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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

June 11, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Jim:

Supplementing my letter and telegram regarding purchase of Kohler electric plant model "S", which in letter to me of recent date was quoted \$530 gold, I now have to send you Kohler Company letter to Dickinson, October 9, 1924. In this letter the 800 watts automatic unit, which is model "S" is quoted at \$435, and they offer Mr. Wang of our physics department, or, I suppose the University, 20% discount from this price making net \$392. I send you the original letter so that you can hold them up for the best terms possible. If they have not given you as good as this you know what to do next.

Yours as ever

Joe Beech

P. S. I know you will have seen in the paper the account of Mrs. Sibley's murder in Chengtu. She was killed while going from Pang Isen kai to Si Shen Si about noon on June 7th. A mad man, or a Boxer, is reported to have overtaken her, felled her to the ground with a stroke of a large knife, then severed the head from the body. He ran with it up the street, and either he or somebody else threw it into a pit. Soldiers were informed by telephone. They met him, and shot him. No information was gotten from him except that he was a secret messenger of Yu Hwang God to kill.

On the following day Grace Manly, while leaving the Woman's Hospital was attacked. This time apparently by a student. The other was reported to have been of the coolie type. He made a fairly good attempt to choke her to death, but Grace does not choke easily, and after three attempts to get the best of her she finally succeeded in downing him, and getting away in her rickshaw. He was arrested. It is reported that he may be shot after examination. Naturally we are very much in doubt as to what is the occasion of these attacks. The authorities too are concerned, and they have arranged at the present for foreigners to be escorted from corner to corner by the traffic cops. Mrs. Sibley's funeral on Wednesday was under heavy military escort.

In the city this am. Cops joined up with us to So gate. Then left us to our own devices. Joe

June 14th, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech,
West China Union University,
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

Your letters of April 21st, 26th and 28th all arrived a couple of days ago. Thank you for the whole lot. In your paragraph concerning the hospital you do not state whether your figures are gold or Mex. I suppose I should know, but I am not sure. I asked Meuser about it who happened in today but he dared not be certain. Will you therefore please say whether you need \$100,000 gold or Mex. for the Union hospital fully equipped.

I cannot quite make out your scribble at the end so I do not know what you were referring to about the term "Mr." If it will be of any comfort to you and has any connection with what you said and since the whole thing will be over before you get this I will now inform you that Wesleyan is to help out your humble representative by giving him a degree on the 21st of June.

I note what you say concerning Soper's need for a gear cutting attachment and will try to discover someone who has \$150 to give for that purpose. I have also set out to get some microscopes for Bayne. As I wrote Mrs. Carscallen some time ago I am trying to get some books for the University. I will also be glad to add to that list the names of the people who will contribute magazines.

I shall probably have quite a lot to write you after the Wesleyan commencement. I hope to get in some good ticks during those days in establishing contacts with a lot of Wesleyan men. I have decided to work the Wesleyan constituency who already know about us pretty hard during the next year. It is useless to go far afield until one has worked all the loads that one already has.

With love to all,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

June 15, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Jim:

I told J. P. Davies, who sent me this prayer call from Cairo university, and suggested that we do likewise, that we would be very glad to have individuals make the University, and its affairs a matter of prayer, and that if such individuals would send in their names to you at 150 Fifth Avenue that from time to time you would send them information regarding the University that would enable them to pray in accordance with our needs.

Yours cordially

Joe Beech

P.S. Just got yours of May 1st enclosure of object & amounts sought. Go for the things started not new objects. Agriculture is not one of them yet. Include it, but certainly after Mrs. Science, Education.

Also rec'd yours of May 4, with ^{Mr} Gamewell enclosure, will try to get the photos for ask - if possible this summer. Am a bit fearful lest the support for have get on our budget. How can you guard this? No more crises against foreigners since last letter. Situation serious however among a purchased element. Watch our step now. Joe

West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

TRANSFER

June 15, 1926



Mr. George Vaux
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Vaux:

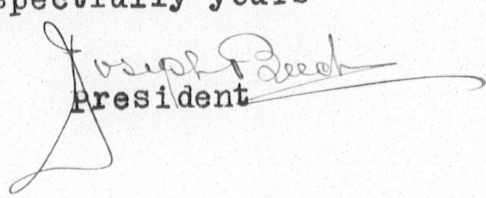
I am sending you a copy of a letter received from Mr. Jacobus. Your recent letter stated that you endeavored to get a writing from Mr. Coles, and that you did not succeed. I fear that we may not be able to furnish the testimony which Mr. Jacobus requires. However, I have written him that I am sending on his letter to you as you have the most authentic information, having interviewed Dr. Coles in person in regard to the gift.

I had your letter recently received read at the Senate, and one and all greatly regretted that you had been compelled to relinquish your post as treasurer of the Board. I very much hope that you may be able to continue as a member of the Board, and that your interest in this university, and the work that it is designed to do, may be none the less vital because you are not able to act as its treasurer.

Your expression of personal interest in us was greatly appreciated. I can assure you that I look forward with pleasure to the possibility of meeting you again on my return to America, which I judge will not be before next autumn.

With very kindest wishes to Mrs. Vaux, I am

Respectfully yours


President

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West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

June 18, 1926

Mr. James M. Yard
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Yard:

Replying to yours of April 22nd about sending Wesleyan students to study here for a year, -without giving an opinion on the general question, I should say that the approach to the matter would be to make an experiment with some choice fellow. Have him spend a year here, let Wesleyan give him what credit it could for the work done, and then let him spend another year after his return at Wesleyan University, either for a B. A., or M. A. x It would not do much good for publicity at Wesleyan unless the man went back to Wesleyan, and unless he was very thoroughly enthused with the idea of missionary service. Hence the selection need to be carefully made. In other words experiment under the best conditions. I am not quite sure how the fellow would be put up. Perhaps somebody would like to entertain him, but that would cut him out of a good deal of contact among the Chinese students. I would not discourage the idea, neither would I push it far ahead at this juncture. Much, very much, depends upon the man, himself, as to enthusiasm to be associated with it.

I note also in yours of April 22nd a suggestion about writing for Asia. Well, perhaps sometime I can.

We have a commencement in two or three days. We also have plenty of yao yen, and the Consul is not permitting people to leave for the hills.

The student who attacked Miss Manly in such a vicious manner was tried as though for assault and battery. He was given eighteen months. When asked where, nobody seems to know which, as I suggested in another letter, may be eighteen months in the open enjoying the weather of West China.

I will try and keep your idea of the book ends in mind. Since I am going home via Europe I am leaving most of my junk, and I tell you I will leave most of yours too unless I can ship by freight the other way, as with four wawers I have a good deal of impedimenta, though it is of a joyous kind to take along.

As ever yours

Joseph P. Beach
Joz

A man Wesleyan would like to
join the faculty later would be "Grove"

West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

June 19, 1926

Dear Jim:

Re: Candidates

Mr. Paul Johnson had a fellow classmate at Cornell, Berton M. Hogle. After graduation he was athletic director at the Clinton High School, and thought to come out to China for athletic work. He decided to go into medicine. I quote you briefly from a letter he wrote to Johnson.

"Paul, your talk of my teaching in a Medical School sounds funny. But really the more I think of it the more it appeals to me. The trouble is I am afraid I'll never know enough to practice medicine, let alone teaching it. But I am interested and if President wants to talk the matter over with me I'll be interested to say the least. It would be great to be working with you on such a job as this. I wonder if we could work as hard together as we used to play together."

Johnson recommends him highly, and would like to see him come to West China when he finishes medical school. His wife, a graduate in home economics, would be valuable in connection with this course for the woman's college.

X The point of this is, put these people on your list. When you get to Cincinnati make inquiries. If you get to Clinton you might also make inquiries. Likewise at Cornell, Iowa. If they seem to be the stuff that today's missionaries are made of try to rub off the insulation of the contacts with the Board.

Second, Dr. Canright states that he would like to come back to China to do evangelistic work. That does not seem to be the great need here now in view of present conditions. He mentions Cyril having graduated in medicine, the present time being in Henry Ford's Hospital. I presume he graduated from Western Reserve, Cleveland, and is now in Detroit. I suggest likewise that you get the same sort of information in regard to Cyril. It is not likely that both of these men can come in the near future, but we should have at least one more medical man here before long, either one of these two, or somebody better.

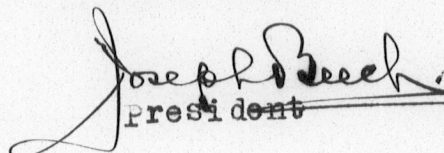
-2- Mr. James M. Yard

June 19, 1926

Third, We are passing a resolution in the mission meeting today to invite Mr. Hu, graduate of P. U. M. C., who has done some teaching to join our mission staff for the University. The maximum rate quoted is \$150 Mexican, and house. That is all this time on candidates.

Mr. Hogle's address is 434 Kasota Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

As ever yours


President

Mr. James M. Yard
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

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June 24th, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

I have just had a last lunch with Harry Openshaw before he starts West tomorrow. He was out in Scotch Plains, or whatever the place is, recently looking up the possibility of getting some more money for the Clock Tower. He says there is not the ghost of a show of getting anything more from the Estate of Dr. Coles. There are practically no heirs who have anything to do with it. Everything is tied up and managed by a trust company. There are no loop-holes and no strings that can be pulled. What a pity it is that your request did not get to him before he died.

Please get me some pictures of those new autos on the streets of Chengtu as soon as possible. I think we can get a story of those tied up with the motorcycle that will be published in the Dearborn Independent.

I notice that Earl Cranston mentioned the name of Paul Meng as a possible candidate for service in West China. May I say that I very much hope that we can secure Meng for he is one of the most outstanding Chinese I have met. He would make a very great contribution to West China, if he can be persuaded to go there. I shall do my best to keep in touch with him at this end and could no doubt secure his support if you think we should go ahead on that basis.

Your letters of May 7th and 8th have been received. In reply to your suggestion concerning scholarships, I have already been able to turn in \$150 on account of those faculty scholarships. I am also hoping that we may get money for the employment of a Chinese physician. Could you get a man from Peking if you had the money? Please let me know at once or if you want me to find a man here or is there a possibility of putting one of your own graduates on the faculty. If you do get a man out there be sure to get a very good one. The man who is suggesting giving this money is a young banker of Philadelphia who is making a very great deal of money and if we can get him fully interested, it may mean a considerable sum in the future.

Dr. Joseph Beech

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June 24th, 1926.

If I may give a word of advice in the midst of this very miscellaneous letter, I would say do not plan to come home through Siberia. We worked on that plan a year ago and everything was most discouraging. Things may be better next Spring when you get started, but from all that I learn I do not think it would be wise to take a family of children by that route.

We have, of course, been greatly shocked by the death of Mrs. Sibley and can imagine how very nervous you all are. I also noted the other day that Miss Manly had been attacked, I suppose it was Grace. However, the newspaper accounts would not lead one to believe that there was any special anti-foreign agitation. It was also said that the Chinese officials had taken a very strong stand against any such actions. I hope their action will reassure everybody so that you will not suffer too badly from fear and worry.

I was talking yesterday with Mr. Ivy Lee, I suppose the biggest publicity man in New York City, and he advised me not to try to get any large sums in less than a year. Our job is to make West China Union University known and then to ask men of ability to give largely. That is the line I have been working on and Mr. Lee largely confirms my former opinion. I shall do everything I can in the way of the wisest and biggest publicity at the same time making as many personal contacts as possible; then when you arrive the two of us ought to be able to pull down some pretty big things, but my problem will be to keep patiently hopeful during these hard days of plowing and sowing.

With best wishes and love to the family,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

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West China



Union University

July 2, 1926

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

My dear Jim:

I am acknowledging yours of May 4th, two letter of May 7th, and yours also of May 13th in which you mention Roger Greene, a conference with Miss Eggleston, possibility of connection with J. D. R., Jr. and the American Boxer Indemnity. Regarding the latter I have filled up the commission with a lot of material, a copy of which must have gotten into Professor's Monroe's hands. Roger Greene advised against receiving any money from that source. He is one of the commission. I have been urging him, also Dr. Vincent, to come to West China. Greene is not coming this year. He sent Dr. Stevenson. He has been and gone. We expect Gist Gee may come this autumn. Keep at them.

Glad you had such a good time with the Ryders. I have been holding back on the Ryders, hopint to get something quite worthwhile from that quarter. I hope that their contribution to Lau will not satisfy their appetites.

I note your remark about the paper making. I will see what I can do.

I will be sending you in the course of the next few days a number of copies of the following:

Invitations to the commencement, and commencement programs. you may be able to use these for publicity purposes.

A number of copies of the report to the Board of Governors, for private distribution only among those whom you may consider as belonging to the family, or about to belong, after the fashion of trustees.

In packages of about five each a goodly number of catalogues.

I am also sending you with this letter copies of the Minutes of the May 6th and June 3rd Senates.

I wonder if you can do anything about seeing the trustee of the Coles Estate, Mr. H. R. Jacobus, Fidelity Trust Company, Newark. Mr. Vaux writes that Dr. Coles personally promised him \$5,000 for the Clock Tower, but he had no writing. I note on the accounts sent forward by Eric North a credit of \$4,000, and \$1,000 listed as still due from Dr. Coles. Inasmuch as the Clock Tower

Market 9200.
755 Broad St.

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July 2, 1926

will cost fully \$5,000 to build, and the architect drew the plan under ~~under~~ authorization to draw a building that could be built for \$5,000, will not all of these facts taken together, even though we can produce no written statement from Dr. Coles, constitute sufficient evidence to enable the trustee to pay the \$1,000. Take it up with Mr. Gantz and Mr. North, write to Mr. Vaux, and see the trustee. Then if you have opportunity use your influence to keep Sir Joseph in his present seat.

Please notice the way we are heading in regard to options in religion. Minute #1955. I am inclined to think this is the finest way out unless we go clear out, which is a doubtful procedure.

Compare the needs of 1927 with the appropriation of 1926. Go in for any of these items individually to supplement the budget. You may take any one of the items in the library, the administrative work, or the salaries of the workers, or the faculty appropriations for material, etc. You have a fine list here to go to work on. I have also added a number of others.

Minute #1957. Please note the source from which we propose to pay for the electric light plant that we asked you to order.
These pay charges our account with the treasurer.

Also note that we have built a fine post office building, and tea shop on the street without any money, that is we have used some borrowed endowment money, and will pay interest on it with some benefit to the University.

Right in this connection I have a bit of private information which I would like to have treated as confidential. If we had a house adjacent to the University I could rent it to the post office at an annual rental of about twelve per cent. The house would need to cost about six or seven thousand dollars. I could get a guaranteed rental for probably ten years. That looks as though we would be able to pay back the principal after keeping up the property. Do you have anybody interested in that sort of a proposition. Do not advertise it in the press, or among Chinese, lest it get back to headquarters in Peking.

I would like very much if you could get hold of the ^{amount listed as} supplementary estimate for the furnishing of the library. I would rather not use my fund from Yuan Shi Kai for that purpose.

The devil is still abroad, but notwithstanding we have prospects of the largest summer school that we have ever had. I think the enrollment in the Bible School this summer will be over eighty, and perhaps close to a hundred. This is made possible by a gift from Mr. Blackstone. We are sure of another summer school from funds in hand. The great attraction this year to

-3- Mr. James M. Yard

July 2, 1926

the students, I think is the fact that both Dzang and Fay are really running the school, although Mr. Manly and Mr. Sparling are doing the horse work in connection with the institution.

I will try to get the pictures you want from the museum. *paper*

Glad to hear you have had a dinner with Joe Richards, and I hope you get next to the R. F. through Ivy Lee.

Regarding the campaign I think we should go on quietly, and reserve liberty of action to continue going on quietly. At the same time we ought to unite in any particular drive at any particular time with the other Universities. I think this is the line of best action for all. *ef* Avoid entangling alliances that make for expense, and do not leave you free to get income.

Miss Andrews is off for the hills tomorrow, so goodbye to you today.

As ever yours

Joe Beech

Mr. James M. Yard
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Consul keeps advising - Do not leave the city - the rebels continue to rebel & go to the int. Considerable sickness abroad. Minian & Robert have been down - now up but below normal.
Joe

West China



Union University



July 2, 1926

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric North
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

INDEXED

My dear Dr. North:

I am indebted to you for yours of May 19th enclosing copy of the cablegram sent to Mr. Main, and also accounts presented through the Canadian Mission Board. In this connection please remember that all accounts in connection with the salary and expenses of Mr. Walter Small are not to be charged to our current budget, or to general funds. According to a previous ruling of the Board of Governors, still in force, all expenses of the builder are to be charged to the buildings erected by him. Consequently the \$5,220.43 paid on his account should be charged against buildings. A detailed statement of the manner in which this sum will be charged to the particular buildings will be sent by the bursar. We have agreed that Mr. Small's time on the buildings should include his actual salary, plus his outgoing, return and one half furlough at the completion of his present term of service.

I have looked over the accounts which you have sent Mr. Albertson. I will go over all of these matters this summer with Mr. Albertson, and I will endeavor to clear up any items that may not be clear.

Please see Mr. Devesty regarding credits made to the Board of Foreign Missions on account of gifts promised to me for the university. These include among others

Mr. E. R. Moore, Elizabeth, New Jersey, St. James Church
Mr. Keen, Mitchell, South Dakota
W. E. Morris, Mitchell, South Dakota

I am sending you Minutes of the Senate. I have put your name on the list. In the May and June Minutes you will find the appropriations for the different departments, and forms of work for 1926, and estimates for 1927. Inasmuch as the Board

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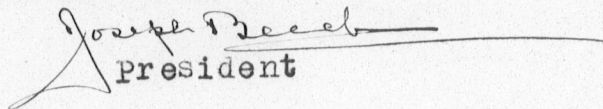
-2- Dr. Eric North

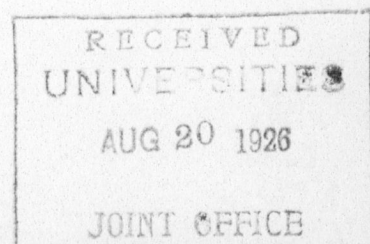
July 2, 1926

of Governors apparently under estimated the amount of money that would be necessary for their own obligations we endeavored to keep below the amount authorized for the field in order that there might not be a deficit. We also feared that the Methodist contribution would fall short, and a deficit be incurred if we used the full amount authorized. We have simply marked time in this financial budget, and allowed some things that should have been done to be left undone.

Thank you also for yours of May 7th enclosing confidential memoranda regarding property titles.

Respectfully yours


President



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July 2nd, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

Your cable concerning the electricity plant has been received and I have begun work on it. Hope to get it off without unreasonable delay. I didn't understand the reference to Dickinson at the close, but that will probably be straightened out in your letter. Do you mean that Dickinson College is to pay something on that account?

My friend Blackman didn't feel able to assume the support of a Chinese professor in the department of medicine, but he did make an annual pledge of \$500 per year beginning at once, the money to be used in the department of medicine. I have good hopes that he will eventually give at least twice as much as that per year.

It is some days now since I have had any word from West China and I am looking forward eagerly to some more news. I am going home over the Fourth of July and toward the end of next week Elizabeth and Priscilla will be going down to Farmingdale with me. We have had a remarkably cool June but it is now beginning to warm up and seems quite like summer. I hope you have been able to get away to the hills and that in any case you are not too uncomfortable.

With love to all,

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

July 2nd, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

Your letters of May 27th and 28th have just arrived and I am more than glad to have them. It had been a long time since I had any word. Of course you know before this that Mr. Lau is already on the way. Please let me say this, that the Chinese friends there will find him 100% Chinese. It is true that he is an American citizen by birth but he lays no store by that. He spent about five years in China when he was five to ten years old and is thoroughly Chinese.

Many of the Chinese there I am perfectly sure would run to foreigners for protection long before Lau would think of it. As a matter of fact I think because of his association with the Chinese student group in this country he would never think of using his American citizenship to protect himself under any circumstances. He has lots of good sense and tact and is a very likable chap.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

July 7th, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

Your letter concerning the Kohler automatic electric plant has now arrived. I have quotations which were secured by the Methodist Board as follows: At the ship in San Francisco \$406, at the ship in New York \$398. I will go and call on the people here and see if we can get a further reduction. I will get the plant on the way within a few days.

I enclose herewith a copy of the letter from Dean Reisner of Nanking. I wrote him for some suggestions that he might have to make in regard to the establishment of a department of agriculture in the University at Chengtu. The letter, a copy of which I enclose, is his answer. What he says, it seems to me, is well worth considering. As you know, he has had a lot of experience and is a very able man. He has done, I suppose, the best work in agriculture that has been done in China and his suggestions should therefore be given due weight.

I hope you will take this letter up with Dr. Brown & Dickinson and any others interested, and go over it carefully. I am perfectly sure that we ought to do more than we are doing for the farmers, as such. If we can get along without a department of agriculture in Chengtu and can train certain leaders at Nanking along the line of agriculture, I do not care. In such a case we ought to have funds to pay for fellowships of a year or two at Nanking. It seems to me that it is the same old question as to whether our leaders should be trained in Peking or Nanking whether those leaders are in medicine, education or agriculture. Sometimes, it seems to me, that we make a mistake and confuse ourselves by considering West China a part of China at all. If it were called Tiboom or some other country there would be no question about our need of a department of agriculture in West China, or so it seems to me. We are so far away and so inaccessible and our problems are so unique that I believe we shall have to develop many of these things for ourselves.

Reisner sent Wallace a copy of his letter to me and Dr. Wallace, in a letter to me, comments as follows: "I am replying to him that I am in complete agreement with everything he has said from beginning to end. We have been spending much time discussing questions of college development and there is practically unanimous

Dr. Joseph Beech

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July 7th, 1926.

agreement with the position which Mr. Reisner takes in his letter. There are other phases of strickly college work which need development at the present time and which should not be delayed by an expensive piece of college grade work in agriculture, but when it comes to the rural problem and the attempt, not to carry on research, but to actually show how primary schools and country churches can make rural life more attractive and livable and can keep young men in the country, then there is a great field."

Now he and Reisner may be right if we must go along in our present impoverished condition but if, during the next five years, we can actually secure, as I believe we can, from 15 to 20 million dollars for education in China, then it seems to me that West China would be justified in putting in a first class department of agriculture, not merely for purposes of research and demonstration, but to do exactly what Reisner says should be done, namely, to train teachers and preachers to go right back into the country. Can they be given the vision without such a school of agriculture at the University?

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

July 9th, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

— Can you or someone there tell me the actual running cost per year of the University including salary and travel of missionaries? I think the total should not include the board of the students, but all salaries, upkeep, renewal of equipment, library, etc., etc. Some day I may be asked that question and I want to have the answer ready.

No catalogues or other booklets have yet reached me. The photographs have come through all right. I have written to the China Press asking where the article on West China Union University is and I hope to get their reply soon.

I wrote Sir Joseph the other day concerning the possibility of a joint campaign for a large sum and he seems a bit flabbergasted. It apparently has not dawned on many of our friends yet that it will cost a huge sum to do an adequate piece of educational work in China. Many are hoping that the Chinese will take over the burden very soon. That makes an added reason why it would be wise to put on a big campaign during which we could get a vast amount of widespread publicity and through articles and conferences and forums we could answer many of the questions that are now in men's minds.

If we could promise West China University three million dollars during the next five years, how much could be raised in West China?

How much do you suppose could be raised in England, remembering that in Peking and Shantung the English Baptists as well as the Anglicans are represented? You must have that question in mind when you go to England next spring or summer and take the first steps probably in such a campaign. Do you know Dr. Balme, the president of Shantung? You and he could put on a whale of a campaign, I am sure, and of course Silcock would be a fine member of such a party. If you need a quartet, do not hesitate to call on me. A trip to England would not hurt me a bit!

Sincerely yours, James M. Yard

July 14th, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

The booklets of drawings by Mrs. Kitchen which Miss Andrews kindly forwarded, have arrived and I am delighted to have them. We shall no doubt use some of them in the early Fall. If Mrs. Kitchen makes any sketches while on the campus this summer, please send me copies of them.

Last Thursday, Jim Lewis, Eric North and I had a conference with Dr. Alfred Sze, concerning the advisability of putting on a large campaign at the present time. We went over very thoroughly the whole situation in China at the present time and asked him whether or not the group of young Chinese leaders, of which he is one, would, or would not welcome such a large fund, what he thought was the future of Christian colleges in China, etc. He considered the whole matter very carefully and then said that he was utterly in favor of such a proposal and that he himself would give any help that was possible.

He is greatly distressed over the situation at St. Johns and he is particularly alarmed at the report that Bishop Graves is to return to China. He had hoped that something would be done to retire him. Evidently the Chinese in Shanghai are bitterly opposed to the Bishop. Perhaps you better not speak of this matter of Bishop Graves or even of our conversation with the Minister until we have gone further with our plans.

If things move rapidly enough we might even ask you to come home earlier than you now plan, although I should think that if you can arrive some time during the late summer of 1927 that ought to be in time for our purpose. We shall spend most of the time between now and then perfecting our plans and making the preliminary campaign for large contributions. We already have contacts with a good many individuals and foundations from whom we are likely to receive large gifts in connection with this enterprise. Of course I wish you were here right now to join with us in the very beginning for you are very wise in such matters.

With love to the family,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

July 21st, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

I enclose a letter which I have just received from Dr. Sze in answer to one I wrote him. You have probably already acted on the matter, but for your information I send it along.

I also enclose a letter from the Carnegie Endowment which will probably be of interest to the Librarian.

I received this morning your first letter, and also one from Dr. Manly and a copy of one from Mildred Welch, commenting on the killing of Mrs. Sibley. I am very glad indeed to have these letters and to know the facts in the case.

I have just this morning received a letter from Paul Cheng, saying that he has changed his plans and will not be going out until next year. There are two reasons for this change. One is that he had a cable from his brother urging him to remain in this country one more year for study, but the other and more important one is the fact that he has just become engaged and is acting very much like certain young Americans I have known. He seems quite unwilling to go off to China and leave the young lady behind. Perhaps that is because he is a Chinese, but it appears to me as just good, old-fashioned human nature. He expects to put in a year in study and perhaps both of them will go out to China together a year from now. I met Miss Ling one night and the three of us had dinner together here. She is a very charming person, reminding me of Mrs. Fay. So he will probably be twice as valuable if he takes her along with him next fall a year and I shall be glad to make an effort to raise the extra money for her travel.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

Chungking Aug 15/26

Dear Jim DD

CONGRATULATIONS. and
as a silly piece said "worthily
awarded". Added your name
among the noted list of Radio
Speakers. Good work, old Boy,
am proud of this new Repu-
sentative and Jim of course.

Had something of a thrice
today. Was invited to the China
Bank to dinner with Gail Yen
+ a few others. Quite affair.
The Gail came in a very fancy
Carriage + after dinner brought
me in the 19th Century Grandure
to the Tung Hang Dsi outside
the South Gate. It was about
his first public show of the
thing, which cost him \$1000 in
Shanghai, + of course every body
stopped to see us go by - even
a wedding had to slow down
as we went thru under the

Aug. 15, 1926

Gate. Had it been a Packard or
or a Willis Knight-Road
I am thought nothing about
it, but a gay carriage &
many runners & riders was
a bit of Tally Ho in Chongtu
in 1926.

Then again this followed a
trip to Chongtu by a much abused
Ford bus in 3 hours. Elizabeth
Rott & I went along. Elizabeth & I
came back with me Friday. Rott
not very well was left with the
managers at Kwanhsien. We
made about the same time
returning, 3 buses together
at \$2 a head with about 17 to
20 in a bus. One of them burned
up yesterday - Don't wonder they
certainly are pushed over roads
that are nightmares in
spots.

Forgot to say that we are still
cut off from city but the road is

3

Aug 15, 1926

now under construction & General
 Yen has promised to ride to my door
 when the road is done - which ought
 to be in another month or two. So
 still progressing. Will dedicate
 the new library & Bell tower this

~~Re-timer now~~
 Now a word re your letters, post-
 marked N.Y. June 25 & Vancouver
 and July 2nd both arrived today.
 Vancouver just a week behind the
 other. Enclosed found yours of June 24,
 July 1st & 2nd. Which will acknowledge
 in right form when Miss A. gets
 back. No Dickinson was "Dick". The
 letter should have put you right as
 to fact & you can do the rest. I know.

The Physicians have written Dr. H.
 & Phineas to come to Chengtu. He may
 balk at price - your gift will
 enable us to get him, sure,
 unless tied up.

Keep touch with H. - meantime
 Give me information re his

Aug. 15, 1926

best form of contribution & will see what
can be done after the other two ar-
rive & get settled in. There may
be some jar and car needs
to be exercised. Will try to get
your photo of auto but they are
not allowed on streets now too
dangerous to the slow moving
crowds. They ply mostly to the
South & West - Soon to the North.

Convey my personal thanks to
your friend Mr. Blackman for his
\$500 yearly gift. Let me know about
him & will send you material
that may suit.

The weather not bad this summer
but tasting hot now. So we long
for the hills foregone -

Dr. North writes re the visit of Commission
with a hint that limitations exclude
W. China. Rub out the line. Which
ought to be west of Hankow. Suggest
they wire me re travel conditions. Will
advise "no visit" if things not safe.

Affection from all to all the
Jards - as ever - You - Joe - Beech.

Summer closed now closed. Fine seeing the Spirit fine country 1926
Lucean 1926 on the Faculty for Summer School. Send me money

Extract

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Chengtou, West China.

INDEXED
TRANSFER

September 10, 1926.

(Dr. Beech to Sir Jas. Flavelle)

.....

We are just beginning a new term. The opening exercises were held yesterday. Over two hundred students enrolled in the University, and the indications are favorable looking to the best enrolment that we have yet had. It is remarkable that so many students are coming, and that there is such a general good spirit among them, especially when viewed in the light of propaganda and agitation, and of the unfortunate events of the past year, and of the present days.

On the seventh of September there were grand rallies and parades of students and military to commemorate the signing of the Boxer protocol in 1900, and to give expression to their demand for the abrogation of these unequal treaties. Business called me in the city that day, and I was detained at one of the crossings for considerable time while the parade passed. It was a noisy demonstration. While this was happening in the city a fairly large company of students were trying the entrance examinations for the University. There were thirty-six of them, graduates from government schools. Graduates from the Christian schools were not participating in this examination. Their examinations were held at the various schools at the end of the spring term. Of the thirty-six candidates that tried the examinations, practically all of them being graduates of government schools, five passed in without condition, eight with conditions. The balance were excluded. They were admitted, not to the four year regular University course, but to the first year of the two year preparatory division for college entrance proper. From this you will see some of the difficulties under which we labor in endeavoring to function with the private and public schools of today.

At about the same time news was received of the unfortunate affair at Wanhhsien. No doubt, this news has been telegraphed abroad, and you are already familiar with certain phases of it. The story, as we have it here, is that General Yang Sen ordered inspection of steamers passing through Wanhhsien. This may have been due to a desire to prevent munitions from reaching Chungking. The first steamer managed to elude the officers who attempted to board her. A more determined effort was made upon the second steamer that passed. It is reported that the captain of the steamer turned the hose on the officers and soldiers who endeavoured to board the steamer, and at the same time endeavored to pull away, some of the soldiers being drowned. The steamer was then fired upon, and the British gun-boat in port returned the fire, the gun-boat also being fired upon. Word was immediately sent to the Consul at Chungking, and a second gunboat was sent to Wanhhsien with the Consul. An apology was demanded from General Yang Sen which

1200

9-10-26

he refused, and upon refusal the city was bombarded. Some of this information I have received through Chinese sources, by a letter written by a person who was at Wanhhsien, and some of the information I have received indirectly through the British Consul. I pass on the information as I have received it, without being able to vouch for it. The news created quite a stir. The Consul called in representatives of the missions, and some of our company entertained fears lest the matter might become so serious as to result in an order from the Consul to embark for the coast. In view of all these circumstances just happening it is remarkable that we have such a heavy enrolment, and that there is such a nice spirit prevailing in this institution. I trust that the fears of our friends will not be realized, and that we will have, despite these untoward events that keep the political fires roaring here in China, one of the best years that we have had for Christian service.

I trust that this news from Wanhhsien will not result in the detention of members of our staff at Shanghai who are just about due there, or that will arrive soon. We need their services here.

I will write you again in the near future.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph Beech

President.

P.S. The two English missions have received cables from their London office suggesting or authorizing departure of women and children from Szechwan. The C.M.S. cable - which was not in code - said: "The foreign office on report from Minister Peking" urge women and children leave Szechwan." If this action was taken on the strength of information of local conditions, it seems to us here to be hasty, if not ill advised. So far as we can see there are no internal causes for such drastic action. The cable evidently came by mail part of the journey and its origin may have antedated word of the Wanhhsien affair reaching London. The missionaries will find it difficult to justify departure in view of local conditions. I trust we can all remain at our posts.

J.B.

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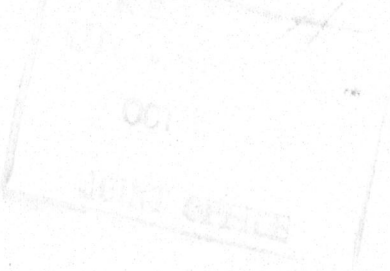
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President.

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J.B.



284457

West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

September 15, 1926

Dr. James M. Yard
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Jim:

I have answered some of this list which appears below, but I mention them all that you may know they have been received. Yours of May 25, June 14, 24, July 1, 2, 7, 9, 13, 14, 21 with enclosure from Alfred Sze, also enclosure in yours of July 7th from Mr. Reisner, which enclosure I have passed on to Dick and Brown.

In addition to what I may have said in indiscriminate letters during the summer let me comment and make some promises for the future. First let me say that everything that we can do here is being done in regard to the coming of Mr. Cheng and Mr. Lau, and they will be assured of a welcome whether they come singly or in pairs. I note by your last letter that Mr. Cheng will remain over to come paired.

In this connection you will be glad to know that a few days ago I sent a telegram to Peking authorizing Dr. Hu of the P. U. M. C. to join the staff of the University as a contribution by the M. E. M. He should be here before Christmas unless all roads to Chengdu are made impassable.

You, of course, have gotten the news about the Wanhsien affair. Let me give it to you briefly. Yang Sen's soldiers boarded one of the Butterfield and Swire boats, took possession of the bridge and engine room to prevent the boat from starting. The crew overpowered the soldiers, and took away their arms, and got the boat underway before other boats arrived. In doing so they swamped one of the boats and drowned some soldiers. They tried to catch this boat at Wanhsien, but she steamed past to Chungking. Two other Butterfield & Swire boats reached Wanhsien shortly afterward. They were commandeered by Yang Sen's troops, about three hundred men put on each boat. They locked the foreigners in the cabins, and threatened to shoot them if the "Cockchafer" fired on them.

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September 15, 1926

They then manouvered the two steamers so as to shut in and prevent the manouvering of the gunboat. So O. S. wireless calls for help were sent to Chungking and down river. The Consul and the gunboat arrived from Chungking, and another gunboat from Ichang with authority from the admiral to take any steps necessary for relief of the boat and imprisoned crew. The Consul demanded release. Yang Sen refused. An ultimatum was delivered that the city would be bombarded at four o'clock unless the boats were released. They were not released. The bombardment took place. Following this news excitement ran high in Chungking, but not here. Shortly after this a new steamer arrived from Chungking. It was a merchant vessel, but it was filled with marines. They ran along side one of the imprisoned boats, boarded it and took possession. They also captured the other boat and took possession. I hear that in the squabble three British marines, and fifty Chinese soldiers were killed. The Chinese papers have for the past two days given about one third of their printing space to the Wanhsien affair. They have not yet printed the last item about the capture of the boats. That is news which I have received from other sources. It is remarkable that in view of all this, and all that is being said, quiet and order prevail here, and no affronts to foreigners have been offered. The Consul is fearful lest trouble will result. I believe it will not because the authorities have the situation here very well in hand.

During the same days that trouble was brewing down there we enrolled over two hundred students in the University, and they appear to be a fine lot.

So much in reply to yours of May 25th, and I would like to add as a kind of a parting shot to your remark about pessimism. I would like to remark that I do not take David Yui as a good example, except as an example of a good man. There is a lot of difference between barking up a tree, and climbing it. David has a fine job and a fine salary. He lives in a protected section of China. He is not overrun with soldiers, and robbed with every shift of the government. His salary, I judge is largely secured from foreign sources. He ought to be optimistic, even in regard to his country; but if members of his family living in the country were robbed, some of them killed, their home burned, business destroyed, and they come penniless, or very much so, into some of the unprotected areas such as Chengtu then you cannot blame them if they are pessimistic, especially since they see no light of promise on the horizon. No, those fellows who are quite discouraged

September 15, 1926

about things are not all gray whiskered, and part of those who have gray whiskers have been made gray by circumstances which have no hope. Now don't mistake my position. I probably have more enthusiasm or optimism about China than David Yui, but I think perhaps I am a little closer to the people of China than he is. I know there is a vast amount of suffering, uncertainty, and a something bordering upon hopelessness upon a good many people. I know too that many good families are on the verge of starvation. I could tell you a few things but I won't at this time. So much for your letter of May 25th.

Now let me add that the problem of the erection of the Chinese houses is somewhat complicated by the fact that we have been trying to buy a piece of ground upon which to erect them. I have had this piece of ground in my fist once or twice, but it has refused to stay there. The problem of where to put such houses has to be solved before we can build the houses. If there was only one to be built it would be simple, but of course we want others to follow, and we would like to have order in their arrangement. Please explain to Sir Joseph. I think I will get his money spent before I leave Chengtu next February or March.

Replying to your letter of June 14th \$100,000 Gold is required for the hospital and equipment.

In your letter of June 24th you state that you have turned in \$150 on account of faculty scholarships. I have received no notification specific enough to apply to this purpose. If they come in the regular M. E. M. manner it will be difficult to pry them loose unless specific instructions follow with the gift. In getting such things please indicate whether we may expect continuance.

It is not easy to get photos of automobiles on the streets of Chengtu now. I will catch one if I can, and let you have it.

Thank you for yours of July 1st regarding a five hundred dollar gift from Mr. Blackman. Again I am not quite clear whether this comes as a part of the M. E. M. or distinctly outside of the M. E. M. project. The M. E. M. has engaged Dr. Hu at a salary of \$150 Mexican, plus travel and house rent. The M. E. M. would like, no doubt, to apply this five hundred on Dr. Hu's salary. Kindly make clear to us the source through which the money is to come to the field, whether through the University treasurer, New York, or through the M. E. M. This applies to this as well as other gifts.

A letter from Cranston dated Japan says that he and Lau will visit Peking to Canton, and hope to get to Chengtu in October.

September 15th, 1926

Referring to yours of July 7th thanks for your share in the Kohler purchase. If I had been within reach I think I would have accepted their offer for their fifteen hundred watt machine. Word has come that this shipment is due to arrive in Chungking. Neither Frier there, nor myself have received any negotiable bill of lading or properly made out statements. I have written Toothaker about this. I hope the machine will not get to Chungking, and then be held up because we cannot pass customs due to a lack of bill of lading and invoice.

If your rosy outlook of millions for the future comes true we can be free to add departments, but the demand on us now is to maintain what we have got as it ought to be, and make it contribute in a more effective manner to the needs of the day. I will get the men to work on future needs, and let you have the result. Meantime, however, get if you can the completion of the medical building and the fund for the erection of the hospital. Incidentally if things keep going on as they have been for the past year about the only way we can get funds from the Chinese will be on our promise to depart hence. I think some of them might pay quite liberally on that **score**. This remark, of course, applies on your question in regard to cooperation.

The English are slower than the Americans. I have not succeeded in getting any tangible response to what might be done there on my way home. Cables have come from both British boards authorizing women and children to leave West China. That does not look good for campaigns for more to come.

Just a word about the present situation with lights and shades coming from it. The fall term opened auspiciously. On the first two days 203 students enrolled in the University proper. Thirty-six men from government schools tried the examination. Thirteen got in. A fine spirit was prevailing here, and still prevails, but the general atmosphere in the city is such as to bring forth anything if the forces are not controlled. Fortunately all authority is for keeping peace and quiet, and I believe we will pass through the present Wanhsien crisis without any untoward events here. Following the bombardment of Wanhsien the business community of Chungking repaired to the boats in the river. Most missionaries, especially British took up their residence as near to the river as possible. The British Consul has long been asking the women and children to leave this province, and last week, before the Wanhsien affair the Friends and the C. M. S. received cables on advice from the Foreign Office that women and children might leave, all if the situation required it.

Bayne has arrived at Chungking, and left there for Chengtu.

-5- Dr. James M. Yard

Sept. 15, 1926

No word about others.

Application was made to the American Indemnity Committee for funds, and through the Board of Governors, as well as through friends at the coast we have been in touch with the British Committee. The American Committee evidently decided to give no money to mission institutions. Greene hoped we would not ask for any. The British money is in such a position as to make it very doubtful whether it would prove an asset, or a liability if received. However, we are keeping the channels open through a committee in Great Britain.

As ever yours

Beech

President

P.S. Should have said that 1 officer & 3 seamen killed
and 11 seamen & 4 officers ^{of British boat crew} wounded in ^{Wanhsien} battle of the boats. One of the merchant boats officers missing - five rescued. Reported 50 Chinese Boats killed. Don't know what became of the other 50 that were on the ^{British} boats. Boats captured by British & evidently left port - J

1207

Sept. 22nd, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech,
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China.

Dear Joe:

We are making some progress toward a unified campaign and after a talk with Mr. John Gribbel of Philadelphia, the other day, I am more convinced than ever that the only way for us to get money in any adequate amounts from these men of wealth is to go to them with a proposition for the total program for Christian education in China. Mr. Gribbel was most friendly and will cooperate with us in getting into touch with other men in Philadelphia.

Now, as we approach such men of means and especially when we go to Foundations, we simply have to have a holeproof case. Will you therefore, as soon as possible, from records which you already have probably and from conferences with the various faculties, send me a survey of the immediate needs of the University. That is, what do you need in the various departments to take care of the student body you now have? Send me another set of figures and facts, allowing for growth within the next five years.

We must know how many teachers you have in each department and how many you estimate you ought to have. For example, in medicine, education and English, how many extra men do you need today to do efficient work?

Looking forward to growth in the addition of professors, how many houses will you need? Do you actually need any houses at present?

How much do you estimate that a married man costs per year for salary, travel, medical allowances, etc.?

Can you give me your total annual budget? I have of course the Senate minutes containing your budget. What we need is not only that, but the total budget including missionaries' salaries, etc., etc.

While I am waiting for that I shall dope out something, but we ought to have this in just as soon as possible. It must be foolproof.

With best wishes,

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard

1208

TRANSFER



September 29th, 1926.

My dear Dr. Beech:

It will not be necessary to argue the case to establish that all the records in connection with the receiving and expenditure of money for the University should be so clearly set out that we can always know our true position. For some years I have been anxious to know what is the real position of the Board. The Treasurer has advised that he does not know, because he is still without the needed information from the field. Recently, Dr. Eric North together with Mr. Gantz, the Treasurer, have been making a careful study of the available material and have placed before the Board as full a statement as was possible from the data before them. I remember that the Bur-
sar has been undertaking the heavy task of re-writing the entire books, and that necessarily as time goes by the task must be approaching completion. May I suggest that in addition to your other pressing duties, you seek through whatever co-operation may be possible, to have this work completed so that either before your return to America or upon your return, the Treasurer will have before him all the material necessary to give us a full understanding of our position. I have said to Dr. Eric North:

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" Concerning the work of Mr. Yard. There are two points of
" view, in which probably I represent one, and the President and
" Mr. Yard and others represent the other. In enterprises with
" which I am engaged, I am always anxious that they should be
" healthy and that before we step out farther we shall bring
" into sounder position the enterprise as it is. Dr. Beech, Mr.
" Yard, and others of their type, with abundant faith in the
" future, want to grow larger, and think the way to do the pre-
" sent work better is to plan for bigger things. Both methods
" are good; each of them pressed to excess leads to non-con-
" structive caution on the one side, and a dangerous promotor
" spirit on the other. From the Chairman's standpoint, what we
" now lack is an augmentation of our ordinary maintenance account
" of \$10,000. a year, and additional teachers on the staff to give
" to the departments as presently organized the necessary teach-
" ing body to reasonably discharge our obligation to the students.
" If the proposed larger campaign is successfully inaugurated
" and carried through, whereby the associated educational institu-
" tions in China will make a joint appeal, it will chiefly mean
" additional resources to put up added buildings, which means in
" turn added maintenance and added general yearly charges.

" I think our ordinary maintenance account suffers from a
" more significant trouble than the anxiety of the existing sup-
" porting bodies to find money to carry on existing work. At
" bottom I think it is the difference between organic union and
" co-operation. This difference is not peculiar to the church;
" it is present in all human activities. Men do not feel the
" gripping force of obligation in co-operative work which is pre-

COPY

SEP 29 1926

" sent in organic union, or which is present in their own parti-
" cular body for which they are directly responsible. It is
" somewhat easy to take on liability which is to be shared co-
" operatively, and then for each of the co-operating bodies to
" feel the stress of support less than if they were individually
" responsible for the enterprise. As a matter of fact, in an ed-
" ucational institution supported by several bodies, as the West
" China Union University, the bottom factor should be the united
" resources of the contributing bodies which will produce a really
" noble institution through the resources of all being available
" for the one, and the development of effective service, which
" would be much more difficult if each body sought to develop
" their own institution. It is in no spirit of unkind criticism
" or lack of appreciation of the anxiety of the contributing bod-
" ies to the West China Union University that I make these com-
" ments. I do not think we have faced the situation as it is from
" the first, nor do I believe, notwithstanding the excellent work
" which has been done, that the united bodies have met their re-
" sources in interest, in concern, in teaching force or in money,
" which the conception of the United University might fairly claim."

I have no desire to suggest anything which will
affect the serious earnestness of the University body in the spir-
it of a forward movement which will mean more and better buildings
and more and better equipment. If you discharge your duty fairly,
you must have such aspirations. The Christian work is not, how-
ever, different from other work in its essential underlying prin-
ciples. It is always safe to do well what we have already under-
taken before we unduly enlarge our responsibilities without
knowing how the work is to be in balanced measure whereby it will

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SEP 29 1926

not only look large, but be truly effective in the discharge of the duties which have been assumed. I am jealous always for Christian men that they should do their work better than other men, for Christian institutions that they should be a model of excellence in the work which they undertake to do. It has troubled me a good deal to have reference from year to year to the fact that we do not qualify under Chinese regulations in our Medical Department, or that out of the large body of supporters represented by our united churches, we have been unable to command sufficient resources to set the men in training to meet this great need in medical teaching. When you come back you will bring personal, authoritative, first-hand knowledge to our various bodies, and you will be able to command money which will be available for increased buildings and equipment. There will also be the task of manning these buildings with qualified teachers. We have before us the duty of providing the necessary money to use for the available Chinese teaching capacity, whether they are members of the existing missions, in which case the mission will pay their salary, or if they are not so identified, we should have the necessary means to that end. I am only saying what you know much better than I. I want to lay before you that we should hesitate in any enlarging of our physical equipment until existing equipment, the existing staff and the existing sense of responsibility on the part of the supporting bodies, is more clearly defined than is presently in evidence.

With sincere regard,

Rev. Dr. Joseph Beech,
Chengt'u, West China,
Province of Szechwan.

Faithfully yours,

J.C. Flavelle

J.C. Flavelle

COPY

12 12

TRANSFER

September 29, 1926

President Joseph Beech,
West China Union University
Changtu, West China.

My dear President Beech:

I enclose herewith memorandum of a meeting of the representatives of the five union colleges. The probability is that Yali will be one of the group, as well as the others named in the action toward the end of the minutes. You will understand, I am sure that the action of this group does not look to prejudging or undercutting the work of either the Permanent Committee or the Council for Higher Education, but is an effort to get actively under way the consideration of ^{the} many tangled problems involved in cooperative campaign work, and especially with those colleges that are already more or less engaged in such activities. There will be further light on these problems in the minutes of the Permanent Committee on Coordination and ^Promotion which will go to you shortly.

Cordially yours,

Eric M. North
Secretary

EMN-H

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Oct. 1st, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chengt'u, West China.

Dear Joe:

I have a letter in from Sir Joseph this morning which indicates that he is more interested in a few \$100 subscriptions than he is in the larger campaign for endowment. Of course I realize the importance of getting some money for our immediate needs and shall get busy on that right away. For six months I have been learning the job and finding out a few friends who can help out. Up to the present, owing to lack of publicity material and insufficient contacts, I have not asked directly for money. The few gifts for books and microscopes have simply come in incidentally as a result of some of my addresses. I am confident, before my first year is up, I shall be able to more than pay for the upkeep of this office and make up what is lacking on your budget from the boards.

Last Sunday I spent with Harold Wilson out here at a little church just outside of Greenwich and made some exceedingly valuable contacts. I met several people who will be willing, I am sure, to help out on a pinch and should, in the future years, make pretty liberal donations. Last night Mabelle and I had dinner with Dr. George E. Vincent and I was mighty glad to have that social contact with him. He asked me to call on him in his office which was just what I wanted. He lives out there at Round Hill in Greenwich. Mabelle and I were attending the dedication of a fine new community house. Harold Wilson was a peach to let me in on that. He is an Xi man of the class of '04.

During the next month I shall be in Scranton, Buffalo and Syracuse. In Syracuse I expect to visit my old roommate, Knapp, and am confident that we can get some money from him and his wife. I shall hope to get something from them on our current expenses and later on some sort of a worthy endowment.

We shall not get anywhere in real publicity until we are able to employ a publicity expert. I send things into the papers and have interviews with reporters, but nothing gets into the papers, or at least not much. On the other hand, Canton Christian College, paying a publicity agency \$40 a week, has something in very frequently. It is not my plan to spend any money along this line until our united campaign is under way, but because of the need for publicity, I am anxious that that part of it get started at the very earliest possible moment. The matter of getting money in large sums in America seems to be pretty largely a matter of psychology and that psychology is produced by the right sort of articles in the newspapers. More later.

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard

JMY/RT

October 8, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech
West China Union University
Chengtu, China

Dear Joe:

Your letter of August 15th has just arrived. The time was not bad considering the disturbed condition of the Yangtze Valley. Our friend Yang Sen has certainly stirred things up, hasn't he? I shall be glad to get the inside dope on that whole situation. Nearly everything that we have had has come through London.

I very much hope that you will be able to secure Dr. Hu of Peking. Be sure to send me his picture if he arrives and anything interesting about him that you happen to know. If we can get a good story about him, I think Blackman would assume his entire support.

By the way, we have no picture of a student looking through a microscope. I wish you would secure a good one and send it soon. We have very good ones of the Physics and Chemistry students and I am using one in a leaflet which will be ready within a few days. By the way, J. A. Richards' brother-in-law, Mr. Charles Little, is very keen about our work and is giving his expert advice on printing and doing our printing for us at an exceedingly low rate.

With love to all,

Sincerely yours,

JAY:ND

James M. Yard

12 15

TRANSFER



INDEXED

West China Union University

October 14, 1926

President Joseph Beech,
West China Union University
Chengtui, Szechuan,
China.

Dear Dr. Beech:

We have been some time in digging up the status of some pledges about which you wrote in September 1925 to Mr. Rutherford, and I am writing now to report all the information we have on them to date and upon some other pledges concerning which inquiry might arise.

1. Pledge of Mr. James Keen dated at Mitchell, S. Dak., April 2, 1919. Later he wrote that he had made a new will and had put in \$5000. instead of \$2000. as he had promised. Of this pledge \$500. was paid to the Board of Foreign Missions in October, 1918, and \$500. in May, 1919, and both of these have been transmitted to the Treasurer of the Board of Governors and appear in his books. Your understanding that Mr. Keen might pay \$2000. in cash in addition to the bequest of \$5000. does not seem to be verified by anything which we can find in the correspondence.

2. Matilda Mason pledge - the original pledge was for \$4500. or the balance of the estate. The estate was settled on August 30, 1918, and the University Treasurer received \$3028.18, representing the total amount due and available. Nothing more can be secured upon this item.

3. Pledge of B. C. Lamont - \$15,000. pledged and payment in full received by the University Treasurer.

4. Frank H. Ryder pledge - \$1000. pledged and paid in full to the University Treasurer February 4, 1919.

5. Pledge of Wm. A. Notman - pledge dated at Buffalo, N.Y. Aug. 9, 1919, \$5000., payable \$1000. yearly for five years to Centenary Fund. Payments were made to the Methodist Board March 1920, January 1921, April 1922, September 1922 and September 1923. The Board of Foreign Missions still has this amount of \$5000. and is holding it awaiting word that the University is proceeding with the hospital building.

6. Pledge of Edgar E. Moore - \$10,000. payable to the Methodist Centenary in installments of \$2000. yearly or more until paid in full.

12 16

10-14-26

No original pledge found but matter of record in letter to Dr. Beech dated Feb. 9, 1920. No payment has been made to the University Treasurer. The difficulty upon this pledge seems to lie in the fact that Mr. Moore claims that he made a payment to the treasurer of the local church in Elizabeth, N.J.; the local treasurer died and there was a general mix up in settling the accounts which caused Mr. Moore to be very dissatisfied with the results, and in spite of efforts on the part of the Designated Gift Department of the Board to get a settlement of the matter through him or through the new treasurer of the church or through the pastor, no results have been obtained. The names of some of the local persons concerned are Mr. Clifford Fox, Mr. R. B. Cleveland, Rev. W. R. Neff. It seems to me that the best thing that can be done with this item is for Mr. Yard to study the lay of the land and, if he finds it practicable an approach to Mr. Moore, to go ahead; otherwise, to wait until you returns from China.

7. Pledge of J. A. Coles for clock tower. No original pledge written by Mr. Coles has been found. Four thousand dollars has been received as follows: April 26, 1924, \$1000.; January 8, 1925, \$3000. Mr. Coles's letter of January 8th indicates that he paid directly for the bell and the clock. Of the \$4000. received, \$439.21 has been paid for architects' fees and \$3000. was remitted to the field on November 30, 1924. It was understood that the original pledge was for \$6000. and Mr. Vaux has made an affidavit as to this fact which is being presented to the Executors of the Estate with the hope that the full amount will be received. Mr. Yard is conducting the negotiations with the Executors of the Estate.

8. Pledge of S. E. Morris. According to a letter from Mr. Morris, dated at the Western National Bank, Mitchell, S. Dak., Sept. 4, 1919, a pledge of \$1000. was to be paid \$200. a year through Centenary. Two payments were made - March 1, 1920, and \$200. November 11, 1921. This is all that has been received by the University Treasurer or by the Board on this pledge. In response to an inquiry from the Designated Gift Department of the Board in October, 1925, Mr. Morris wrote, "I have made no further payments and may not be able to make more though I wish very much to do so." I am referring this item to Mr. Yard.

Cordially yours,

Erie M. North

Assistant Treasurer
West China Union University

EMN-H

CC: Wm. O. Gantz
G. F. Sutherland
J. M. Yard

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TRANSFER

INDEXED

West China Union University

October 19, 1926

President Joseph Beech,
Bursar W.B. Albertson,
West China Union University
Chengtú, Szechwan,
China.

My dear Dr. Beech and Mr. Albertson:

This letter is your authority to draw not to exceed
U.S.\$2500., to be used exclusively for a house or houses for Chinese
teachers, this being a gift from Sir Joseph Flavelle. This authoriza-
tion is void if in any manner or form you have already drawn this
amount for this purpose. Sir Joseph Flavelle is very emphatic in
stating that this amount must be used exclusively for a house or
houses for Chinese teachers.

Cordially yours,

Eric M. North

Assistant Treasurer
West China Union University

EMN-H

12 18

October 21, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech
West China Union University
Chengtu, China

Dear Joe:

Eric North has just handed me a copy of his recent letter to you concerning the unpaid pledges. This reminds me that you must have a lot of names that I ought to have on my card index, people to whom I can send reports and news items, etc. Please send me these names.

The Governors are concerned because I am not getting more money, but you know as well as I do that it is impossible to go up to a man the first time you meet him, a man with whom you have had no contact, and who knows little or nothing about the University and ask him for a thousand dollars. The Governors themselves, aside from Sir Joseph, have made no effort at all to get funds. I am working along and have made some valuable contacts and am making more every day. Within a few months I hope to get some money. In the meantime, if you know of any people to whom you can write, or who are near enough for me to pay them a visit at your suggestion, let us get busy and see if we can raise fifteen or twenty thousand for the current budget. For one thing, there is no money for your travel home next year. I must get that somewhere. Do you know of anybody to whom I can go? I went to see Mr. Morrell and I wrote to him the other day. He says he is quite unable to make any gift at the present time, and not being an extremely wealthy man, he feels that he has perhaps done his share. He wrote me a very fine letter and may next spring make a small contribution.

I have had almost no contact with the Baptists. They are so tied up with red tape that I cannot make any progress. Franklin doesn't even dare to whisper the name of a wealthy Baptist lest he be pitched into the sea. Can't Joe Taylor or Morris give you a few names that I could cultivate with literature, even though I dare not ask them for money immediately? I shall proceed to cultivate Harry Emerson Fosdick and get him sold on West China. One trouble is that he is just returned from the Near East, and is completely committed to the Universities' program there. As you may know, they have recently opened an office here for a united campaign for all the colleges of the Near East. Cleveland Dodge worked that out before he died, and they have

12 19

Dr. Joseph Beech
Oct. 21, 1926
---2---

an exceedingly able executive force. That all makes it much more important that the Union Universities in China get together at once and get the campaign started. I have been studying these things diligently for the last six months, including the publicity of a man like Woodrow Wilson, and know absolutely that we can never put across our campaign unless we have a first class publicity agent. We are now thinking of a man like Bruce Barton. He could do it in a great way. John Gribbel is a great man for publicity in advertising, and I hope we can get him to under-write that end of it very soon so that just as soon as we get even a tentative organization we can get our publicity man at work.

I paid my first visit to Elizabeth last Saturday and found her very happy at Swarthmore. She is keen about the girls and very much loves the place. The campus is certainly beautiful. The rest of the family are all well and enjoying life at Wallace Lodge. You better settle down there next year for you will certainly have to spend a good deal of time in the vicinity of New York.

I am off tonight for Buffalo to engage in an important conference on the whole theory and method of modern missions with Bishop McConnell, Paul Hutchinson, Dr. Franklin, E. C. Carter, Professor Fleming, Dr. Luccock, and two or three more folks like that.

Must stop for today.

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard

JMY:MD

Dictated but not read.

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WEST
CHINA

INDEXED

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

October 29, 1926.

TRANSFER

Dr. Joseph Beech, President,
West China Union University,
Chengtu, West China.

My dear Dr. Beech:

We have been rather concerned about the mailing of the diplomas for the Class of 1926 which we have now received from the University of the State of New York, in view of the reports of serious disturbances around the University. Dr. Yard has suggested, however, the advisability of mailing these diplomas to you in care of Mr. C. B. Rape, at the Chungking High School, relying on him to forward them to you when it might seem best. We are accordingly mailing these diplomas to you by first class registered mail in Mr. Rape's care, notifying him by this same mail of our action. We sincerely hope that our action will inconvenience neither of you seriously and that the diplomas will reach Chengtu before long.

Cordially yours,

Assistant Treasurer,
West China Union University.

L.

1221

November 1, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech, President
West China Union University
Chongtu, West China

Dear Joo:

It was a greater delight than usual to get your letter of September 15th. As you can imagine, we are all hungry for news from Chongtu. We have lived in China long enough to discount rumors, and so we have not been unduly worried; on the other hand, we know that almost anything might happen after Yang Sen's experience at Wahnien. The length of your letter was also most welcome, because it contained comment on so many things that I wanted to know about. I am perfectly delighted that you have wired for Dr. Hu.

In this connection, let me say that all the moneys which I have received have come in as specials extra, and can by no possibility be credited to the regular Methodist appropriations. I think that I have asked the Methodist treasurer to send all moneys back to our West China Union University treasurer here. That applies to scholarship funds, this five hundred dollars for the Medical Department, etc., etc. Now if you want this five hundred dollars for Dr. Hu sent through the Methodist Board rather than through our University Treasurer, please let me know and that can be arranged. I have used this procedure to be perfectly sure that the University got all of the money.

I have secured fifteen or more microscopes for the Pre-Medical Department or, of course, where-ever they are most needed. I used Bayne as the horrible example to stir up people's feelings. Since your letter was written, I have heard that Bayne, upon reaching Chungking, returned to the coast, and since I have received some money also toward Soper's gear-cutting machine, I am hoping to order that and get it on its way, using part of the microscope money until other funds come in for the completion of the machine shop fund.

That money for the scholarships is in the hands of our treasurer here, and you can simply draw it out and charge it up.

Things are beginning to move, and I wish very much that you were here right on the spot now. However,

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Dr. Beech
Nov. 1, 1926
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it will probably be all right a year from now. My plans will be more in hand and we ought to be able to do a lot of work together. But so far as I can see, the sooner you get here, the better.

I spent a couple of days with my old room-mate, Martin Knapp, who has, as I have told you, married a very wealthy girl in Syracuse. Both he and his wife seem very much interested in our University project, and he will undoubtedly do something for us. He will doubtless also put us in touch with some other well-to-do folks in Syracuse. He was good enough to have me invited to tea with his mother-in-law who is the one who has the most of the money for the present. I also made some good contacts in Buffalo.

Here is a bit of news that will show you that there is money to be had in America, and although that particular check did not come to us, there is a possibility that we may get something from the same estate. I saw a check which came to Dr. North from the Hall estate. The amount written on the check was \$179,000.00. That was interest money on a fund of a million dollars which is eventually to be turned over to them.

With kindest regards

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard.

JMY:MD

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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

November 10, 1926

Dear Jim:

It is a terrible job to write the events of the past three weeks, especially when one knows that a writing already made is available. I have written Dr. North quite fully regarding events following the Wanhsien affair. I could have sent you a copy of those letters if I had made extra copies. Perhaps I can do so, but I suggest that you ask Dr. North to let you read his letters that I have written following the affair at Wanhsien. I wrote to him expecting that he would use his judgment in regard to passing on the information. Some sections of the letters certainly should be treated as confidential, and I trust you will use your judgment in this respect also.

I just should add here that the Wanhsien bombardment from accounts which I have received was not nearly so bad as it was painted at first, but it has nearly blown us off the map. It drove practically every student out of the dormitories, all of the servants from foreign homes, churches and schools, and would have taken some inches off of our girth measurement if we had not been supplied in advance with a well stocked larder, and friends who insisted on smuggling in food. You need not tell it to the postal authorities but I know of one family that received fish by mail.

I have received your request for information, and I will give it attention. I should add, however, that it is just touch and go regarding the future. I understand that Liu Hsiang has taken possession of the Friends School property at Chungking, and will not allow Mr. Davidson to go near it. One of our unannounced fears during the days that have passed has been lest something happened which would give the Red radicals the opportunity to take possession of the university property. It has been pretty well surmised in a good many quarters that our trouble had its origin in such a desire, and that the patriotic movement in behalf of Wanhsien, and patriotic support of a few students, which it now appears were either bribed or cajoled into being cats' paws for this crowd, was nothing more than camouflage, the real purpose being to break up the university, to make it impossible for the foreigners to live here because of lack of servants, and

x This now denied - Mr. Simkin says that the school going on with the Chinese in charge that Mr. Davidson is living in the house but not permitted to go near the school - by whose authority? Not clear.

1224

November 10, 1926

then under the aegis of protecting the place actually take possession of it. This, of course, would correspond with one of the loud professions of the radical party, namely taking back the educational privileges granted to foreigners. They made a special effort at utilizing mission property for bill boards. At Goucher School, at Dewey School, property owned by the university near by, and even the University gate were selected as appropriate places to placard the foreign slaves, and to portray China's rights. They claimed to own these properties and brooked no interference. I managed to keep the gate of the university cleaned up, but the other properties are pretty well covered with stuff that is a disgrace to its authors. Responsibility may sober the Reds. On the other hand their success may require that we pause in our program. Events are too much influx just now to justify any sort of a decision as to the immediate or distant future. The last strike was well handled, and if continued would have compelled most of us to leave. I imagine that knowledge is not lost to the crowd that are supposed to be in alliance with Russia, and are forwarding the Bolshevik program. While we are congratulating ourselves that the strike is over there are intimations abroad that another will follow soon. The first result of such a strike as you will see by my letter to Dr. North is to drive the students from the dormitories, and the second result is to make it difficult, if not impossible, for the foreigners and other teachers to teach their classes. One cannot scurry for food by day and night, be assistant cook, scrub, and cowboy, night watchman and doorkeeper, and then indulge in ecstasies over beautiful passages from Browning, or the high moralities of Confucius.

I have referred your request regarding a letter to Mr. Kerr to Mr. Brewer. He informs me that there are no college students supported from the appropriation. Those who are supported get their support from the endowment funds which I received many years ago. The portion of funds which are allotted to education in the appropriation is used entirely for the district schools. I will try and patch up something for Mr. Kerr which may satisfy them, and accord with the bit of conscience which one still retains after living under the system of designated gifts which never materialize through no fault of anybody.

Larkin has gone home. Family conditions made it necessary that he go first. Seven families have left Chengtu this autumn, Carscallen among them. Hence we are feeling rather weak at the university. I am hoping that Cranston and Lau will get through soon.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

Joe Beech

1225

West China



Union University



CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

November 16, 1926

INDEXED

TRANSFER

*Executive
Copy*

Mr. W. O. Gantz
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Gantz:

In the last quotations we had for the exchange of gold to silver in Shanghai the rate was 232. This is thirty-two cents higher than our hoped for maximum rate. If you have not heard from Mr. Albertson before this letter arrives might I ask you to consider the advisability of having all funds that you may have for land or buildings sent to the treasurer in Shanghai with request that they be converted into silver and placed on interest in local banks. You will be able to ascertain if this good rate continues from the New York Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Respectively yours

Joseph B. Beach
President

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TO	RECEIVED DATE
BY	ANSWERED DATE
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General Opinion



Union University

CHENGYU, WEST CHINA

November 18, 1926

Mr. E. O. Gantz
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Gantz:

In the last quotation we had for the exchange of gold
to silver in Shanghai the rate was 232. This is thirty-two
cents higher than our hoped for maximum rate. If you have
not heard from Mr. Albertson before this letter arrives
might I ask you to consider the advisability of having all
funds that you may have for land or building sent to the
treasurer in Shanghai with request that they be converted
into silver and placed on interest in local banks. You will
be able to ascertain if this good rate continues from the
New York branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Respectfully yours,

President

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
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JOINT OFFICE

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November 17, 1926

Dr. Joseph Beech,
West China Union University
Chengtu, West China

Dear Joe:

I am very anxious to get your answer on two matters.

First: Please get to our hands as offckly as possible a complete and full statement fo the cost of the clock tower. I understand that Dr. Coles himself paid for the clock and bell. What your statement should include is everything that you have spent, architects' fees, freight, and the building itself. I am sure that Mr. Jacobus will pay everything that is due on that account but he is anxious to get it settled soon. Please do not delay this statement.

Second: I have just discovered that Paul Cheng has begun the study of chiro-practic. Because of his University work, he will be able to graduate next August, he says. I have a question as to whother or not the medical men at the University would want a chiro-practor in their midst and in connection with the University. Please let me know about this at once, for if he is not wanted, Mr. Gibson would probably not want to continue his support. If you have an opportunity, talk with Earl Cranston about the matter, too.

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Dr. Beech
Nov. 17, 1926
---2---

Tell Paul Johnson that I spoke in his church in Providence Sunday night and had a good hearing. Dr. Hollington has asked me to come back again to speak to his morning congregation.

I went on to Boston on Monday and had a good talk with Mr. Rich.

The Yards are all well and looking forward to Thanksgiving in Watertown. We wish the Beeches could join us.

With love to all,

Yours as ever,

James M. Yard

JMY:MD

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(COPY)

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY

Chengtu, West China

November 23, 1926.

Sir Joseph Flavelle,
176 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Canada.



My dear Sir Joseph:

China's strife and internecine wars and her conflicts with foreign interests and nations have been of such frequency that they have become monotonous and lost news value. Not so, however, the recent happenings which have placed the Cantonese in the ascendancy in the Yangtze Valley thereby creating international complications which may assume a serious character, and also the Wanh sien bombardment by which a state of affairs has come to pass which is threatening to the missionary and his work in this remote interior province. I assume that the news agencies have supplied you with events that have been happening on the lower Yangtze, and that the main features of the Wanh sien tragedy are known, especially in regard to its international bearings, and that I need not dwell in detail upon these events except as they have created conditions that are having serious bearing upon missionary work.

In order that you may appreciate why certain things have transpired in this province it is necessary that I state something in regard to the political situation.

Szechwan with its sixty million people has for some time been controlled by seven or eight military satraps. Wu Pei-fu endeavoring to win two of the most powerful of these to his cause appointed them military and civil governors respectively. This led to a combination of four other generals, and to an alliance between them and the Cantonese party. The military governor appointed by Wu Pei-fu is resident in Chengtu, and the most powerful general of the other group is likewise resident in Chengtu and controls most of the city's interests. War between these two factions in Chengtu has been anticipated, but thus far peace has been preserved largely because both sides have lacked justification for attacking their opponents. The radical element of the Kuomintang party, which it is believed are aided and abetted by the Bolsheviks, are thoroughly organized and supplied with funds, and have been and are conducting a most vigorous propaganda, not only against the north, but against all who are associated with foreigners, whom they call "foreign slaves", or "foreigners' following dogs" and "traitors

1230

of their country". It was this radical crowd in Chungking and Chengtu that took the initiative in organizing opposition, to the British especially, because of the Wanhhsien and other international complications. The radical element in Chengtu not only captured the control of the so-called patriotic organizations opposing the British, but they likewise captured the support of the military leader aligned with the Cantonese party, or placed him in such a position as to make it impossible for him to move in opposition against them. Although the other general was not brought to their support he was helpless in the face of their propaganda, and dared not oppose them lest this popular movement be turned against him, and an occasion be given for attacking him. Bearing these conditions in mind, it will not be difficult to understand why the recent happenings, especially against the University, have been so diametrically opposite to the usual treatment which we have received from the local officials and people. You may find a partial answer in the fact that the radical party in pursuance of their program to attack Christianity, made the University, as the most outstanding Christian institution of the province, their chief object of attack.

The trouble began at a city called Wanhhsien, not far below Chungking, when an attempt was made by the British navy to secure the release of two steamers which had been captured by General Yang Sen, and the British officers placed in custody thereon. General Yang Sen's action grew out of the refusal of the British to carry his troops, and of his claim that the British steamers had capsized boats containing his soldiers, and had drowned some of them. Negotiations between the British Consul and General Yang Sen having failed the British Admiralty sent from Hankow a camouflaged merchant vessel called the "Kaiwo" with orders to secure the release of the imprisoned officers by negotiation or by force. When this steamer arrived there were two other British gunboats at the scene of action. A party of marines was sent aboard one of the captured vessels, but instead of the Chinese soldiers on board scuttling to the lower decks they opened a withering fire on the boarding party, which resulted in fully one-half of their number being killed or wounded. Practically all of the British officers in the boarding party were killed or wounded. The officers of the merchantman were released from this vessel. The officers of the other vessel, learning that they could not be rescued, jumped into the river, one of them being shot and killed while in the water. The other two swam to places of safety. While this attack was being made General Yang Sen's troops on shore were attacking all three of the British gunboats, one of which pulling in close to shore killed a large number of Chinese troops by the use of pompom rapid fire guns. Meantime one of the other boats withdrew to a proper distance and fired three lydite shells at the military headquarters in the city. They also fired a number of ordinary shells. This bombardment resulted in fires being started in the city, and a number of people being killed and wounded. In the late evening the three British gun-boats departed for Ichang, leaving the commander's body, and the body or bodies of one or two marines that had been killed, on the deck of the steamer

which they had failed to liberate. At Ichang the wounded were transferred to a merchant vessel which endeavored to proceed to Hankow. Three attempts to pass through the southern army lines ended in failure. An escort of American gunboats was then secured. These were likewise fired upon, but they returned the fire and succeeded in reaching Hankow. It will thus be seen that both the British and American navies were either directly, or indirectly, involved in this Wanhhsien affair.

While these events at Wanhhsien were in progress we were having the best enrollment that the University had had, and a very fine spirit prevailed among the students. Shortly thereafter a number of organizations were formed which assumed patriotic names and had as their ostensible purpose the avenging of the Wanhhsien outrage, and other wrongs which China has suffered at the hands of foreigners since the opium war with the British about seventy-five years ago. This movement was intensified by the fact that certain of the political and military elements doubtless wished to use the organizations against the British to cement and forward their alliance with the victorious Cantonese party who had made Great Britain their special object of attack, and also by the fact that radical organizations in Chungking and Chengtu seized the occasion covertly endeavoring to put their faction in the ascendancy with the hope of carrying out their radical program. The ground had likewise been prepared for just such an event by the systematic propaganda, and the organization of groups of teachers and students to work for their program in practically all middle and higher schools throughout the province.

Following the bombardment of Wanhhsien events moved rapidly in Chungking, and the opposition took such violent form as to justify the American Consul, who in the absence of the British Consul was in charge, in ordering all British to seek safety on the vessels in the river, or on shore nearby. A monster demonstration was planned on September 18th, and at daylight the situation appeared serious enough for the Committee of Safety to order practically all of the British women and children, and a goodly number of the men, to depart for places of safety down river. The authorities prevented violence in the city of Chungking, but the bungalows on the distant hills opposite the city, all of which were unoccupied, were looted irrespective of nationality, and most of the bungalows of Britishers were partially or entirely destroyed.

Although events moved slower in Chengtu than Chungking the same form of organization and program was taking place. Both the radical and more conservative factions of the Kuomintang, or Southern party, seeking to gain control of the movement in Chengtu, organized demonstrations in each of which it was claimed there were over ten thousand soldiers, civilians and students in line. No violence took place during these demonstrations, but we have since learned that the radical element hoped to put an end to the work of the University, and to drive the foreigners,

especially the British, from the city. It was this party that gained the ascendancy by the use of threats, money and promises of political preferment with which we had to contend during the critical days that we have recently passed through. The University student body were asked, or ordered, to take part in these demonstrations. A number of them complied and distributed pamphlets in the name of the student organization so violently anti-British as to constitute an offense. Misunderstandings which grew out of this action were utilized by the organizations in the city, working through their agents in the student body, to disrupt the University. The matter was finally settled by twenty odd students who had been very prominent and abusive, especially to their fellow students, taking their departure from the University. Violent propaganda and a campaign of abuse and threats against the "foreign slaves" who remained here were now begun. It was made to appear, owing to the fact that certain military men were prominent in the organization, that the Kuomintang military party were working together with the students who had withdrawn to wreak vengeance on the students who remained loyal to the institution. Notwithstanding this violent campaign against the students, most of them continued to attend classes, and to live in the University dormitories. While this agitation and campaign among the students was in progress a movement was suddenly launched to compel all servants and workmen of foreigners and servants and attendants in schools, hospitals and churches to quit work. A list of all such workers had been secured, and leaders of groups had either been bought or won over to the so-called patriotic movement. Most servants informed their employers that they were compelled to go out on strike against their will as they feared for their lives if they disobeyed. Meantime, it was made to appear that not alone the military, but the Chamber of Commerce, and other powerful organizations in the city were supporting the forces that demanded the strike. The parties controlling the movement had secured control of practically all of the daily papers in the city, and under the plea of patriotism and a demand for vengeance had secured contributions from leading officials and organizations. These things added a semblance of truth to the claims of the radicals that they had universal support behind them in their demands. On the morning of the twentieth of October, servants everywhere gathered together their belongings and took their departure. The servants "striking for patriotic reasons" were now utilized in a manner similar to that in which a few of the students who left the institution had been utilized, to create popular uprising against the British in particular, and all foreigners and their work and associates in general.

A "strike of servants" under conditions such as prevailed here is a serious matter at any time, but especially so when it is accompanied by prohibitions publicly posted in the market places, on the city gates and streets leading to the University and foreign residences, that all persons were forbidden to enter our places, that those who entered or remained there would be beaten and paraded through the streets, and that all who sold food, delivered water, or in any way gave assistance to them,

would receive severe punishments in the courts. Without servants it was bound to be impossible to continue the regular schedule of classes. We made an effort, however, to keep up appearances by making half-hour periods instead of fifty minute periods. It was soon very evident that the morale of the student body was failing, as they found it dangerous to go on the street to buy food, very difficult to protect their possessions from theft, and because they were being preyed upon by the threatening propaganda, and being promised entrance to government schools with free board and tuition if they would leave the foreigners' institution, and cease to be "foreign slaves". The propaganda during these days was vile and terrific, and it was mostly directed against the students. One by one they began to disappear. Then came an order from one of the associations requiring that they all desert the place within three days or take the consequences. One of the consequences they feared was an attack by some soldiers, stationed not far from the University, who hold a very unsavory reputation. Some who desired to remain, but were compelled to go, asked that the University temporarily stop classes. This request was complied with, and immediately thereafter all the dormitories were deserted, some of the students going to their homes in the city and other parts of the province, the balance finding a refuge wherever they could. Not a few of them took refuge with the group of radical students who had established headquarters in the city and held open house for all who would join them.

Just previous to the evacuation of the students some of the rabble, in all probability aided by some of the students that had left the University, gathered during the early part of the night in different parts of the campus, and made the nights hideous with calls of "down with the foreign dogs, death to the traitors", all of which, of course, had an effect upon the morale of the students, and was not overly soothing to the nerves of the foreigners inasmuch as there were no gatemen or watchmen, and no police protection. We regularly have six police resident on the University campus, but at such times they are absolutely useless. After the students had left, through personal solicitation to officials in the city, we secured the stationing of two companies of soldiers at or near the University, and the police commissioner responded to a personal appeal by sending his body guard of ten military police. One of the officials who came to notify me that the soldiers had come, and request that they be quartered at the University, whispered that the idea of their coming was to encourage the students to return. This was the first intimation that we had that the military, that had been in alliance with the radical party, were not preparing to go to the extremes which were being adopted, and which now called for something like a revolution. Friends of the University had been at work, and there were a number of underground movements that had been started in our behalf, which movements had registered themselves in official quarters. No one, however, ventured to oppose the radical movement, and neither of the military factions gave aid until they were both prepared to do so almost simultaneously. This marked the beginning of the end of this

radical effort to disrupt the University and the Christian work in this city. Students remaining loyal had begun to return to the dormitories. They soon organized and began counter propaganda, one of the city papers agreeing to print their statements.

At this stage of the proceedings, the organization directing affairs made desperate efforts to wreck the institution. They compelled government schools to open their doors for the admittance of our students, and compulsion was used upon students to have them take sides with the students organized for opposing the University. Servants who had refused to strike were captured, dressed in sack-cloth, branded with their name, slave and traitor, and were led through the public thoroughfares of the city, while the leaders called through a megaphone "down with the foreign dogs, death to the traitor", and then like dumb driven cattle, several hundred servants and workmen that were in line were compelled to take up the call. The strike lasted for sixteen days, during which time each servant was given twenty cents a day, just about sufficient for his food. Many former servants enrolled for this dole.

We now fully appreciate what that American term "boot-legging" implies, providing it is given a wider application than prevails in the U.S.A. Friends came by night, some ventured by day, and when convinced that they were unobserved, took from their sleeves and the folds of their garments, fruit, eggs, meat, bread; and the president's home even received fresh fish by mail. One of the daily or nightly duties of the president of the University was, just after nightfall, to make a journey to the country, avoiding spies while doing so, and bring home a bucket of milk for the Methodist families. On the first night he was accompanied by his young son, Robert, who during the escapade remarked, "Well, Daddy, if I live through this I will have another subject for an essay." We feared not for ourselves, but for the milkman, who had he been discovered would doubtless have lost his cows and suffered injury in addition. Since it was difficult to starve us out, and the money for the support of the strikers was running low, an effort was made by middlemen to bring about a termination of the strike. On my first meeting with these middlemen I protested on behalf of the Americans, and their servants who had been compelled to leave, since in all published proclamations the British had been singled out and the Americans not mentioned. They blandly put the blame on the ignorant servants, stating that they, of course, could not distinguish between American and British. The truth of the matter is that the agitators had purposely included the Americans with the Britishers knowing that otherwise their movement must be a failure, and that one of the secret purposes that was back of the strike, the disruption of the University, would have been impossible if the strike had been confined to the British. Servants returned Friday, November 5th, and we resumed classes on Monday, November 8th. About two thirds of the student body are now in attendance. Agitation still continues and a movement is on foot to bring about another strike, it being rumored that no

11-23-26

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less than thirty thousand dollars has been received in Chengtu during the past week to carry on the movement. The strike, if it takes place, will doubtless be in the nature of demands for better terms for the workers, but the goal that they wish to attain is the closing of the University, the stopping of Christian work, and the inauguration of a revolution, all of which are included in the program of the radical party that of late has been having such marked success in this and provinces south of the Yangtze River.

Owing to Consular pressure, family conditions and furloughs due shortly, quite a number of Chengtu families have left for home. Very few have returned, or have been permitted to return. Some have been held in England, others in America and Canada. A few have reached Chungking and are on the way to Chengtu. From the standpoint of our Christian work it is regrettable that these families have been compelled to leave. A partial disruption of work, or cessation of work when appearances count so heavily is bad strategy, as failure on our part is heralded abroad as victories for the opposition. We are doing, and will continue to do, the utmost to keep the ship sailing, and to keep it headed toward the right port. We are thankful to our Heavenly Father that the winds on the whole have been favorable thus far. Divine strength and wisdom from on high should be granted us, and we trust that your prayers will ascend on our behalf that our expectations may be fully realized.

I am, as ever

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd) Joseph Beech,

President.

P.S.- I have written letters similar to this to Dr. Rice and Mr. Silcock and a more detailed statement to Dr. North for the M.E. Board of Missions. I have not written Dr. Endicott as I am not informed of his whereabouts since he assumed his duties as General Moderator, or other members of the board. I have not written this for publication but will appreciate it if you will pass it on to members of the Board or others who may be especially interested.

1236

West China



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

December 10, 1926

Mr. Eric M. North
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

TRANSFER

My dear Mr. North:

yes
Herewith are the Senate Minutes which you report in your letter of October 11th as missing from your files. These are complete in accordance with your list with the exception of the third item "1053 to 1119 inclusive." I wonder if the 1053 is not a typographical error, and should read 1055. We have included Minutes #1055 to 1119 inclusive. Numbers 1053 and 1054 are included with other numbers in the Minutes for March, 1920, and we do not have an extra copy of the Minutes of that date on file.

We are now sending you each month copies of the Minutes as they come from press. We are also sending a copy direct to Mr. Gantz.

Yours very truly

E. R. Andrews
Secretary to Dr. Beech

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Union University



China

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

December 10, 1926

Mr. J. H. K. Smith
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Smith:

Reference is made to the letter which you report

in your letter of October 1, 1926, regarding the

files. These are complete in accordance with your

list with the exception of the letter from "John" to

John Smith, dated January 11, 1926, which is yet a

drafted letter, and which has been in my hands

since it was received. I have not yet had time to

check it over, and will do so as soon as possible.

My letter of January 1, 1926, and which was sent by

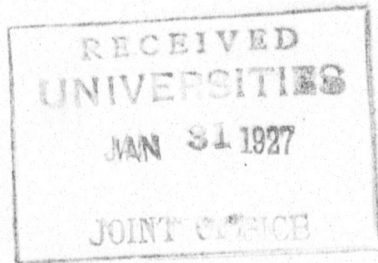
the Chinese of that date, is also in my hands.

We are now waiting for a Chinese letter of the

Chinese, as they come from the Chinese, and also

a copy of the letter to Mr. Smith.

Very truly,
J. H. K. Smith
Secretary to Mr. Smith



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West China



Union University

WEST
CHINA

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

December 13, 1926

Dr. Eric M. North
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

TRANSFER

9/29/26 all
10/1/26
10/19/26 not in file

My dear Dr. North:

I have to thank you for yours of September 29th with Minutes of the meeting of representatives of Union Universities, yours of the 14th and the 19th of October.

I am glad that Dr. Endicott, Dr. Franklin, Professor Robins and Dr. Yard were with you at this meeting to consider cooperation. Cooperation is certainly necessary and desirable and I hope that our University will be in the front line of all such efforts. I am not sanguine in regard to conditions in China being such as to contribute toward a successful appeal on behalf of Christian Universities in China. However, I hope and pray that matters may improve.

I wish to thank you also for the volume of work that you have done as recorded in your letter of the 14th of October. A telegram or cable has gone forward to you or to Mr. Gantz asking that all building funds and land funds available be sent to the treasurer in Shanghai because exchange is very favorable. If in response to that telegram you did not send monies that are available from parties mentioned in your letter I hope that you will forward to the treasurers immediately the two thousand dollars that was given by Mr. James Keen, the \$3,028.18 from Matilda Mason, the \$1,000 from Frank H. Ryder and \$200 from Mr. S. E. Morris. The conditions of these gifts are such as will permit of their application to the new library building. I have pushed that building on to completion except the interior of the south wing. In doing so I have assumed quite an indebtedness relying upon these gifts being sent to liquidate the account. Perhaps I should write direct to Mr. Gantz in regard to this matter. I will appreciate it, therefore, if you will take up the matter with him.

Not
available
Plant Funds
overdrawn

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12-13-26

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I wish to thank you for the notice of the \$2,500 from Sir Joseph Flavelle. We will see to it that the money is used for the purpose designated.

Yours respectfully

Joseph Beech
President

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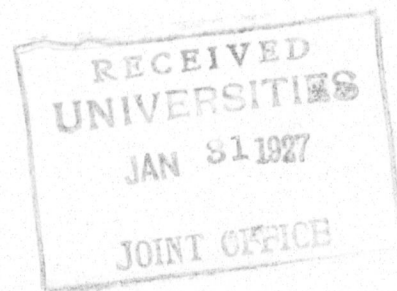
1240

12-13-26

I wish to thank you for the notice of the \$2,500 from Sir
Joseph Flavelle. We will see to it that the money is used for the
purpose designated.

Yours respectfully

Wm. H. Flavelle
President



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West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

December 13, 1926

Dear Jim:

I am just going to acknowledge yours of October 1st and October 8th. I am glad you got next to Vincent. I had two good visits with him when I was home, and because of our connections with Greene we ought to get them to take some interest in us providing they are taking interest in anybody in addition to what they are doing in China.

I note what you say about publicity. My experience is that the best kind of publicity is that which you get from personal contact with personal friends. I will send you a student looking in a microscope and will try also to have a photograph of what he is looking at so as to have something new. You must have a picture of a score of students looking in a microscope. I think I sent you the interior of the biological lab, but I will get what you want.

You will be sorry to know that Dr. Hu did not get to West China. Telegrams could not go through to us nor return. He got tired of waiting for a reply, took another job, so for the present there is no prospect of his coming to West China. On the whole I think we are not sorry because we have had a cut of about \$2,000 on our missionary budget, where we hoped to put him. Be sure to see to it that Lau's outcoming and salary does not fall on our budget. It will make us like a blown out tire if that comes to pass. He has had a hard time of it. Both he and Cranston stopped at the Nanking Hospital for some weeks while Lau went through a series of operations. Peterson has just written that he is getting on well, but he is being kept there until both travel and his physical condition are better. Cranston has come on up with the bishop who is now at Suining holding conference.*

Troubles continue to occur in West China, but Chengtu remains quiet. Work at the University is going on about as usual with reduced enrollment as I have written you.

Give Senate Minute #1998 your special attention. Please see that it comes before the Executive at the earliest possible date. It is in line with their recommendations at their 1925 Governors meeting. Get approval and have it cabled. Because

* Later word states Lau is with Cranston.

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Endicott is not secretary I do not know with whom I should communicate. Hence I am relying upon you to see this action through.

With best wishes to all of you, I am

As ever yours

Joe Beech

No minutes of Bd. Meeting yet. A letter from Dr. Rice written
middle Oct. mentions the meeting & your quest to hand
stating that you must try to get "my house going" etc etc also
implies that a meeting has taken place. I sent
some names once upon a time. Will look up
others. Cheer up Jim. So quickly after a few & keep
the fires burning till you can get what ought
to be forth coming. A small gift from a big giver
Sometimes kills the hope of a larger gift, so
cultivate till ripe. then reap. Joe

TRANSFER

WEST
CHINA

INDEXED

West China Union University

December 20, 1926

President Joseph Beech,
West China Union University
Chengtu, Szechuan,
China

My dear Dr. Beech:

I enclose herewith confirmation of a cablegram which we have sent to you today through Dr. Main, and a copy of a letter I have written to Mr. Albertson.

I must direct your attention to the importance of your noticing that there is nothing available for you in the building funds held by the Treasurer of the Board of Governors, and we cannot understand how you figure out there should be.

Cordially yours,

Eric H. North

Assistant Treasurer
West China Union University

EMN-H

Enc. 2

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Dec. 22, 1926.

Dr. Joseph Beech,
West China Union University,
Chongtu, West China.

Dear Joe:-

Please get a list of the places where members of the faculty have their homes, either in the States or in Canada. It may happen that we shall be able, in those localities where such people are known, to interest some people of large wealth because of their acquaintance with such persons.

Be sure to get from Dr. Morse, the names of one or two people in Providence about whom we could work as a nucleus. Joe Taylor may have some such friends in Columbus and other places. Do not leave Chongtu without getting a good list from those Baptists. It is practically impossible to break into their lists at this end.

We are all very well and in good shape for the Holidays. Elizabeth got home from College Saturday and we were all very glad to see her. I met her at the Pennsylvania Station and went down to Wanamaker's where we met the rest of the family. We looked about there for a while and the family went home, while I went to Camden where I spent the day Sunday.

I spoke at the Philadelphia Preachers' Meeting Monday and was raked fore and aft because of the things I did not say. I was talking about Political and Educational Movements and they were peeved because I did not stress Evangelism and Salvation. They said that Jenny Hughes had told them that all the Universities were full of modernism and they were inclined to believe her. Their point being that unless they are 100 per cent fundamentalists, our Universities are not Christian. However, that element did not

(over)

- 2 -

Dec. 22, 1926.

represent the total opinion of the Philadelphia and New Jersey Conferences. A good number stood up and upheld my point of view, as I tried to claim that the great need of China is first-class Christian Education.

We have had no direct word from Chengtu in some time and are getting very anxious to have some real news from there.

With love from us all,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY:EN

1246

West China



Union University

CHENG TU, WEST CHINA

December 22, 1926

My dear Jim:

I have your letter of November 1st. Not so bad for time. I just wish to reply to express my thanks that things seem to be brightening up, to say amen to the microscope and the other things that you have lined up. I shall be with you, God willing, by September. If I had any prospects worthwhile I would ask you to join me in England in the month of May, but I am not at all sure that we will find either interest or organization sufficient to justify the expense of anything like a campaign in England at this time, and when their interest in China naturally may be expressed by resentment rather than appreciation.

The objective that I have in view in going there is not to get money directly for the Board, but to get the missionary bodies there to agree to a larger appropriation to the Board of Governors. That may be impossible, but that is my objective. Any work which I do will, therefore, be turned into their channels rather than to the Board of Governors direct.

Bayne is still in Shanghai. Wilford has reached West China, but not Chengtu. Harry Openshaw and Dr. and Mrs. Skevington from Hollywood got through to Chengtu all right. The Bishop, Cranston and Lau came a few days ago. Miss Ellison, Miss Harger and Miss Bennett of the W. F. M. S. also got through in good shape. These with Miss Harris of the Baptist Mission and Cyril and Mrs. Canright represent the increases. There have been a good many decreases. Personally I am a little worried that Jim Stewart gives no sign of when he is going to come to China. The C. M. M. Executive have cabled and I have cabled. The Chinese members of the Senate felt that I should not go until after he arrives. This may interfere with my plan to leave here late in February.

You have received the Minutes stating that the Senate puts itself on record in favor of government registration. At the last two meetings of the Senate, Minutes of which not yet printed, we passed a number of resolutions, approved the appointment of a Chinese Vice-president. The plan is to

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-2- Dr. J. M. Yard

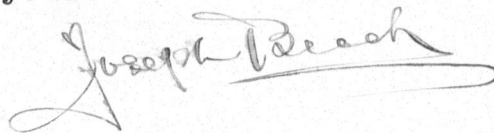
December 22, 1926

have two; one foreign, one Chinese. We approved of making a majority of one Chinese on the Senate and we approved of not listing religious courses among the required subjects in the curriculum. So far as the Senate is concerned we have, therefore, completed the job and we have passed, not the buck, but the whole matter for consideration to the missions and the Board of Governors. We have most of the material for application for registration ready for presentation to Peking in case it seems desirable to do so.

That note of yours about the million dollar turnover check for interest which Dr. North showed you certainly sounds good. Who got it? Was it the Board of Foreign Missions, or some of the Union Universities, and is the estate the estate of Hank Hall? If so, and Joe Beech is a good friend of Hank's, we certainly ought not to be cut off entirely from consideration.

Very bad news that Cranston tells me about Jim Lewis. I am very sorry indeed to hear of his death.

Cordially yours



Dr. J. M. Yard
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

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