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THE WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.

The West China Union Theological College was established in 1936 and admitted its first class in the autumn of 1937. Its first class consisted of four students and its present enrolment is 43. In the present student body there are representatives from ten provinces. It is the only institution of College grade training men and women for church work in West China. It serves a constituency of one hundred million people from an area which is one third of China. This is in harmony with the recommendation of the Committee on Theological Education in China led by Dean Weigle who stated that there should be one Theological College in West China. At the present time there are many Middle Schools in West China from which students may come to our college.

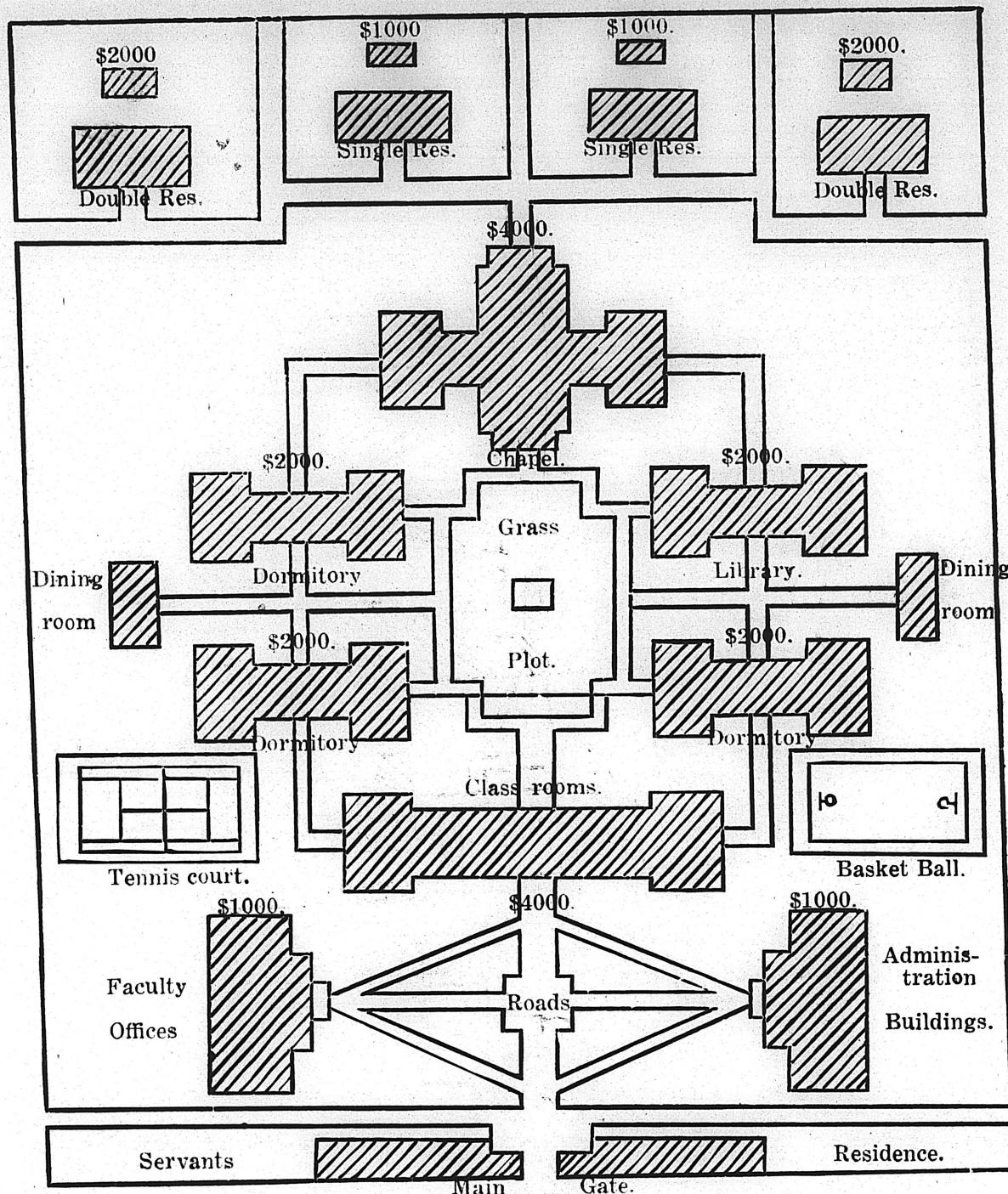
Five Missions and Churches are associated in the College. Two of the Missions are from England, two from the United States and one from Canada. It is associated with the West China Union University and its students are admitted to classes in the university when desired. It has its own Board of Management on the field but the University Board of Governors is also the Board of Governors of the College. The entrance requirement for the regular class is graduation from a Senior Middle School while a special class is admitted of those who have only graduation from a Junior Middle School. The College is building up a good staff and at present it is assisted by the Rural Church Department of the Nanking Theological Seminary.

The College needs new buildings. The work is being carried on in old buildings which are no longer sufficient or suitable. Land has been donated by one of the Missions and a layout of buildings has been drawn by a competent architect and accepted by the Board of Management. The buildings will be simple, of one storey, of brick construction and are laid out in an attractive style. It is estimated that gold \$25,000 would erect the plant. The buildings will be erected as funds are available. Exchange from gold to Chinese currency is now very favorable and this accounts for the low estimate of building costs in gold currency.

The first building required is a dormitory which should be built before the next college year. Residences for our Chinese staff are now urgently needed. Great care will be taken in the erection of the chapel so that a beautiful and worshipful building may be built. The library building and the dormitories are of uniform style. It is hoped that this plant may be completed within the next few years.

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Layout of the proposed buildings of
THE WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



The above layout of buildings was drawn by Mr. Canning Young, architect of the West China Union University, and has been accepted by the College Board of Management.

The property contains about four English acres or 25 Chinese acres. The estimated cost of the buildings is as follows and prices are given in gold currency: Chapel \$4000, 3 dormitories each \$2000, Library \$2000, Class rooms \$4000, 2 single residences \$1000 each, 2 double residence \$2000 each, Faculty Office \$1000, Administration building \$1000. Preparing roads and grounds \$1000. Total \$25,000 Gold currency.

Buildings will be erected as funds are available.

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The West China Union Theological College.

A PROSPECTUS.

The West China Union Theological College admitted its first class of students in the autumn of 1937. This class was of the regular College grade which requires Senior Middle School graduation for entrance. These students will study for four years, on completion of which they will be granted a degree by the College. There are four students registered in this class.

Two classes will be admitted in the autumn of 1938. These classes will be,—

- a. A second class of regular College grade.
- b. A special class requiring graduation from Junior Middle School for entrance. Only students who have this certificate will be admitted to this class. The foundation given by the study of the course required in the Junior Middle School is requisite for this course.

This is a three year course so that students should be unmarried or with light family responsibilities.

The student, in age, should be over twenty and under thirty years.

All students should have experience in the work of the ministry and be recommended to the College by a Church.

All students must have medical certificates of health before being admitted to the College.

Refresher Courses of short term or one year's duration may be offered later but not in the Fall of 1938.

Courses for lay workers are offered from time to time, announcements of which are sent out in advance.

It is hoped the College will meet the requirements of the churches in preparing students of this grade for church leadership. The College is open for women students as well as men.

The College is now established, supported by eight Missions and Churches. There is a Board of Management in Szechuan which controls the affairs of the College. There is also a Board of Governors who have accepted the responsibility of sponsoring the College in the Home Lands and who annually recommend the budget to the supporting Boards and Churches.

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Plans are being prepared for a permanent plant, the erection of which may be begun in 1938. The Nanking Theological Seminary may come to West China after summer and join with us in this College.

At present, there are two full time members of the staff, Mr. Wallace Wang and Mr. G. W. Sparling and six teachers giving part time. The work is being carried on in the buildings on Kiang Hsi Kiai belonging to the United Church of Canada Mission and the same Mission has offered a very suitable site for the permanent buildings.

WALLACE WANG
GEO. W. SPARLING.

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THE WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE, REPORT - JAN. 1939.

The aim of the Christian Movement in China is the establishing of the Kingdom of God or the Church which Paul calls the body of Christ. This church is the group of those who have been touched into life by the Spirit of Christ and who are united by the bonds of Christian fellowship and Christian love. This is a spiritual group which God is seeking to realize in all society and of which Jesus Christ is the foundation. This Church seeks to propagate itself and to extend this Christian fellowship to all who are willing to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

To make this fellowship real in human society and to seek to extend it to others, the church as an organization was called into being, and to-day almost every country in the world have those who have joined this fellowship until we can speak of the Church Universal. But to make this spiritual reality function in human society it must have a human form or organization, and this is the visible church as we know it throughout the world to-day. We have the beginnings of this church in West China and the motto accepted some years ago was "One Protestant Christian Church for West China." The spirit of Christian unity is strong among us and our common possessions mean more to us than our differences. We can see the church growing and increasing in influence and power with the passing years.

But this Church will make progress and follow along right lines only as it has a trained leadership. A group of men and women who are thoroughly versed in the scriptures and who are well acquainted with the meaning and history of the church throughout the ages must be set aside to give all of their time and attention to this all-important spiritual calling. They must study methods of church work and in a consecrated spirit and in an intelligent manner seek to spread the influence and message of the church. It is as true here as in any calling or profession that men must be trained by those of experience and must learn from the heritage of the ages how men and women can be led to Christ and taught to worship and serve Him in the best way. This is the responsibility of the Christian people of West China to work for the establishment and growth of the

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Christian church and to do it in the most effective and intelligent manner. There must be those who having felt the power of Christ in their own lives will consecrate their talents and energies to this particular form of work and having been called they should be given the best possible training for the work.

To meet this need there has been established the West China Union Theological College. This college has only one aim and that is to train men and women for work and service for the Christian Church of West China. It is the college of the Protestant Church of West China and it seeks to train its students in the way required by that church. It has grown out of the need of that church and now seeks to meet its needs.

This College is now in the second year of its history. It is situated in the suburb of Chengtu outside of the south gate of the city. It has a Board of Management representing and elected by the churches of the province. Its enrolment at present is twenty-two with three more prospective students for next term. Of these students all but five are from our own province and their church affiliations are distributed as follows, Mei Dao Huei nine students, Methodist Episcopal four students, Baptist one student, Mei Dao Huei Woman's Board two students, Sheng Kung Huei one student, Southern Methodist two students, Christian Church one student, Congregational church one student, the reformed church one student. The teachers at present at the college are Mr. Wallace Wang, Rev. A. Lutley, Miss C. Trotter Rev. C. Y. Kwoh from Hankow and Rev. Y. L. Liu of Wuchang also three teachers from the Nanking Theological Seminary—Rev. Newton Chiang, Mr. Yiu Mo Ren and Mr. Cheo Ming Yi, also Rev. G. W. Sparling.

The College aims to do work which in academic standing is of university grade. The requirement for entrance into the regular classes of the college is graduation from the Senior Middle School. To meet the wishes of some of the churches in the province a special class is admitted which requires only Junior Middle School graduation. An arrangement has been made with the Union university whereby they agree that our students may enter any classes of the university for which they are qualified with out any extra fees. There is also an interchange of staff with the university. English, Chinese language and other Arts subjects are taken in

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the University. The members of the special class are also admitted to the agricultural extension course classes of the university.

The Curriculum might be divided into two parts one which has to do with the Content of the Christian message and the other with practical methods of church work. The first part follows the usual courses to be found in a Theological College such as Courses in Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Theology Religious Education etc. Practical work consists of preaching in the market towns in the vicinity and in our own street chapel, Sunday school and young peoples' work in the city etc. This work is carried on under supervision, the students being divided into groups each with a member of the faculty as supervisor. Written reports are required each week from every student concerning the work which he has done.

We are fortunate to have the assistance this year of teachers from Nanking Theological Seminary. The Rural Church Department of that Seminary is now operating in connection with our College. The teachers in this department are all specialists in Rural Church work, Mass Education and Religious Education. Their sojourn in Chengtu will be a blessing to the church of this province. They are prepared to visit churches in the province and give them the benefit of their information and experience. They have that which our church needs at the present time. They have made the problem of how to meet the needs of the rural community their special object of study and effort and they are prepared to give the church the benefit of their experience. Besides this we hope that during their stay with us teachers of our own may be trained who will carry on this work in our department after they return to their work in East China. We wish that the church would select a few young men or women who could study under the direction of these Rural Church leaders and who would thus prepare themselves for future service in the college. This is also an opportunity for any workers in rural churches to learn new methods and catch the inspiration of these experienced teachers.

This college is now beyond the experimental stage, for this year has pointed in a remarkable way to the place that it should have in preparing leaders for the church. It belongs to the church of this province and

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it will accomplish its work only as it is encouraged and supported by that church. It needs a staff and for the present each church should undertake to supply one full time teacher or that amount of teaching. Each church should also share in supplying the funds that are necessary for its support and running expenses. More buildings are necessary, for already our dormitory is full. We had hoped to hold short term classes for lay workers and others but we have no extra accommodation. It is expected that this will be one of the special features of our work in the future but for expansion we now need more buildings. Surely God is leading in this work and the Church should seek to follow that leading and carry on the work as he points the way.

GEO. W. SPARLING.

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REPORTS & STATEMENTS, WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY- Administrative Officers *in Field*

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Union Theological College

To the members of the Board of Governors,

I have received the following report from the Principal of the College, Dr. Sparling, with a request that copies be mailed to all members of the Board.

26 Grosvenor Street
London, Ontario

(signed) Frank Anderson

November 21, 1939

Secretary

The Theological College opened on Tuesday morning September 12th with a service of worship followed by the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The rest of the first week was occupied with examinations. Some students had left in the midst of the June examinations owing to the air raid of June 11th and an opportunity was given them at this time to take a supplemental examination. Entrance examinations were also taken during this week by the new students. This made it possible for us to begin lectures the following week at the same time as the university.

There have been some changes in our staff. We have the same teachers from Nanking Theological Seminary that we had last year. Mr. Wallace Wang has left us for the United States having secured a good scholarship in the Union Theological Seminary where he hopes to study for two years. Rev. Ts'ao Shao Ch'ing, a minister of the Mei Dao Huei and a graduate of our university, has joined our staff. Besides teaching he is acting as registrar and secretary of the Extension Work of the College. Dr. Peter Y.F. Shih, who has just finished four years of study in the United States, two at Hartford and two at Union, has just returned to China and has joined our staff. Dr. Shih has specialized in the study of the Old Testament and is now teaching that subject in our College.

We have thirty-five students registered in the College who are divided among five classes. Of these students twenty-five are men and ten are women. Nineteen of them were with us last year while sixteen entered the college this autumn as new students. They are divided among the classes as follows: first year Senior Grade six students, second year nine, third year three and fourth year two. There are ten students in the regular class of the Junior Grade and five students have come for one year Refresher Course. They are divided among eight different churches. Ten men students come from the Mei Dao Huei and have been in the work of the Ministry of that church while five women also come from that church. There are six students from the Methodist Episcopal Church, three from the Sheng Kung Huei, four from the Baptist Church, two from the Evangelical Church, one from the Methodist Church in Kwei Chow, one from the Presbyterian Church and one registered from the Church of Christ in China. Twenty-one students come from our own province, one from Sikang, three from Shensi, two from Hunan, one from Kweichow, two from Fukien, one from Kiangsu, one from Cheichiang, one from Honan, one from Shangtung, and one from Manchuria. Thus ten provinces are represented in our student body this year.

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The students are organized into a Student Association with officers and committees. These committees include Religious Life, Health and Recreation, Entertainment, Debating and other activities of College Life. Morning Worship is held daily at half past seven o'clock. There is also a weekly assembly held Friday afternoons at half past four. Every second week this assembly takes the form of a worship service while, on alternate weeks, addresses are given on current topics. All students have practical work on Saturday or Sunday. Some go to nearby towns to preach while others do work in the city in churches, hospitals and some visit the prisons. Sunday School and evangelistic preaching services are held at the college to which the people of the neighborhood are invited.

During the summer months some work was done on building. The United Church of Canada is erecting a house on property adjacent to our College. One residence for a teacher has been built on our property and will be part of our permanent plant. Originally it was planned to erect this house using brick but, owing to the impossibility of purchasing brick at the time, it was built of "beetow" material. Rev. Newton Chiang and family are occupying this house. Another building was erected adjacent to the buildings which are now used for the work of the college and of the same type as those buildings. This made it possible to accommodate our enlarged student body and to provide offices for the teachers. It is planned to erect a new and permanent dormitory during the ensuing year.

A good spirit prevails in the College and with the staff as now constituted we anticipate a good year's work and progress towards our goal.

(signed) G.W. Sparling
Principal

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January 27, 1940.

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Report of the Union Theological College
for the autumn term 1939

This term is the beginning of the third year of the history of the college. We have every reason to be grateful for the opportunities that have been ours during these few years and for the progress that it has been possible for us to make. The need for the college has been specially clear during the past two years owing to the circumstances which have led so many students and teachers to our province.

We have forty-two students, registered as follows, twenty-two in the regular class which requires Senior Middle School graduation for entrance, nine in the Junior class and six in the refresher course. We have also a class of university graduates who are taking subjects leading to a B.D. degree. Ten of the students are women. Twenty-six are from Szechwan while the other students represent nine other provinces.

During the year three new teachers have been appointed to the college. They are Dr. Peter Shih, a specialist in Old Testament having studied four years in Hartford and Union Theological Seminaries; Rev. Ts'ao Shao-ching of the Church of Christ in China who is Secretary of the Extension work of the college and Registrar; Miss B. Louise Foster who will act as Dean of Women of the college. Dr. Shih is Dean of the college.

Special lecturers are invited to the college on Friday afternoon and during the year lectures have been given at this hour by Dr. R. C. Jolliffe, Dr. P. Shih, Mr. D. M. Hu of the Y.M.C.A., Rev. Fu Ching Beh, Rev. Kuoh Chung-yi, Bishop C. T. Sung, Dr. T. Z. Koo, Mr. Chu, General Secretary of the C.L.S. and Dr. D. L. Phelps.

All students have practical work either in the towns near Chengtu or in the local churches, hospitals and in the prison. A street chapel is conducted in the rooms at our front gate.

Two buildings were erected during the year, one containing rooms for students and a residence occupied by Rev. Newton Chiang. Two other buildings are under construction, a residence for two teachers and a dormitory for students. These should be ready for occupation after next summer.

Students continue to take subjects in the university, English, Chinese, Sociology, Ethics and Philosophy. It is planned next term to begin giving almost all of the English at the college and to make it elective. The students conduct their own organization and are receiving direction in the college life from Mr. Ts'ao and Dr. Shih.

We hope to add one full-time Chinese teacher each year for the next few years. These teachers should be qualified in New Testament, Church History, Theology, Religious Education and Rural Evangelism. Rev. Marcus Ch'eng and Rev. Kuoh Chung-yi will join us as part-time teachers during the next term.

The Rural Church department, besides teaching in the college, has conducted three institutes during the term at Tai Ho Cheng, Suifu and Luchow. These have been for local church workers.

The continued support and prayers of the churches and missions are requested. We are asking for financial support; the same amount as last year. It is necessary to raise the fees of students. Next term the Board fee will be \$45 and \$4 for laundry. Tuition and dormitory fees remain the same until next summer when they will be raised from \$10 and \$5 per term respectively to \$20 and \$10 per term. Besides this there are fees of \$1 for medical services and fifty cents for students' association.

We believe that there is an ever-expanding place for this college in the work of the church of the future and we are anxious that its foundations should be laid wisely and well.

Geo. W. Sparling, President

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WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Report of the West China Union Theological College
to the Board of Governors, May 1940

During the past three years China has been engaged in a life and death struggle with her enemy and the resistance which she has been able to put forth is remarkable and beyond praise. She bids fair to be able ultimately to maintain her independence and liberty but it is at a terrible cost. Her people have been called upon to endure unspeakable hardships and to adjust to most distressing conditions and inspite of overwhelming odds they have refused to surrender. We believe that her future independence as a nation is assured, because in her own spirit she has refused to be submerged. But she has paid a big price and is still paying it. Politically she is divided into two parts usually styled, free and occupied China, but she will not rest content until occupied China has again been rendered free and she can as a united people develop her own future and work out her own national ideals.

The effect of this calamity on the church has been twofold. The first is the physical effect which has forced many of the mature Christians and Christian leaders to leave their homes in East China and come to the West. The result of this on the Church of West China has been to stimulate it and to give it a new vision of its own future. Congregations have enlarged and have felt new life pulsating in the groups of Christians with which the more mature leaders of East China have joined. The second result has been to give to the whole church a new conception of its place in the social and national life of the country. Everywhere men are looking to the church to make plans for the future and to undertake necessary steps for the people in their distress. Men of prominence, beginning with the Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek, are calling to church leaders to lead in movements to relieve the present distress of the people and to plan for the new China which is to be. The great watchword of the country is "Reconstruction" and that the church should have a prominent place in this work is generally recognized. In the laying of the foundations of this new nation and new social order, the Church already has a central place and this place will inevitably continue to widen in the years which lie ahead. Probably in no country has the church in its 2000 years of history been faced with a greater responsibility or a more inspiring opportunity than that which faces the church in free China today. Truly the Lord is saying, "Go ye up and possess the land for I have given it into your hands today".

Whether the church will be enabled to measure up to the challenge and to do its duty during the next two decades will depend entirely upon its leadership. This is a truism but needs repetition. Only strong men, men of vision, energy and faith will be qualified for this task. There will be those who will say, "The task is too great, the enemy is too strong, we cannot possess the land". Only defeat awaits such as these. But there will be some who will say, "We are few in numbers but He who is with us is more than all who are against us and we can succeed".

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It is to prepare the leadership for this church of the future that our college exists. Our College and the Canton Theological College now carrying on in Dalifu in Yunnan province are the only institutions definitely accepting this responsibility. When plans were first made for the opening of this College no one knew of the war or the conditions which would confront China and the Church, today, but God was preparing it for this time. We wondered at first, if we were justified in such a venture in West China and during the first year of our history we could not yet see the enlarging possibilities of the college. During that year we had four students enrolled but now our registration is forty-three with every probability of an enrolment of over sixty after next summer. Of these forty-three students, twenty-two are enrolled in the regular classes of college grade. Nine are enrolled in the junior grade, seven in our Refresher course and five are taking special classes opened for graduates from the University. Twenty-six of the students come from our own province while the other seventeen represent nine other provinces. On the staff of our College we have four teachers who are giving full time, namely, Dr. Peter Shih, who is a specialist in Old Testament and who has just returned from four years of study in America, Miss C. Trotter of the Methodist Church and Miss B. L. Foster of the Canadian Mission and myself. Rev. A. F. Lutley of the Church Missionary Society is giving almost full time to our college. Besides these, many teachers of our University are helping us. All University classes are open to our College grade students and we are availing ourselves of this privilege. The Teachers of the Rural Church Department of Nanking Theological Seminary are still with us and are giving us great assistance. They have six teachers and about half of their time is given to teaching in the college and the other half to work for the churches of the province.

Our curriculum is divided into two main sections, one which might be termed the Message of the Church and the other The Work of the Church. The first includes such subjects as Old Testament, New Testament, Theology, Church History and Religious Education. The second includes Pastoral Theology, Rural Church, Work among Women and Children, Work for Young People, Public Health, Agriculture, etc.

We have made a beginning at the erection of our new buildings. The plan for the layout of the buildings has been before you. It was planned to erect only one storey buildings but because of the rapid increase of our student body we have decided that we should erect two storey buildings so that the dormitory which is now under construction will be two stories. One double teachers' Residence is also almost completed. We need funds for the other buildings, all of which will be needed in the very near future.

Our student body is assured, so that the great task of the future is to build up an efficient teaching staff. For this we will largely need Chinese teachers, though we would like one missionary for each main department, that is Old Testament, New Testament, Theology, Church History, etc. But we will need at least one Chinese also for each of these. The whole complexion and work of the college of the future will depend on the calibre of its teachers. Already we have

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one excellent teacher, Dr. Peter Shih, and if we can steadily add such men during the next few years the future of our college is assured. We also have two men studying in America. Mr. Wallace Wang at Union and Mr. Li Ming Liang at Virginia who is preparing for our Rural Church department.

Today, at a meeting of our Faculty, we discussed our immediate needs and decided to make our appeal to the Board of Governors in addition to our regular appeal through you to the Mission Board which is contained in the minutes of our Board of Management, item number 106, for Endowment for Teachers' Salaries and for funds for the erection of the class-room building and for more teachers' residences. We would ask that our appeal be presented to the meeting of the Associated Boards for Higher Education. We decided that the urgency of our appeal is, first, for the Endowment Fund for Teachers' Salaries and then for money for buildings. We have estimated that Gold \$5,000 would endow one Teacher's Chair and Gold \$5,000 would erect the class-room building or two teachers' residences. Our order of appeal would therefore be, first, \$5,000 for Endowment of Teachers, second, \$5,000 for two Teachers' Residences, third, \$5,000 for Endowment of a second Teacher's Chair and fourth, \$5,000 for the class-room building. You will see by this that if we can receive only one gift of \$5,000 it should be for a teacher and other gifts in the suggested order. We hope that the Board of Governors can undertake to raise this amount, probably by application to the Associated Boards.

We look forward with confidence to the future of our college and to the work which our graduates will be enabled to do for the building up of the Church in West China. We will not say that China will emerge from the war a Christian nation, for what do we mean by such a term, but we do believe that Christian ideals and the Christian Church will have a greater place than ever before in the life and hearts of the people of China.

With a prayer for God's Blessing upon us all,

Yours sincerely,

GEO. W. SPARLING
President

April 5, 1940

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*The West China Union Theological
College, Autumn, 1940.*

The Opening service of the College was held on Thursday afternoon, September 12th, in the new College building. Besides the students and members of the staff some fifty guests were present representing the churches and the universities. The speaker for the afternoon was Dr. Daniel Lee who has recently come to Szechwan to act as General Secretary of Religious Education for the Methodist Church. Dr. Lee has returned from the United States where he spent eight years in preparation for his work. His address on the subject "Why Men Enter the Christian Ministry" was full of interest and thought. We expect that Dr. Lee will give further help to the College in the years which lie ahead.

The Opening was held in the new building which was completed only a few days before. When this building was being erected it was called the Men's Dormitory, and that is to be its ultimate use. But it was thought that for the present it would be better to use the old building for the mens dormitory, while the upper storey of the new building would be used as the Womens dormitory, and the lower storey as the classroom and administration building. Accordingly, for the present until more buildings are erected, our work is being carried on in this new place which is proving very satisfactory. Much work must yet be done to beautify the surroundings but the opening of this new building has made it possible to admit the larger number of students which could not have been accommodated in the old place.

Friday, September the 19th, was New Students' Day when a number of new students equal to the whole enrolment of last year were welcomed to the college. A Communion Service with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was held in the morning. During the day, chats were held with new students and in the afternoon a welcome tea was served. In the following paragraph an analysis of the student body is given.

Owing to difficulty of transportation and long distances involved three students have not yet arrived but are known to be on the way. Of our students, two have gone for one year's work as "Friends of the Wounded", and good reports have come of the work which they are doing. There are also several students who reside elsewhere and elect courses at the college. We will have sixty-one students in residence and ten living outside. Of these, twenty-two are women and

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forty-nine are men. Thirty-six come from the province of Szechwan while the others represent thirteen provinces. There are four from the province of Kweichow two of whom are of the Miao tribe. Five are from Hunan province, four from Kiangsu and three from Hupeh while other provinces are represented by one or two.

At least twelve different church affiliations are represented. Twenty belong to the Methodist church and twenty-one to the Church of Christ in China. There are four from the Baptist church of Szechwan and four from other Baptist churches. Six belong to the Sheng Kung Hwei, six to the Presbyterian church, and five to the Evangelical church. Two come from the English Methodists, one from the Disciples, one from the Congregational church and one from the Menonite church.

Of these students six belong to the senior year of the College grade course, nine to the third year, eight to the second year and nineteen to the first year and in this first year are nine students from Szechwan. There are fourteen students in the Junior grade course and ten in the Refresher class. The other five students are registered as graduates from a university proceeding to the B.D. degree in the Nanking Theological Seminary. The work which they take while registered here will be recognized by that college.

The above facts will show that our college is meeting a need not only in Szechwan but in all China, and we are grateful for this opportunity of service to the church in this great land.

G. W. SPARLING

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Union Theological College
Chengtú, West China
March 19, 1941

Dr. B. A. Garside
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Garside:

I have heard that the meeting of the Board of Governors may be held some time this Spring so I hasten to send a short report of our College and its work.

There is not much to add beyond that which was reported in my last letter. Inquiries continue to come from remote places as to the possibility of students entering, who belong to Missions not at all connected with our College. Our reply always is that our doors are open to all of any denomination who are studying for the Christian Ministry. We are expecting quite an increase in our enrolment after next summer. We now have sixty-five students.

We much appreciated the visit from Dr. Stanley Smith, vice-president of Nanking Theological Seminary. He was with us about two weeks in February. While he was here, we had a meeting of our Faculty and also of the Executives of our Board of Management. At these meetings our work was reviewed and suggestions made for our future development. Already we have received considerable help from Nanking Seminary and they seem inclined to continue that help. You will see by the minutes of the Board which have already been sent to you, items No. 152 and 153, what our requests have been. We would expect from Dr. Smith's visit and sympathetic attitude, that these requests will be granted.

At the Executive meeting held while Dr. Smith was with us the following resolution was passed, "In view of the fact that several students in West China who are university graduates have expressed a desire for theological education and since there is great need for workers of this grade in the church in West China, Resolved to approach Nanking Theological College carrying on this work in the future". I might add that the students taking this work will register with Nanking Seminary also and when their work is completed will receive a B.D. degree from them. We expect from ten to fifteen students for these classes.

We have three teachers who should be with us after this summer. One is Wallace Wang whom you know. One is Mr. Li Ming Liang who is now studying in Toronto and one is Rev. Christopher T'ang who is studying at San Francisco Theological Seminary and who will secure his Doctors degree in Church History. These men will greatly strengthen our staff.

For these students and teachers housing accommodation will be necessary. We now have one dormitory and a double residence for teachers. We think that if we could erect another dormitory which would be for women students, these two buildings would accommodate almost all of the students. The old property would then be vacated and it could be prepared for accommodation for teachers. We held a meeting of the Board of Management on February 24th, the minutes of which have not yet been printed. At this meeting the following

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resolution was passed, "Some discussion was held concerning the work of building the Women's dormitory, Resolved to authorize the laying of the foundations and the buying of building materials up to the limit of the funds in hand." These foundations are now almost completed. This was done now because of the wisdom of laying foundations before the heavy rains of April and May. The grant from Nanking will probably not be received until after the meeting of its Board in June. When the funds are in hand we will proceed with the erection of the building.

Our College work is improving. With the coming of more teachers, the curriculum is being enriched. Facilities are increasing also for the practical work of the students. The churches in Chengtu and vicinity are providing more and better opportunities for this work.

If this letter arrives in time for the meeting of the Board of Governors, kindly express to them our gratitude for their continued support and our best wishes for a good meeting of the Board.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ George W. Sparling

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

The West China Union Theological College closed its fourth year of work on Monday, June 16th, when the Graduation Exercises of the College were held in the chapel. In the autumn of 1937 the first class was admitted to the college and from the four who were admitted at that time one student graduated this year. Three students graduated from the Senior grade course, one having spent his full time with us and one who took two years of her work in Nanking Theological Seminary and then transferred to our college and one who is a graduate of Nanking Seminary but who spent his final year in our college. Seven students graduated from the Junior grade course having taken the required three years work in the college. Seven more students received certificates for one year of study taken as refresher students. Our total enrolment during the past year has been sixty-three over half of whom have come from the churches of West China while the others come from various provinces.

The Closing Exercises of the College consisted of three functions, the first being the dinner for the graduates on Saturday evening, the Baccalaureate Service on Sunday morning and the Graduation on Monday morning. On Saturday evening all students and all members of the Faculty with their wives had dinner together at the college in honor of the graduating class. Skits and plays and speeches composed a very interesting program. On Sunday morning students, faculty and friends of the college assembled at the church at Sze Shen Tse where Bishop C. T. Song of the Sheng Kung Hwei preached the baccalaureate sermon and representatives of all the churches took part in the service. At nine o'clock on Monday morning all assembled in the college chapel for graduation. Dr. Wu Yi-fang, President of Ginling College, had kindly consented to give the address and spoke on the work of the church in the community. The Dean of the College, Dr. Peter Shih, then presented the candidates for graduation and diplomas and certificates were granted.

At one time reports of possible students for next term led us to think that we would have an enrolment quite in advance of this year but owing to the extreme high cost of board, we doubt if the number will exceed that of the past term. Already we have heard of some students who are debarred from coming by the expense. Our second dormitory should be ready for occupation when classes open. This will be the girls' residence, while the one built a year ago will accommodate the boys. Classrooms and offices will be divided between the two buildings. We are also expecting three full time Chinese teachers to join our staff after the summer. Two of them are graduates of West China Union University, Rev. Wallace Wang and Mr. Li Ming Liang. They should arrive in Hongkong about the end of June. The third is Dr. Christopher Tang who has recently received his Doctor's degree in Church History from San Francisco Theological College. The coming of these three teachers will greatly add to the teaching efficiency of the college.

During the year a weekly special lecture has been given to the student body and we are greatly indebted to the teachers of the various universities for these lectures. They have been on broad and important subjects and have added much towards the enriching of the courses of the college and the life of the students. A good spirit prevails among the students and they keep before their minds the purpose for which they have come to college. The one thing on their hearts is, how can I prepare myself for the work which lies before me after I leave college. This is the advan-

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tage of having a college where the students have all a common aim and where there is only one purpose running as a thread through all the lectures that are given. Our students are admitted to classes in the university and have a place in the general university life on the campus. This is specially true of the religious life and work of the university where our students are serving on the important committees and meeting with the students of other colleges.

Our college is gradually expanding in its scope and aim and it is becoming more and more apparent that the young church of Sze Chwan is depending upon the college for leadership. Our teachers are not only associated with the individual students who are registered with us but they have contacts also with the church, and have every opportunity to give inspiration and assistance to the church. As our staff increases, these opportunities will increase and the church will look to our college for suggestions for the expansion of its work and for methods of service. Our teachers sit on church committees and visit conferences and church groups.

The work of the college is also widening in order to meet the demands of the church. Not only will our college prepare candidates for the ministry but also leaders in religious education. There is a growing need for teachers of religious education for Sunday School and young peoples work within the church and for similar work in schools conducted by the Missions and the Churches. One of the graduates of this year is appointed to be the teacher of religion in one of our Senior Middle Schools. We believe that the demand for this class of worker will increase and it will not be long until there are as many of our students looking forward to service along this line as are expecting to enter the work of the ministry. The curriculum for the two classes of students will be largely a common one but special courses will also be provided.

As we contemplate the work which our graduates who enter the Christian Ministry will be called upon to do, we realize that it is twofold. There is the dispensing of the Word of Life in Sacrament and preaching and there is also the practical application of the church's message in the society in which the church is placed. This latter phase of the church's work is almost universally recognized in China today and everywhere we hear of the welcome given to the church because of its practical service to human needs. In the training of the students both phases of their future work must be emphasized and this we seek to do. Every opportunity is given to them to visit churches in the city and vicinity and they are expected to observe existing methods and to experiment with new ones. There are demonstration centers for both rural and city church methods and the student learns from his own experience and from that of others. These methods are not fixed or stereotyped but will largely depend on the initiative, training and ability of the young leader. The Practical Work of the Ministry is one of the large departments of our curriculum.

During the past term we have had presented to us possible avenues of service which will make ever increasing demands upon the staff and the resources of our college. The National Christian Council has a department of work which has as its aim the relating of the Alumni of the various colleges to the life and work of the church. This is very important and it is suggested that for Chengtu and vicinity this work should center in our college. There is also being set up a Literary Department whose aim is to enlist scholarly Christian leaders in the task of producing Christian literature and in the translation of the Christian classics of the early church. In

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this important work our college should have a large share. There has also been established an Extension Service for Rural Churches whose aim is to assist as far as possible the development of the rural church throughout the province. One of our teachers, Mr. Li Ming Liang, has been appointed as Executive Secretary of this work and it will be sponsored by the churches of Sze Chwan and by our college.

Thus the area of our college work is rapidly expanding and single departments are faced with requests and opportunities as large as those which we were able to see for the whole college when it opened four years ago. In these four years it has become a college in the sense that large spheres of work are awaiting it. Thus larger demands are being made upon each department and this requires an increase in staff and resources. The main departments are as follows: Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Theology, Homiletics and Pastoral Theology, Religious Education, The Rural Church, Practical Work, English and Music. We should have one full time teacher, at least, in each of these departments besides assistance which may be obtained from part time teachers. Each Mission which is sharing in the work of the college should appoint one full time missionary to the college. Besides being qualified to teach his subject, these representatives of the Missions should associate themselves very closely with the plans of the college and with its life. Great opportunities present themselves in personal association with these young people who are later going out to be the leaders and builders of the Christian church. At least one of these should be a young man who can identify himself very closely with the students in their athletic and college life. Owing to enlarged staff and increased costs the budget of the college should immediately be doubled.

Everyone rejoices in the new place that the church has made for itself in West China. Whether this church will be able to enter the open door will largely depend upon the kind of work that our college is able to do during the ensuing years. The expansion in responsibility and opportunity has been great during the past four years but we predict that it will be greater in the next generation of college life. When the class which enters next autumn graduates in four years' time we will find that the internal development of the college and the area of its influence will have increased even more than during the past four years.

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Report of the Theological College, June 1942.

It is quite fitting that at the close of another academic year and on the completion of five years of our history, we should review our position and take stock of our resources. Five years ago now our college was still a dream and a hope, to-day it is a reality pulsing with life and full of promise for the future. Five years ago we were trying to find a place for it in the Christian Movement in West China, while to-day it has already found that place and made itself indispensable in the work of building up the church in West China. War conditions have enhanced its position and increased its responsibility for it is related to the whole of China and has students from many churches and from twelve provinces. We cannot but be thankful that the churches of West China five years ago decided that such a college was needed.

In Plant, of our permanent buildings we have our two dormitories, one double residence and one single residence. We still need a chapel, a library building and a classroom and office building. On account of the very high cost of building materials it may be necessary to postpone further building until after the war but we are very thankful that we have these several buildings completed and by a rearrangement of their use we can accomodate our work for the present. We would express our gratitude to the different Missions whose contributions made it possible to proceed with these buildings and to the Nanking Theological Seminary for their generous assistance.

During the five years we have also made progress towards the building up of our permanent staff. We have three Chinese teachers giving full time while we have another in America who has agreed to join our staff. Besides these we have several missionaries who are giving the major portion of their time to the college. Nanking Seminary, Rural Church department continues to give much assistance in teaching and several teachers on the university staff give a course or two in our college. Probably our greatest need after our visiting teachers have left us will be for a teacher of Religious Education.

An analysis of the students registered in the college shows that just over half come from our own province. The regular Course of the College which requires graduation from Senior Middle School for entrance continues to have the largest enrolment. In this Course there are forty students while in the Junior and Refresher courses there have been fourteen. Eight students have registered with Nanking Seminary in the post graduate department. Already several students have definitely applied for entrance into the college next term while others have made inquiries but have not yet sent in an application. We have heard that three students from Canton Theological College are definitely planning to come to our college when the former leaves for East China, while others may come. Nanking Seminary has granted \$15000 for scholarships for students who are from other provinces and cut off from their supporting churches. Already we have had fourteen applications or inquiries for these scholarships.

This year eight students graduated from our Regular Course two from the Refresher Course while one received an M. RE degree from Nanking. The Baccalaureate service was held in the Baptist church in the city on June 21st at which Rev. Fu Chin-pek of the Baptist church preached and we would like to record our appreciation of his message. At our graduation exercises on Monday morning June 22nd., Governor and Madame Chang Chuin were present and spoke to our gathering. Again we would express our gratitude for the stimulat-

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and inspiring messages. We are sure that the students who have gone from us, as well as others, will long remember the addresses given on these two occasions.

The Faculty has given some time during the past weeks to consideration of a revision of the curriculum. When we began our college our staff was very small and we could offer only a limited number of courses but with the expansion in our staff we are in a position to give the courses which we think should constitute a Theological college curriculum. We are also anxious that all courses and teaching should be up to the standard that such a college demands. Our curriculum will be divided into four parts, namely, The Bible, Theology, Church History and General Studies. The courses in the first division will be given every year throughout the four years while those of the second and third division fourth, will be given for two years and the ~~third~~ will largely be one year courses. Most of the courses under general studies will be taken in the university where our students are free to enter their regular classes.

All students of the college have positions for the summer. Four have gone to work among the Border Tribes while the others are working in the churches in the province. Many inquiries come for graduates who might go out, on invitation, to work in different churches but generally speaking all graduates return to the churches who have been supporting them while in college. All students, except the final year are required to do practical work in the churches throughout the college year, and reports of this work are given on Monday morning. Every effort is made to foster the spiritual and devotional life of the students for the attitude of the student to the work for which he is preparing is just as important as the preparation of his message.

College chapel is held daily and is conducted by members of the faculty. The students have a service in the early morning before breakfast and in the evening after supper. Special speakers are invited for a weekly lecture on Monday mornings and these have been given by representatives from the university and the churches in the city. Many of these lectures have been of a high order and have been an inspiration to the students.

We are looking forward to a good year in 1942 - 43 with an enrolment about the same as during the current year.

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THE FACULTY OF THE WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

FULL TIME CHINESE FACULTY

Rev. Peter Y. F. Shih, B.A., S.T.M., D.D.

Dr. Shih has been on the Faculty since 1939. He is a graduate in Arts from Nanking University and a graduate from Nanking Theological Seminary. He has his S.T.M. degree from Hartford Seminary and his degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Intercollegiate University, London. Dr. Shih studied in the United States for four years both in Union Theological Seminary New York and in Hartford. He still has close connections with Hartford Religious Fellowship. He specialized in Old Testament and is now in charge of our Department of Old Testament. Some one has made the statement that he is one of the best qualified teachers in China in the Old Testament. He is also Dean of Studies for the College in which he is very efficient. He has very high standards for our curriculum and for the work of the students.

Before studying abroad Dr. Shih was Pastor of a large church in the city of Hangchow near Shanghai. He left this to continue his study in Theological subjects. He has a family of three boys who are with him in his home here on our campus. His father was minister of the church, China Inland Mission for fifty years. He died just a few weeks ago. His mother is still living and is with him here. Dr. Shih is also a popular preacher and answers as many requests to preach as his health will permit. Unfortunately he is not completely strong physically and must be careful of his health. He is a minister of The Church of Christ in China having preached in the Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Wallace Wang (Wang Chuin-hsien) B.A., B.D., S.T.M.

Mr. Wang is a Szechwanese having been born in Chengtu. He has been with the college from its very beginning, in fact he was one of the main members of the various conferences and committees that were held in early years in preparation for the College. He was a member of the Kuling Conference of 1935 when it was decided to open the College in West China. He was present at all of the meetings held when Dr. Weigle was in Chengtu. He is a graduate in Arts of the West China Union University. He has his degree of Bachelor of Divinity from Yenching University where he studied for three years. His Degree of Master of Sacred Theology was granted by Union Theological Seminary, New York. He is a member of the Baptist Church and was ordained to the ministry in a Baptist Church in the United States. He is a teacher of New Testament and of Modern Missions. Before beginning his work in the College he was the Secretary of the Student Christian Movement of the Union University where he did very successful work. He is the Dean of College Life and is responsible for all matters concerning student life in the college and for general affairs in the college.

Mr. Wang is a good preacher and is in great demand in all of the churches in Chengtu. He is very loyal to his own church but very generous with his time and gives much help to the city churches. He is Chairman of the Szechwan Christian Council which is a body of Church workers representing all of the churches in Chengtu and seeking to do union work. He is also a prominent member of the Board of Directors of the Y.M.C.A. in

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The Faculty of the West China Union Theological College
Full Time Chinese Faculty - page 2

Chengtu. His assistance is sought in many phases of the general work of the church here and he is on many committees. His counsel is sought by all students in the College and by numerous Christian workers in the city.

Mr. David Fang (Fang Kuang-yu) B.A., B.D.

Mr. Fang is a graduate in Arts from Yenching University and also he has his Bachelor of Divinity degree from that institution. He joined the staff of the College, this year, 1943. He is a teacher of Church History and Chinese Language. He is also the Librarian of the College. Mr. Fang is very alert in his work and is very efficient as librarian. He is not an ordained minister of the church but probably will be in the future. He is a member of the Scottish Presbyterian Church and is a native of Fukien Province in East China. He gives promise of being a good teacher and a valuable member of the staff.

PART TIME CHINESE FACULTY

These three are the only full time Chinese members of the staff but besides them there are several part time members, who are also members of the Nanking Seminary staff and are paid by them. Their presence and assistance are temporary so I will only mention their names.

Rev. Tseo Ping-i, B.A., B.D., Ph.D. His special department is Theology and he is teaching two classes in our College. He studied several years in the United States in Yale Divinity School.

Rev. Hu Jen-an, B.A., B.D. Both degrees are from Yenching University. Mr. Hu's special subject is The City Church. He teaches two classes.

Rev. Yu Mo-ren. Mr. Yu is connected with the work of the Rural Church and usually teaches in the College one term and works in conferences in the church throughout the province during the second term.

Rev. Chu Pao Hwei is the Secretary of the Correspondence Course of Nanking Seminary. He teaches a course in Chinese language in our college.

MISSIONARY TEACHERS

Miss B. Louise Foster, B.A.

Miss Foster is a graduate of Queens University, Canada and a member of the Womans Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada. She is contributed full time by the Mission to the College. She is Dean of the Women Students in the College. Before coming to China she held a similar position in a college in Canada and was Dean of Women in the West China University for several years. She is Director of students and a teacher of English.

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The Faculty of the West China Theological College
Missionary Teachers - page 3

Rev. Albert F. Lutley, M.A., Th.M.

Mr. Lutley is a member of the Sheng Kung Hwei, (Church Missionary Society) and is giving almost full time to teaching in the College. He is a graduate from Cambridge University and a post graduate from Princeton. He is a teacher of New Testament Exegesis.

Miss Jane Turner

Miss Turner is a member of the London Missionary Society and is temporarily in Chengtu. She is a specialist in Young Peoples and Childrens work. She is teaching Religious Education and English for us during her stay in Chengtu.

Rev. George W. Sparling, M.A., B.D., D.D.

Mr. Sparling is a member of the United Church of Canada and has been contributed full time to the College. He is a graduate of Manitoba University with an M.A. degree from Toronto University and B.D. and D.D. from Victoria College Toronto. He has been with the College ever since its beginning and is its President. He teaches Theology.

There are other missionary teachers helping part time in the College. Dr. F. W. Price and Dr. Francis Jones of Nanking Seminary are each helping considerably in the West China College. Also Dr. D. C. Graham of W.C.U.U. teaches Comparative Religions and the Origin of Religions. He is a member of the Baptist Mission. Dr. Ovidia Hansing of the Methodist Mission, who is a teacher in the university gives a course in the College in Christian Ethics. Also, Dr. D. L. Phelps, B.A., B.D., Ph.D., of the Baptist Mission and the W.C.U.U. has been teaching in the College. Also Dr. W. Crawford of the W.C.U.U. and the United Church of Canada has been lecturing in Public Health.

Besides these teachers our students have the privilege of going to the university for any course which we desire. All students take classes there, such as Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, History, General Science, etc.

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West China Union Theological College.
May 20th, 1944.

Report of the College for the Spring Term, 1944.

The West China Union Theological College opened in the Autumn term of 1937, so when this term closes in June it will have completed seven academic years. It opened just as the war began and all through these years it has been greatly affected by the fact of war. This effected of war has been seen in two opposite ways, one which has increased its difficulties and one which has brought it assistance. The war has brought an inordinate increase in prices which has increased our budget from \$2500 during the first year to an estimated budget for next year of over one million dollars. It has also brought great burdens to the churches which we represent which has made it difficult for young students and church workers to see the work and commission of the church in its true relationships and its right proportions. It is difficult for some young minds to face the future in church work and there is not the same readiness to volunteer for that work. On the other hand, conditions which have prevailed in China during the past few years have led Christian leaders and others to think deeply of China's future and to analyze her deepest need and many have been led to see clearly that in the Church and in its message lies the hope of China for the future. Probably those who do volunteer for the ministry and other forms of work in the church will do so with a deeper conviction than that which prevailed in past years. There is a seriousness in the minds of our workers which we could not formerly discern and they are going out to their work with a deep feeling that they bear the message which above all others will help to turn China in the right direction and determine her destiny. As one student, in his final testimony before the college during chapel hour said, "I am going out to preach Love. I am going out to preach because I want to and I want to because China needs this message. I am going to emphasize the love of God for all and our duty to love all, including our enemies. I am going to preach the equality of all men before God. The poor man has the same place as the rich, for God looketh on the heart." And as we listened to these students who are leaving us as they gave this testimony there was present a seriousness and a conviction which no doubt has been partly born out of the sufferings of China.

Then again, many of the students who have been with us during the past, and especially of this class who are graduating this year have been with us as a result of the war. Of the fourteen students who will graduate from our regular course, ten come from other provinces, four definitely belong to Szechwan and of the Junior grade two, but of the three come from East China. We are glad that they have been with us and we are glad that we have been able to give them this training and thus make it possible for them to continue their preparation and thus be prepared to enter into the new opportunities. Some of them will remain with us for some time, at least until the close of the war and may be some will remain permanently. Our staff has also been greatly augmented as a result of the war so that during the past few years we have been able to supply a very rich and satisfying course for our students. The B.D. Course which is conducted by Nanking Theological Seminary will graduate its first class this June. This class is composed of six students and is the largest class that has graduated from any Theological College in the B.D. Course in China at any time. Of these six students four are from West China and graduates from West China Union University, one is a graduate from Hongkong University and one from Soochow University, three are men and three are women. Two of them are members of the Wei Li Kung Hwei, two of the Church of Christ in China, one of the Sheng Kung Hwei and one of the Baptist Church.

Of the seventeen who will graduate from the West China College five are from

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SzeChwan though several others will continue to work in this province and some may make this their permanent field of service. Four of these are of the Church of Christ in China, five are of the Sheng Kung Hwei, two are Baptists, one is Wei Li Kung Hwei, two are Mennonites (Ch'ing Chieh Hwei), one is of the China Inland Mission and one of the Kung Ni Hwei, Congregational. Six are women and eleven are men.

The College has been kept in finances throughout the year though some times our treasury has been very low. Besides the contributions received in the regular way through the Missions and Nanking Seminary special contributions have been received. A year ago our graduates undertook to solicit help for the college and raised thirty thousand dollars Chinese currency. Our graduating class sponsored a concert tour and turned over to the college one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The Board of Management requested the Board of Founders to seek special assistance and Nanking Seminary agreed to match the amount raised in this way up to five thousand gold. We have heard that of this ten thousand, four thousand dollars are now available. A couple of months ago we wrote to Madame Chiang Kai Shek requesting that a grant be made to the college from the Lady Cripps fund. We have seen in the Chinese paper today that five hundred pounds were granted at the last meeting of the committee that disburses this fund. This Board has already recommended to the churches that a Theological College Sunday be held in each church and on this Sunday the work of the college should be reported and a collection taken for the college. It is hoped in this way that the churches will realize that the college is theirs. The day is fixed for the last Sunday in May.

No one can predict the future of the college but we believe that it will have an ever increasing place in the church in West China. Missions are recognizing that henceforth the centre of missionary attention will be on the church for the establishing of a strong church is necessary if the Christian movement is to be permanent in China and if it is to become the spiritual leader of the country. For this a trained leadership is necessary and this college exists for this purpose. There will probably be a decrease in the number of students enrolled during the next few years. However, the college will win its way in the Chinese church and will soon pass from a Mission institution to a Church institution. It is one project which has behind it the interest and whole hearted support of the five churches which are participating in its work.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) George W. Sparling

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WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Report for the Year 1944

by

Acting President Wallace Wang

This is the beginning of the eighth year of the college. It has grown from four to sixty-four students as its highest record of the enrollment. The war certainly has made this college more significant for the training of the church workers in free China. It has been a blessing to the college that the church and missions are increasingly looking to it as a proper training centre to meet their needs. Even though this college is young and its whole setting is far from perfection, it has great possibilities of rendering service to the church in this part of China and preaching the gospel in the untouched border areas. In the postwar church program it must play a major part in reconstruction by spreading the Christian message to the needy people, thus form a solid foundation for a New China.

The college had its opening on the 13th of September. Bishop T. K. Shen of Shensi was invited to preach at the opening exercises. A communion service was conducted as is our usual practice, each school term. All classes began in the same morning.

The enrollment of our students this year is twenty-eight, of whom thirteen are women and fifteen are men. This group represents ten denominations and twelve provinces. The students from our province are eleven. This figure "eleven" shows the very serious problem of the shortage of workers which confronts all our churches in Szechuan now and after the war. We are unable to recruit more young men and young women for the ministry. Undoubtedly in postwar China the need of church workers will be great. Our enrollment has dropped in the last two years. We understand many of our students came to us because of the war and when they graduated, it was hard to replace them. On the other hand the war situation in this country and the economic condition of the churches and missions have made it almost impossible to support students at the college. Furthermore the social and political posts are a great attraction to the youth. This is war time! We hope the general condition will be normal again soon and many young people surely will enlist for church work in future.

Last spring the third year students in cooperation with the faculty started a Theological College Sunday on May the 28th, observed by all the churches throughout the province and also in some other parts of China where our graduates are. A special program of worship was prepared and distributed and collections were requested for the support of the college. The students were very enthusiastic to see the meaning and the importance of theological education promoted among the churches. They sent small teams to two cities to raise funds from the friends of the churches and held meetings and concerts to introduce their project. Up to the present time more than \$210,000 has been handed to the college treasurer and gifts are still coming. We feel quite confident that the churches and friends of the college are behind our work.

Last year was our difficult year in finance. A special appeal for five thousand U.S. dollars was made to the Board of Governors of the College in New York and an appeal for the same amount went to the Board of Founders of the Nanking Theological Seminary. Last July a favourable reply came back from them that our ten thousand dollars in gold had been raised and was at our disposal.

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West China Union Theological College - Report for the Year 1944 - Wallace Wang

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We are very grateful to the Board of Governors and the Board of Founders for enabling us to carry on our work.

Our college stands for academic knowledge as well as for practical training of successful pastors in the church. Besides our practical work, which we require of every student from the beginning of his course to graduation, the devotional life of each student has never been neglected. We require all our students' attendance at three regular meetings of the college. Every morning at 6:30 we have our morning watch in our small chapel at the main gate. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays we are studying the gospel of John led by Bishop T. K. Shen. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays we have our meditation and devotional readings by individuals. At 9:30 A.M. we have our college chapel service and our teachers take turns in leading. At 6:30 P.M. a prayer meeting is held and led by students. Many of our teachers attend these meetings very regularly. Besides these meetings there are a few fellowship and prayer groups formed among the students. One of them is the Border Service group which meets regularly to pray and raise money for the mission work in the Border districts. This work is certainly a great attraction to our students, in fact each summer a few of our students go there to preach during their vacations. Now we have two students working among the tribes. In future we may have more students and graduates to give their lives for our needy neighbours.

The college has a staff of ten teachers, five full-time and five part-time. Four of them are Chinese and six are missionaries. We are special happy this year to have four new teachers added to our faculty, since four left us last June. These four are Bishop T. K. Shen of Shensi as a visiting professor, Dr. Holth of Shen Kung Hui, Rev. F. O. Stockwell of the Methodist mission and Rev. E. R. Stanway of the U.C.C.M. There are seven teachers of the Nanking Theological Seminary who are teaching part time in our college. At the beginning of this term a Faculty Retreat was held and the main subject of the discussion was "the college life." The discussion was very interesting and vital to every one of us, so a faculty fellowship was organized to continue the interests of the retreat. We have had two good meetings.

We are living in a great age. It is great because the opportunity and a sincere desire for a Christian world are everywhere manifested. Through wars and calamities from East to West men begin to realize more the insufficiency of human power and the omnipotency of our eternal God. China has undergone the terrors of war for the last eight years and the hearts of men are craving for God more than ever before. Only God can give peace and love to the world as well as to the hearts and minds of men. The rapid growth of the church in some parts of this country and the crying need of spiritual life everywhere are the signs of a solid foundation of a Christian church in this land. We are highly privileged to be in this work at this time particularly in China, and we want to do all we can with our feeble strength to bring about the Kingdom of God on earth.

Wallace Wang

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A REPORT OF THE WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 1945 by Wallace Wang

The College opened its spring term on the 28th of February. It is our usual custom to have the opening exercise close with the Lord's Supper as a fresh start for the term.

The enrollment of this term is thirty-three students, larger than last term. Generally we are not anxious to take new students in the spring term, these six students came to us because of their zeal for church work. Among these thirty-three students, sixteen are boys and seventeen girls. The whole student body represents nine denominations and twelve provinces.

For many years we have felt the great need of Bible knowledge among our students. Last term we started a plan for a Bible test and now require all students to pass this test before graduation. We divide the sixty-six books into eight groups and give a test four times a year, at the beginning and the end of each school term. Thus within two years each student should have a good knowledge of the Bible to help in their pursuit of further studies. The first test was given the opening day of this term. The result of this contest was very satisfactory to us and we gave three prizes to the three winners.

During the last week of March the National Christian Council had a three days' conference in our College. Dr. J. W. Decker, the general secretary of the International Missionary Council, was the main speaker of the conference. There were about fifty church leaders present to discuss various phases of the Christian movement in China in connection with the world community especially after the war. All our faculty and most of our students took part in the conference. Whatever we discussed usually we landed on the question of personnel. Everyone realized the great importance of theological education which should prepare men and women to work for the church. There is a desperate need of men in ministry during the post-war period.

Of unusual interest to the College was the fact that our faculty and the faculty of Nanking Theological Seminary took advantage of the presence of Dr. Decker to have a whole morning's discussion on the question of post-war theological education in China. The main points we touched on were the problems of effective curriculum, suitable staff and careful nationwide planning. The high spot of the whole discussion focused on the strengthening of the teaching staff which would plan and carry out an effective programme in the Chinese church.

On the 20th of April we had Count Alfred Polenski, the Polish Ambassador to Chungking, as a guest of the College. He spoke to our faculty and students on "the Christian movement in Poland." He himself is a Catholic but very friendly to the Protestant churches. His speech was not a general lecture but a real sermon to us.

Local churches through the "Theological Sunday," have contributed to our maintenance fund, up to the 15th of May, the amount of \$285,000.00 NC, about one fifth of our present year's budget. We are very happy to find such a good response to our needs from the local churches. This year we are having the "Theological Sunday" again on the 27th of May. Lecturers and materials about our college have been sent out to the churches in this province. Our chief purpose in having this "Theological Sunday" is not only to collect funds but to make a closer relationship between our College and the local churches. We believe our College should render a great service to the church and that service is to prepare men and women for the ministry to proclaim the gospel of our Lord.

The serious war situation in China has made a special problem with regard

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to our teaching faculty. A number of our missionary teachers either left us for furlough or were ordered to go home suddenly by their government authorities on account of the unsettled conditions in China. Once they leave us it is very hard to replace them. Rev. F. O. Stockwell of the Methodist mission served in the College as Dean of Studies last year and this month left us for the homeland. We are fortunate that Rev. David Fang has been appointed Dean to take his place. Miss B. Louise Foster of the United Church of Canada is going home on furlough probably in the early part of July and we are not sure whom we can find to take her position while she is away. Recently we heard that Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Sparling are coming back to China from South Africa provided they can secure entry to India and China. We hope they can come back to us soon. We are glad that Dr. Christopher Tang has arrived in Chengtu from America. We have hoped for his coming for more than four years; now he is with us and will begin to teach next fall. Bishop T.K. Shen and Dr. Holth of the Shen Kung Hui, C.M.S. in China, have been on our faculty since last fall and they will continue to be with us for another year. In addition we have the teaching faculty of Nanking Theological Seminary. Of course we are aware of the possible shortage of staff when the Nanking Theological Seminary leaves us after the war is over. Now we are doing everything possible to build up a strong faculty of our own. However, we have sufficient staff to carry on our work now and next year.

The devotional life of the College is being carried on jointly by the faculty and students. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings at 6:30 to 7:00 a study of "Romans" is led by Rev. Chiu Pao Hui. Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning at the same time we have our personal devotions in the small chapel. At 9:30 to 10:00 in the morning, the College chapel is led by the teachers - and from 6:30 to 7:00 in the evening prayer meeting is led by the students. Every Tuesday evening a fellowship meeting is held by the students and teachers, and sometimes the boys and girls meet separately. Usually it ends up with games, jokes and refreshments. Every Thursday evening there is a family prayer meeting usually led by the church leaders from the city. All these regular gatherings aim to build up a genuine fellowship among the students and faculty in the College.

This year we have seven graduates from the senior course and one in refresher. Of these seven graduates, five are girls and two boys. Four belong to the Church of Christ in China, two belong to the Methodist Church and one is a Mennonite.

Up to the present time our total number of graduates is ninety-seven. 39 have graduated from the senior course or college grade which covers four years, 18 from the junior course which covers two years of lower grade and 40 from the refresher course. There are 70 students out of 97 working in the churches as pastors and evangelists mostly in West China and a small number in other provinces. Another interesting study is of our Szechuan students graduated from our College in the last five or six years. The total number of the Szechuan graduates is 49 and now 36 of them are working in the churches and one is a pastor in a leading church in Chungking. 4 are teaching in Christian schools. The College is in its eighth year and our graduates are beginning to make a definite contribution to the churches in West China. We believe in future they will render even greater service to the church and will spread Christ's gospel to the thirsty souls in the border areas.

We are living in a broken world and we all have suffered either physically or mentally, but because of difficulties and obstacles in life men are drawn closer to Almighty God. This is a time of great demand for the Christian gospel in every class of people in China especially among the youth. Christianity is no longer a strange religion to us, because it meets our life problems. Men are looking to God for richer life. The field of evangelism is widely open. Are we sufficient to meet this task? We must grasp this opportunity and meet this challenge. We pray God that through His work which we are engaged in we may bring down His kingdom on earth that everlasting peace may be established.

Wallace Wang

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A REPORT AND POST-WAR PLAN OF WEST CHINA UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

FROM PRESIDENT WALLACE WANG

October 1945.

Our College started in 1937. Since that time we have been able to serve other provinces as well as our own. This is largely due to the conditions which made it impossible for other seminaries to carry on their work regularly. Our student body, in these years, represents 15 provinces and 13 different denominations of the Christian churches in China. The following table shows the enrollment of our College in past years.

Enrollment from 1937-1945

Year	'37	'38	'39	'40	'41	'42	'43	'44	'45	
Sze. Students	4	10	15	28	39	25	14	14	15	164
Non-Sze Students		2	10	30	34	29	23	19	16	163
Total	4	12	25	58	73	54	37	33	31	327

During these years we graduated 99 students and most of them are working in their own respective churches either in Szechuan or in other provinces. The following table also shows a study of our graduates.

W.C.U.T.C. Graduates from 1939-1945

	Senior	Junior	Refresher	
Sze. Graduates working in Sze. churches	15	18	16	49
Non-Sze. Graduates working in churches of other provinces	6	6	2	14
Non-Sze. Graduates working in Sze. churches	16	1	3	20
Sze. Graduates not working in Churches	1	1	1	3
Non-Sze. Graduates not working in churches	5	2	1	8
Non-Sze. Graduates entered the University	4	-	-	4
Total of Graduates	47	28	23	99

84 out of 99 are working in the churches.
49 out of 52 Sze. graduates are working in the churches.

We have been able to carry on our work satisfactorily in these years largely due to the help of Nanking Theological Seminary and the support of missions and churches in Szechuan. The faculty of N.T.S. in West China has rendered a great service to us. This institution and W.C.U.T.C. have been working very closely with each other. Our faculty teaches in their B.D. department and theirs teaches

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in our college. We are very happy to have such cooperation. Of course the administration and class work of these two institutions are separate but the college life of the students is one.

The Board of Management of our College is constituted of three representatives from each of the participating missions and churches with a quota of two Chinese and one westerner. One representative is from the alumni and one from N.T.S. The total number is 21. Generally we have our meetings twice a year.

Now the war is over and our guest institution is going to move away soon. At the same time many of the church workers and church members are pulling out from West China and returning to their original home. What about our college and the church work in general? We have to reshape our programme and make plans to meet our needs in the next five years.

I. General Work of the College

1. College Work.

A. Senior, Junior and Refresher Courses. We concentrate our energy and plans on the college grade of students who come to us as graduates of senior middle school. Four years' study in the College is equivalent to the similar time in the university. In addition to this we require one year's practical work in the church before the graduation. This should be the main emphasis of our work.

At the same time we have to take in the junior grade of students who are the junior middle graduates. One or two churches in this province still demand such men of this grade. For these students there is a two years' course.

In addition there are refresher courses provided for church workers who desire further study.

B. Home Mission Department. Geographically we are situated near the West China border and we are obliged to assume responsibility of preaching to the tribes. Now the Border Service is doing good work in several areas. We have had a graduate working with them for three years. In our College we should plan to have a chair and a department devoted to the pioneer work among the tribes. Mme Chang, the governor's wife, has already started a fund towards this project.

C. City and Rural Church Department. These two divisions are very much needed to train our specialized workers for the future. In the first two years our courses are general. The last two years students should be specialized in either one or the other of these two fields.

D. Translation Work. Because of the scarcity of theological books in Chinese we encourage our faculty and students to translate good text books into Chinese.

E. Library. We have about 12,000 volumes of both Chinese and English books in our library. This is far from fulfilling our needs. We must enrich our library with new books annually. Special funds should be appealed for for this purpose.

F. Advance Course. We are looking forward to giving advance courses to the university graduates. If such students come to us with the support of their church, we should not say "no" to them, but should provide an

opportunity for their study. We should be ready to give the first year's work leading to the B.D. degree.

2. Extension Work.

- A. Institutes for Lay Training. We plan to use the building in the upper compound which will be vacant after next June, for a place in which to give a short training course for laymen. We expect churches will be willing to cooperate with us by sending their leaders for the training for free service to the church.
- B. Summer School for Church Workers. A four to six weeks' course will be provided for pastors and evangelists who can be released from their regular work in summer time. One church has already sent in its request for such a school next summer.
- C. Circulating Library. Some of our library books should be circulated among the preachers in this province. A regular course should be worked out for the benefit of the preachers.
- D. Community Church Project. Our street chapel on Chiang Si Kai will be taken back from the University of Nanking and built up as a social centre as well as a church. In fact we have a regular church service of twenty-five communicants now. This also will be used as a practical work centre of our college.
- E. "Theological Sunday". The last Sunday in May is observed by all the churches in this province as "Theological Sunday". They do not only give money for support but offer prayers for our work too. In the last two years more than \$600,000 has been collected on this Sunday.
- F. Border Mission Service. Practically every summer in the last six years there has been at least one or more of our students voluntarily join the Border Mission Summer Services. We shall continue to cultivate the interests of the mission work by sending our students there every summer.

II. Faculty.

When N.T.S. leaves for Nanking our College will face a serious question of teachers. The following table will show you the seriousness of our condition.

W.C.U.T.C. Faculty Now and Future

Subject	Aim	Now	Future Need	Need of 1946
Old Testament	2	(1)*	2	1
New Testament	2	1 (1)	1	
Church History	2	1 (1)	1	
Theology	2	1 (1)	1	
Mission (Home)	1		1	
Religious Education				
City and Rural Church	2	(2)	2	1
Pastoral Theology				
Practical Work	1	(1)	1	1
Chinese Philosophy				
and Chinese Religion	1	1		
Music	1	(1)	1	1
Language	1	1		
	15	5 (9)	10	4

* Those who will leave after next June.

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We aim to have 15 teachers; we only have 5 now. We need 10 more but 4 are indispensable after next June. Therefore, we propose five ways to solve this problem.

- A. We ask N.T.S. to spare a few of its men for our college at least for a period of one or two years. There may be three ways to help us, viz: (1) some of their teachers may be allowed to join our faculty voluntarily, (2) they may be loaned to us for a year or so, (3) establishing a visiting chair in our college.
- B. Ask the participating missions to appoint personnel to our college who, of course, should be nominated by us according to our needs. There are four missionaries on furlough ready to be appointed to us when they come back from their furlough.
- C. Ask each church to appoint its best men in ministry to our college at once, or send them abroad for advanced study and return to join our faculty.
- D. Apply scholarships for our faculty members and graduates to go abroad for further study and return to join our staff.
- E. Grant scholarships to the promising university graduates or senior students for the B.D. work with the hope they will join our faculty later. Persuade the missions to do the same.

III. Cooperation with other Seminaries.

A. A United Planning of the Theological Education in China.

At the Kuling Conference in 1935 a Theological Education Committee was set up for the united planning of four seminaries in China. The Committee may soon call a meeting to discuss the urgent problems, such as:

1. Curriculum: four or five year courses.
2. Academic Standard.
3. Granting of the B.Th. degree.
4. Closer cooperation.

B. Exchange of Professorship.

There should be an agreement for the exchange of professors between seminaries. The sending body to be responsible for the salary and travel and the receiving body to provide accommodation.

C. Exchange of Students.

D. Research or Experimental Projects.

Translation and editing work for the text and reference books may be undertaken by individual institutions under a union scheme. Also experimental work either in city or rural church projects should be encouraged and supported.

E. Library.

Library should be enriched with modern books both in English and Chinese. There should be a special collection of books and articles of the West China border religions. We are looking forward to having a museum of the religious life of the tribes.

IV. Finance and Property.

Our treasurer reports that we may pull through the academic year 1945-46, with the special grant of N.T.S. and the Board of Governors in New York. A similar grant from N.T.S. for the following year may be available. Two years from now, as our faculty enlarges and overhead expenses increase, we will face a difficult financial time. Besides the annual appropriations made by the participating missions and churches we must look for more help from the Board of Governors and from private contributions both in China and abroad. Now we have two buildings in which to house our students and to conduct our classes. Our next building will be our chapel, in memory of Dr. Spencer Lewis, one of the pioneer Methodist missionaries in Szechuan, which should be the main building of our college. We already have a small sum on hand for this and are trying to raise ten thousand dollars gold in the States. A library and a class room building will be our next attempt. We are looking forward to completing these two buildings within the next ten years.

File West China Union

The Union

COPY OF LETTER FROM DR. WALLACE WANG TO REV. EARLE H. BALLOU

West China Union Theological College
Chengtu, March 10th, 1946.

Dear Mr. Ballou:

This letter is not a report of our College this term. Here I am writing to you with a few problems which naturally will be discussed and decided upon at the Board meeting in the latter part of April. Let me give you the preliminary thoughts on these problems after I had a consultation with a few members of our Board and you may share our difficulty which is facing us now. I shall have my report sent to you for your May meeting of the Board of Governors or the West China Committee of the United Board.

Here I enclose a copy of our revised budget of next year, prepared by the finance committee of the College. Mr. William Small, our Treasurer, will make it clear to you when he comes to New York in May. After all this is only a temporary estimate and those figures are nothing but to indicate our general needs of next academic year.

The question on curriculum was raised in the last Board meeting of the College. A special committee, appointed by the Board, met once with the College faculty to discuss a new curriculum. We all agreed on a five year course is better than four. Our students should have, at least, two years' course in the university, scattered into five years, and three years on theology. At the same time we ask the university to recognize some subjects of the theological course, given in the college, as credits of the College of Arts in the University. If our students can fulfill the requirements of the University, they could be awarded, in the end of the fifth year, with a degree of B.A. in addition to B.Th. or Tao Hsueh Si, granted by us. Judging from the conversation with Dr. Lincoln Dsang, the President of the West China Union University, such arrangement can be and should be worked out between the University and our College. The reason we are pressing this matter is two-fold. By so doing our graduates will have a recognized social standing which opens ways for the church work more easily. Also we are aware of the fact that our students will not be fully equipped without having a university education. This is specially so in China today. Our experience tells us that five of our graduates started their university work immediately after they left us. If we change the curriculum into five years with such arrangement they may not go to the university again but straightly proceed in their church work. You may know that our students now are taking 34 credits from the university in four years and it should not be too difficult to negotiate with the university authorities on this project. This same committee shall meet the university authorities soon and I will write you about its progress later.

Another problem we will discuss in the next Board meeting is the Junior Grade student in the College. There has been a misunderstanding to the Woman Foreign Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada that we gave up the secondary theological education. In another word we will not train men and women who have only junior middle school standing. We believe this group of workers are still needed in China. In the reality of economic and educational situation in this country we should not overlook the valuable contribution rendered by the junior grade students. We shall bring this problem before the Board for clarity.

The third and difficult problem is the shortage of teachers after the removal of Nanking Theological Seminary. This is known to you and to some of our supporting mission boards. This problem is difficult of course, but it is not so as it looks. Even though next year Dr. Sparling and I will be the only ones left besides the part time teachers such as Dr. D.C. Graham of the Baptist Mission, Bishop C.T. Sung and Rev. D.N. Sargent of the Shen Kung Hui. Now we have secured

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Letter from Dr. Wallace Wang - 2

Mr. Franklin Wu, a graduate of ours three years ago, to teach Old Testament and Church History, Rev. Tsao Shao Ching of the Church of Christ in China to teach Rural Church and Pastoral Theology and possibly another one to teach New Testament from the Baptist Church. We plan to take two university graduates to work in Religious Education under our senior staff. In addition we shall have Miss Charlotte Trotter and Mabel Nowlin of the Methodist Mission, Bishop Maxwell of the Shen Kung Hui and possibly the Stockwell of the Methodist Conference. I believe we can carry on our work next year with our limited personnel without great difficulty. Many times our faith brings strength to our work. This work is God's work; we are employed by Him.

This term we have 29 students. Ten of them, seven senior and three junior, will graduate in May. Two or three of 29 will transfer to N.T.S. and two may go out a year for the practical experience in the church. I think we shall not have less than the present enrollment next term. I know several churches are making plans to send their men to our college next year.

With best wishes to you,

Sincerely yours,

Wallace Wang.

UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE BUDGET 1946 - 47.
July 1st, 1946 to June 30th, 1947.

Expenses,

Administration:-

Supplies and Expenses	\$ 300,000	
Entertainment	100,000	
Contributions	50,000	
Printing and Publishing	150,000	\$ 600,000

Operation and Maintenance:-

Wages of Servants (6)	800,000	
Repairs, Ordinary	250,000	
Special	500,000	
Equipment	100,000	
Light	750,000	
Upkeep of Property	100,000	2,500,000

Instruction:-

Staff Salaries	4,500,000	
Supplies and Expenses	50,000	4,550,000

Library

Projects

250,000

100,000

Total \$8,000,000

Income,

Students Fees, 25 at \$1400	\$ 350,000
Mission Grants, 4.5 units at gold \$500 at Exchange 1200	2,700,000
Nanking Seminary Grant gold \$2500	3,000,000
Local contributions	650,000
Reserves	1,300,000

Total

CNP \$8,000,000

US\$ 4,000,000

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President's Annual Report to the Board of Management
March 30, 1950

Dear Friends:

As you remember, I submitted a previous report at the 30th meeting of the Board. That may be considered a part of my annual report. A few points in that report, however, call for some clarification in the light of subsequent developments:

1) B.D. Course We began this course with eleven students. Some of them, being part-time students, dropped out for one reason or another. Six of them are still with us. One of these, an M.R.E. graduate of Nanking Theological Seminary, studies here as a refresher student of B.D. grade. Four of them, due to inadequate English, have become special students in the B.Th. Course. This leaves only one well-qualified student in the B.D. course. The Hunan Synod of the C.C.C., to which this student belongs, is thinking of sending him to N.T.S. next fall. Owing to the lack of both faculty and qualified students, we have to suspend this course.

2) The problem of securing US\$1,000, mentioned in Resolution NO. 409, has been happily solved by the appearance of certain grants from the Baptist Mission which had previously gone astray somewhere in the banks during the process of transfer to our treasury.

3) We are pleased to report that our pressing problem of accommodation will be solved temporarily through the kindness of President S. F. Fong and the Property Committee of the University in granting to this College the privilege of renting the southern half of their Western Dormitories for an indefinite period for the nominal sum of US\$1.00 per year. At the same time, our need for the new Administration, Library and Chapel building remains the same.

4) Rev. Chang Feng-Ming, the new head of the Junior Grade Course, is proving an invaluable asset to the college. He offers to all students in the college courses not only in Bible (especially stewardship), but also in Music. Nearly sixty students are taking organ lessons from him. Dr. Christopher Tang rendered faithful service in teaching Church History last term. Shortly before the liberation, however, he flew to Hong Kong with his wife. Now he is serving as a teacher in a sister institution there, the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

We feel a deep sense of gratitude to the Almighty that this college has been preserved intact through the period of storm and tempest. The Lord has piloted us in the real sense of the word. However, since we had no means of knowing what might be in store for us during the period prior to the liberation, we took all possible measures to meet any emergency. Still, we had no sense of panic. In spite of wild rumours and endless difficulties, we met the situation calmly and prayerfully. During some of the critical moments we gathered together for earnest prayer. It was a thrilling experience indeed, when on Christmas Eve our faculty and students joined as usual in Christmas prayers and festivities. Far into the night we were lifting our voices in Christmas carols, while the city as a whole was wrapped in deadly silence. The next morning, while we were attending Christmas services in our various Churches, we were surprised and relieved to learn that Chengtu had been peacefully liberated.

We are proud of the fact that last term this was the only educational institution which didn't suspend its class work. However, under the stress and

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strain of night-watch, fire drill, etc., both our faculty and students were so exhausted that we were unable to carry on our work as effectively as usual. This is the basic reason why our students received comparatively poor grades in their studies last term. I myself, due to over-fatigue, suffered an attack of paralysis on my right side which rendered me unable either to handle chopsticks or write. However, following the advice of doctors, I took a complete rest during the winter vacation. I am glad to report that I am gradually recovering although I am allowed by my doctors to resume only my teaching work, and cannot as yet accept preaching engagements.

After liberation, we had to take steps to reform our College in order to cope with the new situation. Our curriculum has been revised. We have divided our courses into five departments, viz., Old Testament, New Testament, Theology, Church History and Practical Theology, which includes Homiletics, Public Worship, Religious Education, the Rural Church, and the Work of the Pastor. We have made a proposal to require for graduation a total of 160 points, of which 122 points shall be for required subjects in the five major fields, and 38 points shall be electives. Of these electives, some will be offered in the University, such as General Ethics, Logic, History of Chinese Philosophy, General Psychology, Socialogy, General Science, etc. Others we shall offer ourselves, viz., Christian Ethics, Comparative Religion Counselling, Philosophy of Religion, Stewardship, N. T. Greek, Theological English, Child Psychology, Marxism and Christianity, Agriculture, Hand-crafts, Midwifery, Public Hygiene, etc. Our purpose is to train, or rather, to develop our students into practical, intelligent, creative and Christ-like Ministers. With regard to curriculum, our problem lies in the fact that we must train our students adequately in the theological field, without depriving them of the opportunity of acquiring a general, practical knowledge of secular subjects. To put it in another way, we must train them in the field of secular subjects, but not at the cost of neglecting theological subjects, the curriculum above outlined is still in the process of discussion, and we are not yet able to make a final report on it.

We have remoulded our ways of life. While we continue to lay great emphasis on the development of the students' spiritual life, we have to allow them to take an active part in social activities. We encourage them to make every effort to learn from classes, seminars, discussions with the teachers, and their own independent reading. At the same time we must lead them to learn from the common people -- the farmers, the laborers and the housewives -- through such manual labor as doing their own laundry, making their own clothes, growing their own vegetables, etc. We have to grant them enough liberty to govern their own affairs at the same time we must enforce the principle of discipline. We are facing the grave problem of maintaining a training program that is well-balanced in every respect.

I am glad to report that the new government has shown a very cordial attitude toward us. Our college has been registered, and we are given the same favourable treatments as the West China Union University. There are indications that a bright future is in store for us. At the same time, there will be many difficulties along the way, and we shall have to walk patiently but hopefully.

Dr. Tseo Ping-yi, Dean
West China Theological College
Chengtu

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