miss Bender approved of my appointment. I was grateful for the opportunity to meet Miss Bender and to talk over in some detail the work at Ginling. Out of our conversation several questions came up which she suggested that I ask you about.

In the first place, she suggested that it might be a pleasure for me to take my car. However, after thinking it over I have decided that this would not be practicable. I must live within my income and this would not be possible, I am sure, with a car. She said that it would always be possible to get transportation.

Is there anything which I must take for my room beside sheets, pillow cases, blankets, + linen? Are the rugs + curtains furnished?

You thought that the trip through Japan would be pleasant. Could you tell me approximately what it would cost? It sounds delightful and I should like to take it.

I have written to Dr. Freudley asking about the work in the department and the library resources.

The contracts came this afternoon. It is the three year term in which I am interested. I am afraid that my family would feel that I had signed a life contract if I were to stay for five years without coming home during that time. It will be hard to be separated for the three years without even a short vacation in which to see them. However, as I have told Mother, time goes very quickly. Shall I sign the contract and return it to you? I am resigning my work here + shall let her hear tomorrow or Saturday.

Sincerely,  
Mabel Morrison

0440

208 So. Queen Street,  
Lancaster, Penna.,  
June 3, 1939.

My dear Miss Mosman,

Your letter of May 29th reached me this morning. I think Miss Bender's suggestion of your taking your car to Ginling a delightful one from the point of view of the friends you will make on the faculty and in the town, but I do question its practicability. Cars have greatly increased in numbers in Hanking since I left there three years ago, I am told, but the roads over which one can drive are still limited and carriages and rickshas are available for any place you wish to go. The expense of getting a car to China as well as the expense of maintaining it would certainly be greater than the ricksha and carriage expense, in spite of the fact that that is higher than when I was there.

The rooms have similar curtains throughout the house; rugs are provided but they are not attractive. Two small rugs or one about five by nine or so would be an advantage to you. Sheets, pillow cases, blankets, towels, you will need to take. If your mother has a wool or down comfort to spare it will be very useful, but do not buy one in America because you can have one made there at less cost. The bedspread or cover you will also want to take. The beds are all single and most of low heads but there are a few older ones that have high heads and ends. Most rooms have a dressing table and bureau chest of drawers. You will want covers of your own for them. Any pictures or ornaments that you wish to take to make the room attractive will be all right. You will be given some office space, but what it will be I can't say. If you have desk furnishings take them with you, and the books you will need. I mean by that books of your own that you would like to have.

I am sorry that I can not be very sure about the cost of the trip through Japan. You can ask the purser on the boat to give you a ticket from Yokohama to Kobe which used to be done, and which I did once but my impression is that you have to pay something extra for it and that as it is a first class ticket that it is almost as cheap to buy one's own ticket second class which is the class most people travel. If you land in the morning at Yokohama you can go up to Tokyo that day and spend the night-th day there and go by night train second class to Kyoto arriving there in the morning and possibly have two days in Kyoto and on the morning of the third go to Kobe for your boat. or you can spend your first day or what is left of it in

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-2-

train from Yokohama for Kyoto which you would reach in the evening. This would give you the day time trip which is interesting and if are lucky you would see Fuji. (Fuji is very shy.) You would then probably have but one day in Kyoto, and in that case I would wire Miyako Hotel for reasonable accomodations and ask them to provide : with the best itinerary and ricksha boy possible for the day you are there. The itinerary and the boy can be arranged after you get there only the accomodation need be telegraphed for. I doubt if you can get a room there under fifteen yen a day, which is \$7.50 our money, but it is American plan and very delightful and they take good care of you. This will be the most expensive part of the trip. I can't give you with any accuracy costs but I should think that \$25 our money would cover it all, including travel. It has been three years since I did the overland trip the last time and that did not include a Kyoto stop, and I can't remember what it cost me for the fare. If the boat schedule permits a delightful one day trip out from Kyoto is to Nara the very early capital of Japan, built when China was in Japan was drinking in the great Chinese culture of the Tang dynasty 600-900 A.D. There is a good hotel there also a little less expensive than the Miyako, and where you could stay over night if your schedule permits. It is called the Nara Hotel. Kyoto was the capital of Japan following the Nara period.

I sent you the contracts for your information. Miss Bender sends you the formal contract to sign, so you will have to wait until you receive it from her before you sign, and that will be returned to her.

I am leaving for my first trip to Europe at the end of next week, so the Miss Minnie V. Sandberg, 152 Madison Avenue, New York, or Miss Elizabeth Bender will answer the rest of your letters after that time. I am sending you a little book as a token of my good wishes for your trip and my hope for your happiness in China. It is a real satisfaction to me that Ginling can have you, and I hope that you can be as happy there as I was. Miss Bender's address is 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

This is a rather mixed up letter. If there is anything more that I can do before I sail I hope you will let me. I shall be here until the 13th.

Sincerely,

*Added note re Salary*

0442

5120 S. Parkway  
Chicago, Ill  
June 8, 1930

My dear Miss Geist -

I thank you for the thoughtful remembrance and your kind wishes that my Chinese experiences may be as happy as yours have been. It is delightful that you are going to be abroad this coming year. Miss Bender said that you are hoping to pick up your German again. I hope that you are more successful than I have been with the language -

I had word from Miss Sandberg that the apartment has been completed. I shall leave here as soon as possible - probably about the first of July. The time at home will be all too short. Mother is still fearful that something horrible will happen to me - I think that the graphic news articles in the Chicago Tribune serve as food for these fears. I have assured her that teachers need not be sent if there were any imminent risks. Of course, I realize that one can not predict what changes may come nor how suddenly.

May I wish you the very happiest kind of a year?

Sincerely

Paul E. Massman

It has been such a pleasure to correspond with you.

Candidate appointed for Sociology

208 So. Queen Street  
Lancaster, Penna.  
June 9, 1930.

My dear Miss Gassman,

I think I neglected to tell you in my last letter that I had heard from Dr. Wu, the president of Ginling, that arrangements for the history department had been made for 1930-1931 and that unless we had some one with much graduate preparation we need send someone for 1930. So in the light of this letter I did not take up the matter with Miss Hoon. I wish, however, after you get to Ginling you would sometime speak to Dr. Wu about Miss Hoon.

I understand from a letter from Miss Sandberg that you have been notified of your appointment and that Miss Bender is sending you the contract to sign. I hope that the plans for sailing move smoothly and that you will feel free to take up with Miss Sandberg anything that you do not understand, or want information about.

Miss Willie Belle Fisher, a southern girl, trained at George Peck College for Teachers in Nashville Tennessee, is probably going out this summer for physical education. Her present address: 1908 Blakemere Avenue, Nashville, Tenn. Care of Mrs. Dresslar. I have written her of you and given her your address. It is probable that the two of you will be booked on the same boat and possibly in the same cabin. As a rule one has to have some roommate on the boat so that this may be a pleasant arrangement for both of you as can be made. She is a very gracious, pleasant girl, unusually young to have been out of college two years, and somewhat appalled at taking the plunge into China alone for she had expected until a few weeks ago that there would be two people going for physical education and that she had a friend would be the two.

I am inclosing a schedule of college dates which were sent me in the last mail. The government's edict abolishing the old China New Year vacation and putting the midwinter vacation at our New Year has made necessary a change in the calendar. I have called Miss Sandberg's attention to this and asked that you be booked on a boat that gets you to Shanghai about the first of September. For your own happiness an adjustment this is important. Incidentally have with you so you can get at them easily some cool clothes to wear when you land because that time of year in Shanghai is hot.

Sincerely,

0444



[17]

208 So. Queen Street,  
Lancaster, Penna.,  
June 12, 1930.

My dear Miss Mossman,

I was glad to have your letter of June 8th, and I thank you for your good wishes for my summer especially for the German for I need that.

I do not think I have ever written you especially about conditions in China politically. With the kind of reports in our newspapers I do not wonder that families feel anxious. My own feeling is that if Dr. Wu felt it unwise to have new people come that she would so cable. On the other hand instead of cabling against their coming they have recently cabled for further faculty. The Nanking government I believe does not want foreigners in trouble, if for no better reason than that it makes difficult their foreign relations. I think that Dr. Wu is close enough to affairs and people in Nanking to have as good judgment as any one could have upon the sensibleness of new people going to the college at this time. Our consuls also watch the situation very carefully and if they are suspicious of real danger they advise evacuation to Shanghai and since the Chinese staff of the college is so greatly increased it is a simple process to shift responsibility and go as it was not when I was there in 1927. I went through the Nanking Incident and while it does not follow that even if such an affair ever should be repeated that the college would have the protection that it had then yet it is a fact that in the one disaster that Nanking has had since the founding of the college we were protected in our persons and lost nothing.

There are many places in China where it would be rash in the extreme to go but Nanking is not yet that place. The present struggle is between left and right wing factions the right being represented by Nanking. The present defeats are on an outer circle of territory and do not indicate to me any danger at present to Nanking or to the seat of this Nanking government. And the groups opposing Nanking are so diverse so ununified in thought (the extreme left wingers are probably the only ones with ideas in the struggle, that is in the Nanking group) that it does not look likely to me that the Nanking government will fall although the territory which they control has been narrowed. I of course know that prophecying in Nanking about China is a very foolish thing to do because...

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If reports continue alarming and it would make your family more comfortable I should not hesitate to ask Miss Bender to cable Dr. Wu for advice but the reports that I have been following in the New York Times, alarming as they appear because of their geographical location and because of the diverse groups forming the opposition and because this is the war season in China do not make me feel that it is not safe to return To Nanking. I know, however, as I have lived there it is easier for me to have this feeling than it is for one who is facing China for the first time and especially easier than it is for the family.

A very interesting Chinese girl, and alumnae of Ginling and an assistant in the Education department there for several years and the one who bore with the alumnae the strain of the strenuous months following the Nanking Incident is on her way to Chicago. She has been studying Geography at Clark during the year and is to be doing the same field at Chicago this summer quarter. If I can get her address there before I sail I will send it and I hope that you can find time to see her for she can be a very fine introduction to Ginling. Her name is En-lan Liu (Miss Liu, pronounced Lee-oo.)

Again with best wishes for you, I am,

Sincerely,

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Southwestern College

Winfield, Kansas

August 17, 1935

202 Colley Avenue

My dear Miss Geist:

I was so surprised to find a note from Mrs. Macmillan when we arrived home last evening. Will you be so kind as to convey my appreciation to her? It was an unexpected pleasure to meet her in your home.

Our trip through was hurried. We did not make much time the first two days, but on Thursday we had to drive over six hundred and thirty five miles in order to meet Father that evening in Kansas City, where he was on business. Then I came on with my sister to Winfield where today she is finishing her business and tomorrow we shall leave for Northern Iowa. I must say that my only impression of America, after my absence, is that everyone rushes about — and we seem to cover enormous distances in order to be just a short time in that place. (I have not voiced this sentiment to my family for I'm sure they would then be certain that China "made one queer!")

It was so nice to have an opportunity to meet you. I've heard of "Rebecca" so long that it was a bit like meeting an old friend. I've often hoped that you would feel that you could return to Linling.



If you have Li Dye-dye's school address I would be awfully glad to have it. Perhaps I could see her and help her a little. By the way, I neglected to get Mrs. New's sailing date and the boat she is on. Do you happen to know?

[2]  
If not - do you know with whom I could get in touch to find them?  
We might be near Omaha + if so I would like to have her stop  
there for a few days with our family.

I thought the other day, after I had left you, of innumerable  
things that I really wanted to talk over with you about  
Gisling. But perhaps we shall meet again before long  
(one always seems to meet people often even though  
distances are great.).

May I ask you to thank Mrs. Macmillan for her note  
introducing me to Dr. Woods? I shall meet them when I  
am in Iowa City if they are there at that time. When I  
have had a little more time to collect my thoughts I shall  
write to her directly. In the meantime if she has suggestions  
which she wishes to make regarding anything which I could  
be doing for Gisling I shall be glad to know of it.

Today is a hot unpleasant one and I would think  
myself unfortunatate if I had not been in Moskey heat!  
But here the fan and ice and air conditioning made me  
forget that heat can be very bad.

My kindest regards to you -

Most Affectionately

Herb E. Grossman

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1935

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ack 8/21/35

Also asked her to take up with Mr. Butler travel and home allowances of Mossman  
Asked Miss L. to look up Mossman contract

David Kirk

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- UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
- ASSOCIATION FOR CHRISTIAN WORK, SMITH COLLEGE

Referred to Miss Griest to reply. 8/21/35

August 20, 1935

Dear Miss Hodge:

There is a letter here from Miss Mossman today and I shall quote two paragraphs from it. What should I do about these matters?

"Miss Preist told me to take up the following matters directly with you when I came to America, and that you could take them up with the proper persons. The first is with regard to the clothese allowance which I was to have had if I changed my three year term to a five year term in China. I did not have a clothese allowance when I went to China, but I was told that if I stayed for five years this would be given to me. When I made the change to a five year term I felt that at that time I did not have to have the money immediately so Dr. Wu suggested I wait and take it up with you when I returned to America. I would not ask for it now, but I am hoping to have a medical operation this fall for which I have absolutely no money. I do not wish to ask my family for this unless I can see no other way. Beside that I carry insurance and shall have to pay for that this year. As I recall they said the clothes allowance is \$200. I may be misinformed about this, but that is my recollection.

"The second matter is also about money. I am hoping to s end the year in study at the University of Chicago. The tuition there is heavy so I should like to ask for the school allowance. I do not know what that is. The tuition at the University used to be \$100 a quarter. I shall be there three quarters. I know that the Ginling allowance does not cover this, but I should like to know what it will be so that I can figure on expenses for the year."

I thought I would not bother Miss Tyler with this unless it was necessary; so will you tell me what the procedure is to be followed. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Rhoda B. Lawrence

0450

1192785

21 August 1935

Dear Miss Hodge:

This letter to Miss Mossman is an echo of a few minutes' conversation last week. A carbon copy of it is going to Miss Tyler's office as well as to you. - Miss Mossman told me that she had definite hopes and somewhat vague plans for their fulfillment to the end of acquiring support for her own department in this country, and she expressed the hope that she might fit into our plans for promotional activities. I was very well impressed by Miss Mossman's personality and her devotion to Ginling. It is great good fortune that she stood next to Dr. W<sup>u</sup>ener during the recent voyage from China to Europe.

Sincerely yours,



Miss Margaret E. Hodge

0451

5792785

21 August 1935

My dear Miss Mossman:

It is good to hear from Rebecca Grist of the successful completion of your journey westward. If our year could only be always at October, how much easier would be such activities as your recent motoring with your sister.

When your plans are more nearly in shape, I shall count on the fulfillment of your promise to let me know their general outlines. Rather than any addition to the many tasks you see before you, we shall attempt to suggest assistance in accomplishing what you have in mind for Ginling and particularly your own department. We already have in almost every American community many persons connected with the China Colleges in some concrete way, and we will try to make anything you may do more productive through multiplying the persons with whom you have touch whenever you go into any city or town. But, although we are rich in China Colleges friends, there is much to be done in creating actual supporters for Ginling and in building up a large and active Ginling list. We shall, therefore, count on your sending back to New York memoranda of names as you acquire them, with notations as to the best methods of dealing with the individuals. If these memoranda can be sent in duplicate to the Ginling Office and to me in the office of the China Colleges, it will be a convenience. When it is not convenient to send duplicate notes, if you will indicate this fact, you may count on the two offices to share the information. You may also count on us to keep each other informed of correspondence passing back and forth with you, in order that your time and strength may be used to greatest advantage. (I should add that names put upon the consolidated list in the China Colleges office for the benefit of Ginling are carefully indexed to protect them from use for other than Ginling appeals, and that publicity approaches to such persons will be made only after consultation between our office and the Ginling officials.)

Ullis Purser  
did noble  
work on list -  
(walking.)

When you do write, will you comment upon any reactions which you at Ginling have had from the watchdogs of the Rockefeller funds in Shanghai, Mr. Selskar Gunn and Dr. Grant? It is inevitable that you should have approached them and should have had some reaction of interest on their part in such work as your department is doing. Here in New York we of the China Colleges have had conversations and correspondence with Rockefeller officials during the past six months, and we are convinced that little help will fall to China through their program during the next three years except as it goes through



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[2]

the hands of the men in Shanghai, who have had the China <sup>interests</sup> program put in their hands for the duration of that period. It would, of course, help tremendously if one could have a frank talk with Mr. Raymond Feedick now that he is returned to this country, but that may not be easy to manage. (One hears that Mr. Feedick is far from well.) And we do know that Mr. Gunn and Dr. Grant have been given full power. - So I shall be glad to know what Ginling has been able to do with these gentlemen. A recent personal letter from Dr. Grant to me mentions enthusiastically the co-operation which he has been perfecting under Rockefeller auspices between Yg@ching, Tingsien (Jimmie Yen), and Nankai. I covet Ginling's participation in some such project.

The best of wishes to you for the coming days, -

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. T. D. Macmillan)

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ack. 8/25/35 by Baptist Board for Mossman contract. Mrs. Sears (Miss Sandberg) was Candidate Secretary

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WORK, SMITH COLLEGE

August 22, 1935

My dear Miss Hodge:

Enclosed is a carbon of the letter I wrote Mr. Carter, and also Dr. White's letter and a carbon of my reply. I felt you would want to urge the Werner's to get her back home, rather than to spend money which they do not have to go over there, and so I sent off the little note to Dr. White - otherwise no word would get to him before the next week. And time may be an important element in this case. I hope you approve of my letter.

As yet I have not been able to locate any contract for Miss Mossman. You know that correspondence has been so scattered. In the material which I brought up from the Presbyterian Board I found a lot of important material and I imagine that there is still more over at the Methodist Board if I ever get hold of it.

Please turn off this muggy weather for a couple of days. I'm getting rather bored with it now.

Sincerely yours,

*Rhoda B. Lawrence*

0454

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Re Miss Mosseman's allowances on furlough

517

208 SOUTH QUEEN STREET  
LANCASTER PENNSYLVANIA

August 20, 1930.

My dear Mrs. Lodge:

Miss Mosseman's papers  
and contract should be in Mrs. Tyler's  
file. - Miss Mosseman went out  
in 1930 on a three year term and  
then transferred to a five year  
term. She is, as I understand it,  
Outfit  
entitled to the \*200.00 outfit allowance  
Home Allowance  
and the home allowance given to  
a five year term person. I should suppose  
this would be according to the

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terms of my old five year contract,  
and not according to the  
terms of the new one, <sup>because of her date of transfer</sup> - but of that  
I am not quite sure. I am  
inclosing a copy of the old  
contract forms. I have been  
only one copy of the agreement  
you said I worked over a year ago -  
But there is - I think - a copy  
of that in Miss Tyler's file - as  
Miss Tyler had the new agreement  
typed for me for Miss Max Kurian.

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208 SOUTH QUEEN STREET  
LANCASTER PENNSYLVANIA - 2.

If, as seems reasonable, <sup>my</sup> because of the  
date of her transfer, that she transferred  
to the old five year contract - she

is entitled to  
Entitled to;

1. - \$200 net pay allowance
2. - \$984.00 furlough salary if  
she is planning to return  
to furlough - or a 3 months  
salary if she is not. - (I think  
she is planning to return)
3. - an educational allowance  
of \$200.00 "may be granted" on the  
recommendation of the Board of  
Directors and with the approval of the

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3c. - if the plans & returns of Gurley  
for five year term. -

Medical  
no.

Item # 6 on the five year contract it seems  
true would hardly apply to this measure,  
if I am correct in believing that  
this operation is due to a condition  
which existed prior to Gurley & Clinic.

I feel, since her original contract  
is in Miss Tyler's files a little embarrassed  
about how to write a reply that  
this Lawrence can safely send. - So  
at the risk, <sup>further</sup> delay I am sending  
my sketched reply to you for your  
approval and asking you to send  
it on to Miss Lawrence with any

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17  
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(37)

208 SOUTH QUEEN STREET  
LANCASTER PENNSYLVANIA 3

change a correction that should,  
be made. and am sending  
a note to Miss Lawrence enclosing  
for her a copy of the <sup>four</sup> contracts also  
sent Sym. and telling her  
that she will hear directly  
from you about the reply to  
Miss Messman.

The outfit allowance and  
the beginning installment  
of the furlough salary should be

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send Miss Hesseman at once, with  
Authorization  
to Carter Mr. Carter will not do that. Will  
by M.E.B.  
be. without and from you? -

I shall be so glad to come  
down to see you - Roy can bring me  
any day that suits you - He  
will be back the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> -  
If you would rather have it this  
week - August 25 - 31<sup>st</sup> I can come  
any day by train. With the cooler  
weather I feel again like doing things.  
So just let me know which  
day you prefer. - Affectionately,  
Rebecca Hesseman

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*weir*

COPIES:

- Miss Hodge
- Mr. Carter
- File
- Mrs. Macmillan

August 27, 1935

Miss Merea B. Mossman  
 202 College Avenue  
 Winfield, Kansas

My dear Miss Mossman:

As Miss Tyler is away on vacation I sent your letter of inquiry about the outfit and educational allowances to Miss Hodge. Hence the delay in my replying. She asks me to quote to you the following items in the five year agreement to which you transferred while you were in China. Can you give me the approximate date of your transfer?

- "3. Outfit allowance of \$200.00 for personal use to be paid upon appointment.
- "4. A furlough salary at the rate of \$384.00 per year to be paid to those who have been invited to return by the Board of Directors, and the Ginling College Committee, and expect to continue service; three months salary to be given to those who, after a five year term do not expect to return to the college. Furlough salary to begin on arrival home by the most direct route.
- "5. An educational allowance not to exceed \$200.00 may be granted during furlough on the recommendation of the Board of Directors and with the approval of Ginling College Committee, it being understood that the applicant for such allowance is returning to Ginling for a five year term."

Since the outfit allowance was not paid to you at the time you transferred from the three to the five year term you are entitled to it now. Miss Hodge will take this up with Mr. Carter.

Dr. Wu has written of her desire and her hope that you will return to Ginling, As items #4 and #5 in the five year agreement depend in part upon your intention to return to China, may we know whether you are planning for a second five year term? If you do plan to return you are entitled to the regular furlough salary, payable monthly. In order that Mr. Carter can compute when furlough salary begins please send me the date of your leaving Nanking.

The request for an educational allowance will be presented to the

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Miss Merea E. Mossman

- 2 -

Aug. 27, 1935

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Ginling Board of Founders at the meeting in September and Miss Hodge hopes that it will be granted if you are returning to the college. Was anything said to you about the desire of the Board of Directors for you to study while here? I presume it is approved as Dr. Wu spoke of your plan as something desirable.

Sincerely yours,

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Secretary to Miss Tyler

Miss Merea E. Mossman

RBL

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

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Miss Merea E. Mossman

Miss Merea E. Mossman

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over

202 Calley Ave.  
Winfield, Kansas  
September 2, 1935

My dear Rebecca -

Thank you so much for your letter which was waiting for me when I arrived home yesterday. It's so terribly nice hearing from you - it seems a link in America to Berlin.

The letter from Emily's mother was coming because she seemed to take such a sane calm attitude. I hope it will be so, for Emily will especially need the love and stability of her home. I have not heard from her mother but I do not expect to for I think writing is difficult. Emily is awfully fine - and I'm sure things will work out. There may be ways in which we can help her.

I am feeling as though I had rather gotten your remembrance North to the One under false pretenses; but when I assure you that our family has been reading parts of it aloud - and chuckling over some of their experiences - perhaps you will not think it a waste! I did go to Laramie City

0463

[2] the middle of last week for examination. Dr. Steindler thinks an operation would be most helpful. In fact said it would be highly desirable. But I must stay in the hospital for three weeks, in a cast for 2-3 months, and wear a brace on my feet for 4-6 months. The trouble would be that I could not manage to work while in a cast. I feel that I can not give up this fall quarter at Chicago. I must be in touch with developments in my field of work before I sit down in a hospital for three months. Perhaps I shall have the medical work done in April instead of going third quarter to school. I shall wait ~~to~~ until later to think about it. (Decisions made too far ahead are a waste - as one then must trouble to think them over again.)

When I came home yesterday, I found a letter from a University in Ohio asking me whether I would be interested in teaching there this year. My den from Chicago had written them. I'm tempted to consider it for I'd like the teaching in an American University that I might compare standards with B.C. On the other hand, I need more training if I return to S.C. next year. So I think I'd go to Chicago. (My family feel me very foolish - and I maybe, but I think I'm right.)

By the way, Miss Hodge said in her letter to me that they would be glad to have a greeting from me for the Building Board on September 14. I'd be glad to write them - but I'm not sure just what to write. I'd write very generally - and if there is anything more specific will you please tell me?

I must tell you that I had my first invitation to give a missionary speech. It seems that the Christian Church <sup>has</sup> have a missionary society meeting day after tomorrow - and want to hear a message from "far off China" about "anything"! The dear lady who called me said she was sure I must just be full of inspiration. I mumbled several things about 'ill health, and being busy, but ended by saying I would be glad to speak. (I wondered afterward about my ethics, & tried to justify my falsehood by feeling that it was at least more truthful.) I'm not sure just what missionary societies like to hear. Probably I'd have a chance to learn during this year.

I'm glad to hear about Dye-dyes. I still have not written her

SEP 2

1935

but I shall do so soon.

Our trip home was not bad, although I was weary of driving. We met Daddy in Kansas City; then we drove to southern Kansas, spent one day here and to northern Iowa. (I suddenly recall that I told you this once before! Darry.). Our two weeks in northern Iowa were mixed. The parts when we were alone were delightful. Three days we had family reunion. That was nice, but one felt relieved when it was over. A summer cottage has limitations when one attempts to entertain there. The last week father and one brother went fishing in northern Minnesota. So our family varied from 4-18 persons at different times. Now that we are back home from holidays I am looking forward to a month of quiet, and getting acquainted again with Mother, Daddy, + my younger brother. The others are back at their schools.

Some persons this summer had. Several write you of business and other things.

You will soon be going to the Girdling Board meeting. I shall think with deep care of you all in those days when you are thinking of the next year and the future of Girdling. So much depends upon these next few years as to whether Girdling holds a high place in the academic and cultural life of China. May your thoughts be guided (not in Oxford group sense of the word).

May I thank you again for Anne Lindbergh's book?  
 most affectionately, Mervyn Stroman

Ans. - Sept 6, 1935 -

202 College Ave.  
Winfield, Kans.  
Sept. 3, 1935

My dear Rebecca:

When I was writing to you the other day I neglected to enclose the note from Mrs. Werner which you asked to have returned to you. I hope it did not inconvenience you.

*Need not*

Yesterday I got a letter from Dr. Wu in which she asked me to write to Miss Hodge an account of Emily's illness. Do you think that this will now be necessary since we have talked it over together? It takes quite a little time to get a thing written down into a form which would be possible to present before a committee. If you think it is still necessary I shall be glad to do so. If not-- I'll be glad to save that time.

I was shocked to learn from Dr. Wu that Wu Mow-i is not coming this fall because of poor physical condition. She is running a slight temperature all of the time, and is not in condition for study. All last winter she was so careful about eating proper foods, and rest, etc. But she has continually lost weight-- and that is always a bad sign. Dr. Wu said that she is asking to have her scholarship held over for a year.

*Need not*

Oh dear, I have been asked to speak at another Missionary group this week! The Methodists are having a district convention. I have consented, but do you think it would be alright if I do not speak any more this month? I know the churches will ask next, and it is a real effort to speak before large groups. I want to take this month for rest-- for I find I am a bit tired. Do you think this alright? Honestly, I scarcely know where my 'missionary duties' lie, and don't want to neglect what I should be doing. (My brother's tease and say I must do it all.).

Dr. Wu asked in her letter to have me give an expense account to the committee for extra expenses which I contracted in helping Emily. I do not believe that there are any. I had Emily pay for all of her cables, and also for the extra expense on the ship when she had to get a first class ticket. She was spending her money left and right and I thought it better to have her use it on all necessary expenses when possible. I had taxi fares to consulates in the various ports, but that was no great item. That was partially offset by one port in which Emily insisted on paying for Dr. Smithwick and me when we took her in a car for the day. At that port we could not argue her out of it, and so, accepted, knowing that we could repay her in small ways at other ports. So I have no extra account.

Will you pardon my writing a letter on the typewriter? It is rude, but I can spare so much time by so doing -

When unpacking yesterday I found an extra copy of Sophie Chen's essays which I am mailing you - I have enjoyed her point of view. (Although I'm not giving it to missionary societies to read). If you've read it please give it to someone that you think would enjoy it.  
Louis - Mrs. Mason

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Bunker

202 College Avenue  
Winfield, Kansas  
September 9, 1935

Miss Margaret Hodge  
The Ginling College Board  
New York

My dear Miss Hodge:

May I send through you a word of greeting to the Ginling College Committee which is to meet in New York on the 13th and 19th of this month?

I wish to express to the college board my appreciation for all of the courtesies which they have extended to me while I have been in Ginling during the past five years. Those years of work in the college have been happy ones; ones in which I have wanted to give all that I might give because I came to believe in the place of Ginling in a program of Christian education in China.

My feeling is that at the present time Ginling faces a crisis, which will either be the making or the breaking of the college. She stands in a unique place. She is the only woman's college in China; she is in the capital; she stands in a position to guide women's thinking throughout the country. I can see for Ginling a great future through the quality of her leadership. On the other hand, there are certain conditions which must be met, or she will turn into nothing but a second rate little college drawing girls of a rather mediocre mental ability. At the present time Ginling stands at a cross road, it seems to me.

As I see it there are several things which must be considered in the making of a Ginling which will hold its place in educational circles. May I just outline these briefly?

1. Dr. Wu is at the present time an absolutely essential force in every aspect of the college. If it were not for her the college would be in a most impossible situation. She coordinates everything. She is practically the only person on our faculty who can handle matters with the government. Foreigners can do almost nothing in this part of college life.  
In order to help Dr. Wu and to protect her, she must have trained helpers for office work. This past spring the registrar left due to the fact that Ginling could not pay a sufficient salary to hold him. These constant changes are a great strain on Dr. Wu for they mean that she must carry a burden of the work which comes as a result of this change.
2. The second important factor at the present time is the fact that Ginling does not pay sufficient salaries to the members of her Chinese faculty to command the best, nor to keep those whom we do get. We are able to get some of the graduates of the college to come back there after they have had further training. But often they resent the fact that they serve for much lower salaries than they could get in other schools. It also means that Ginling always has a large number of very young Chinese faculty. We can not keep the older ones due to the fact that we cannot pay them enough, I think Dr. Wu worries a great deal

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1935

about this for she wishes to build a strong group of able Chinese faculty who will stay at Ginling for a number of years, but this is at present impossible. The good professors are always being taken off, leaving young new ones in their places.

3. A third factor is that Ginling has come to the place where she must become academically superior in a few fields in order to command keen able students in certain fields of study. At the present time the curriculum committee there is working on fields of study in which training for women should be especially given.

Cooperation with the University of Nanking is being worked out, and will strengthen the general work of both schools.

There at least three fields in which I feel Ginling might make a real contribution by giving special training; Physical Education, Music, and Social Service Training. The other fields of general science and arts should have strong good work, but they cannot hope to be superior to the government universities so close about us.

4. When foreign staff members are sent to Ginling they should be people who can hold their own with the highest academically trained Chinese. In order to challenge our Chinese firms by Christian living we must send to our college professorships in China ably trained, superior American women. Women with both a vision and a technical training in their particular field of work.

There are many many things which I should like to write, but I feel that perhaps I am writing now at too great length, I have come to care for Ginling College in a deep personal way. I feel it holds one of the keenest positions for helping to build and mold the life of women in China of any educational institution there. With Dr. Wu to guide it both spiritually and academically, it holds the possibility of being a force in the thinking life of a whole country. But there are serious problems which we there realize more each day of the year.

This year the Ginling college alumni are celebrating Mrs. Thurston's birthday at the time of Founders Day in the fall. This will, in a way, be a farewell and a sign of the deep appreciation that all of Ginling feels for the life of service and love which Mrs. Thurston has given to the college. Her ideals and convictions and faith have been a source of strength in Ginling life. May I add here that those of us who are in Ginling feel that Dr. Wu has been almost a saint in the way in which she has worked with Mrs. Thurston during these recent years following 1927? The change has been a hard one for Mrs. Thurston to accept, but she has been fine in her sincere efforts to fit into the new, and Dr. Wu has been wonderful in helping her to do this.

I wish that we might interest some groups in America in helping toward equipment in the college. Every department, including the library, needs so much more to bring it up to the standards of good college equipment. It is difficult to maintain either faculty morale or student training with insufficient materials with which to work. Could we get some foundations here to give small sums of money for library books in special fields?

I could go on indefinitely about Ginling, but perhaps I should stop with only a word of further appreciation to the Board in New York. I have doubtless only said here things which you are already too well aware of. They are my impressions only, and may be erroneous in some instances.

Most Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Merea E. Mossman

0469



Copies to:  
→ Miss Hodge  
File

September 23, 1935

Miss Meref E. Mossman  
202 College Avenue  
Winfield, Kansas

My dear Miss Mossman:

Inasmuch as you are planning to return to Ginling for five years the Board of Founders voted at its recent meeting to grant a study allowance to you for the coming year's work, the amount of the grant not to exceed \$200 which is the maximum set by the Ginling College Committee for such grants. The exact amount of the grant will have to be fixed after you have corresponded with the Educational Advisory Committee regarding courses, etc. This committee is composed of the following members:

Professor S. Ralph Harlow, Chairman; Smith College  
Northampton, Mass.  
Mrs. Charles K. Roys,  
Miss Rebecca W. Griest (substituting for Miss McKinnon)

I would suggest that you write to Miss Tyler or to one of them in her care and the matter will be brought before the committee at once.

We are all so glad that the Board took this action which will enable you to continue your studying.

You will be interested to know that Mr. Lobenstine accepted with pleasure his election to membership on the Board of Founders.

The moving film arrived in time for us to show it at the meeting and we were all delighted with it.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret E. Hodge, Chairman

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Please return - at once  
R.W.S.

Thanks  
M.E.B. 10/9/35

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57



Green Hall  
Chicago University

## Southwestern College

Winfield, Kansas  
October 3, 1935

My dear Rebecca:

The letter which you sent air mail to Winfield arrived here in Chicago just this afternoon. I sent a telegram at once to Mrs. Macmillan telling her that Emily does have a passage home on a German line. I am sure about this for I saw the order when we were in a Cook's agency someplace along the way to Naples.

I am definitely worried about her, for this relapse of which she herself is probably somewhat aware may mean that she will this time go into a state of depression with fearful consequences. It worries me a great deal. My advise (although from this distance of what use is one's judgment-- for I of course don't know the situation at present) would be for a stable member of her family to go with her and bring her back to America. I know that they will have to admit her for she is an American citizen. But she may raise a great deal of trouble on a boat if traveling alone. Beside that I seriously question the advisability of her coming alone due to her lack of responsibility and what she might do. It is not safe. Of this I am sure.

I had so hoped that she would get back to her home again or some of her family with her before these symptoms came on. If she had this condition recur in the quiet of a sanatorium I am not so hopeful of any lengthy recovery and it may be that she will need long sanatorium care. On the other hand the fact of security in her family may stabilize her sufficiently.

Somehow your letter this afternoon brought back all of the sad experiences of the summer and I wish that I might be there with her to see her back to her home. Having been through so much I hate to see someone else have to do it for her, and have the problems which I became understanding of. I shall surely be glad to help in every possible way.

Someplace I have a statement of Dr. Young's which he gave me from the boat at Naples just saying that she had had a nervous breakdown. Would that be of any help? I think that after she comes back to America she should have a careful examination by a careful psychiatrist in a hospital. I shall be only too glad to try and make a psychiatric case history if necessary. I would send it directly to him.



Oh I am just awfully sorry about this recurrence. It takes out all of the more hopeful aspects of the situation.

I got here day before yesterday at the University.

0471

OCT 3 1935

[2]

I was offered a job of supervising students as a member of the staff. I took part time work which will cover my tuition and books, etc. That allows me to carry two thirds time full work. I wanted to do it, for I badly need the contacts which it will give. I also felt that I just could not live on my salary, and must supplement it in some way. I am tied down all of Monday in supervising students in their field work, and Wednesday and Friday mornings, so I shall never be able to go home a weekend. However, I think it is best, for I just could not manage other wise.

Our classes started this afternoon and I am writing this between a seminar and a class period. This explains the errors in typing for I am in such haste. I wanted to mail this at once so that you would know why I was so tardy about sending the telegram.

Do please tell me all you find out about Emily. I am deeply sorry. Honestly it does not seem right that life should work out thus for her.

I am temporarily at Green Hall. I could not get a room at the dormitories, and I just can't afford to live out. So I am staying for a week or two here in the guest room, for I am a house member here. - *She I don't just know, but something will work out. It always does -*  
Let me know if there is anything which I can do.

Most lovingly -

Merib E. Messner

Please pardon all my typographical errors but I have not time to even correct them before class starts -

M. E. M.

Green Hall  
University of Chicago  
Chicago

0472

Jack

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The University of Chicago

Jates Hall #70  
University of Chicago  
November 16, 1935

My dear Rebecca -

It has so long since I've heard of anyone about Emily, that I'm going to bother you to ask you whether you have heard any word of her. Your first word was of a telephone conversation between Mrs. Macmillan & her. I'm so anxious to hear from <sup>someone</sup> about her. I hate to trouble you, but if you have heard I would surely appreciate hearing you tell me - I had a note from her father just before she landed. I answered him but I did not repeat what I had written him earlier for I felt Emily's being home would make that unwise -

Kathleen Bond sent me a very lovely understanding letter from Miss Palmer in the Seminary which made me feel that they will probably be able to help Emily quite a bit.

I've just been reading Lin Yutang's My Country & My People. What do you think of it? I'm finding it so much the thing one feels, or often can't put into words because one just doesn't know Chinese history & background of culture - This evening I just started the chapter on Social & Political life - & I must say, it

0473

is so convincing, & clear - I almost  
feel the fool for thinking I can possibly  
really make a contribution to life in China.

11-16-35 [2]  
Which by the way makes me want to talk  
over something with you - very unofficially  
- but I do want your advice - also unofficially.  
I have come to a real conviction that in  
view of Mother's attitude I must not assume  
a new five year contract at Sincing. I  
think I must come home after two or three  
years, then if Mother is well perhaps go for  
another two or three years, if I can so arrange  
work at Sincing as to make this possible -  
Mother feels so terribly deeply that it makes me  
only seem selfish in being so happy there -  
I've been thinking about it so much, and I  
honestly don't know what is right. As  
nearly as I can tell it's mostly a state of mind  
with Mother for she doesn't expect me to live at  
home when Dr. is here in America. And yet  
she can't even accept the fact of my returning  
to China sufficiently to allow me to talk it  
over with her. The reason I want to bring  
it up now is that I know furlough  
salary will be considerably lower for such  
an arrangement. I've even thought of staying  
in America a second year before going back to  
Sincing, if Dr. Yung stays in Sincing there

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over

The University of Chicago

another year. However, from my personal point  
of view I know that is unwise because  
inevitably I'd get started professionally in  
America - & then I'd not want to leave.  
I wish you would tell me frankly what you  
think of the future of Gilling. You probably  
already know that no matter how much I  
love Gilling, I would be a misfit there  
unless we can go ahead, and really build a  
strong training center - I have not much to  
offer in life but a deep interest in my work.  
And at present I can't see the way ahead for  
Gilling. I enjoy our faculty & student group  
more than any other group I've ever been associated  
with. And yet - Rebecca - if I went back, I  
know I would expect to go ahead & develop  
things in relation to a bigger social work  
program than we have done. If that didn't  
work out - I might find that through the  
years I would just be useless & a drag because  
of a feeling of frustration in work -

I don't know whether it is clear or not to you -  
I wish I might talk it over with you - I've thought  
of trying to come to Lancaster - but it does take  
so much time & it is expensive - Not being able to  
talk it over with anyone is sometimes like  
running about in a circle with oneself. Don't it?

0475

I feel that I must decide now whether I'm going<sup>77</sup> back to stay Gilling or whether it's just for a short time. Professionally I know I must start in here within a very few years if I am to make a contribution. Oh dear! it's difficult, isn't it, to know what is right. Since I know you had to make the decision I feel a trust in your judgment.

I'm enjoying my work so much - I tell you I am assisting in field work supervision in the field of child welfare. So nice, because I can compare standards of work with students at Gilling. This isn't quite fair for my students here are all graduate students. Even so, Gilling compares very favorably.

My classes are terribly stimulating. In fact almost too much so. I get interested the day slips away into night before I can get to bed. I have Grace Abbott for one course - Edith Abbott for a second, or a lawyer for the third. Edith Abbott on Public Assistance brings me into the field of public welfare legislation - federal. So you may know how fascinating it is.

The silver trouble in China certainly has numerous sides, doesn't it?

My best wishes to you - & apologies for harrying my troubles on you for advice -

11/16/35 Lawrence - Mrs. S. Brown