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March 2, 1926.

Mr. John W. Yost
Huerfano, Colorado

Dear Yost:

You will be interested to know that I have just been appointed as the representative of West China Union University in America. I met with some members of the Board of Governors last week and we got started. I hope you will, therefore, keep in touch with this office from time to time. If you have the names of any people out there or some of your old Pennsylvania friends who ought to receive news of the University from time to time, please send them along for my files.

In spite of all that is going on in China at the present time in the way of anti-foreign and anti-Christian movements, it is my opinion that the greatest days of foreign missions (we may change the name) are in the future, and the not distant future at that. One of the epochal movements of the mind of man is now on in China. It is stirring all classes. We say China has no government but she actually is governed by public opinion. There is nothing in the modern movement that is anti-foreign in the sense in which that term was used at the time of the Boxers. China does not want to be isolated. She does not want to drive out foreigners. She simply resents foreign domination. She will welcome more heartily than ever foreign cooperation.

Just a word about the family. We came home by way of Europe, as you may know, and left Elizabeth and Priscilla in our Methodist school at Poissy, just outside of Paris. They seem to be learning French very rapidly and are enjoying France very much indeed. I judge they have visited about all the old churches and art galleries in Paris and I am sure they know Paris much better than I know New York, and we expect them to get home about the first of May. We are all very well except Florence, who happens at the moment to be in bed with the measles. You will remember that she is the baby who visited you in May, 1917, and got stuck in the blizzard.

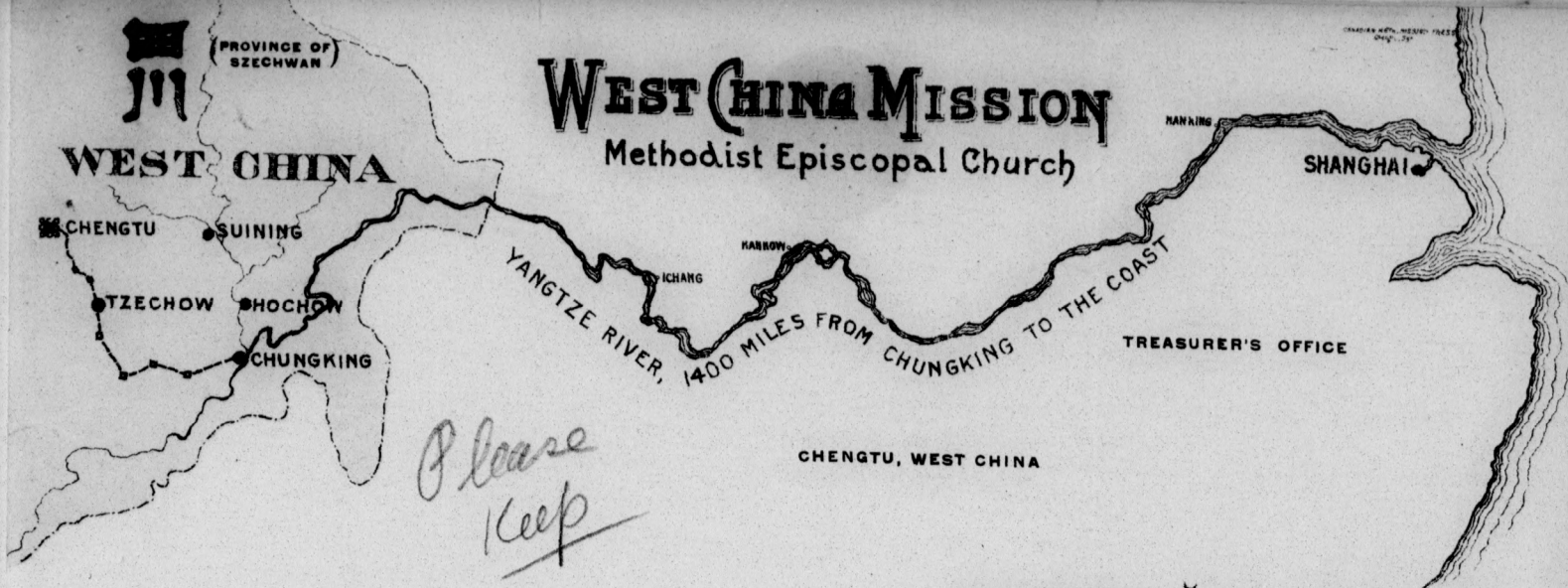
With every good wish to you and Mrs. Yost, I am

Ever sincerely yours,

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Walsenburg, Colo., May, 7, 1926.

Dear Brother Yard:-

We are very much interested in receiving your letter of Mar., 2. telling of your return to America as a representative of the West China Union University. We will be very glad indeed to keep in touch with you, and will be very glad too, to receive any general communications that you may be sending out from time to time, and still more glad to receive the personal notes from you occasionally.

It was a splendid idea for you to have your girls spend a while in France, both from the standpoint of the French language and of the French educational system. I speak of the French educational system because, when I was studying Education at Columbia, in 1912, the French system was held up to us as quite a model. If your girls continue the study of Ed. work, as it seems to me every one should, their knowledge of the French schools will be of great value to them.

Glad to get your opinion on the China situation. The papers say so much that it is pretty hard to know what to believe. You say that "She simply resents foreign domination. She will welcome more heartily than ever foreign cooperation". I believe she is right, surely there has been a plenty to cause resentment. Hope your opinion is correct, that the greatest days of foreign missions are in the future.

Yes, we well remember Florence, the baby who got stuck in the blizzard, in 1917. It was too bad the way messages and weather worked against you that time. Really, things are much changed now and I feel sure that you could reach us without the least trouble. We surely hope that you, Mrs. Ysrd and the family can visit us some time. Walsenburg is now our post office and also take train from this point. Now have bus line going by our place. Three round trips daily, from Denver to Trinidad. Also the Yellow-Way bus goes by here twice a week. It is a through line from Chicago to Calif.

We still make out home at the ranch, I teach in Walsenburg, make the trip to and from every day. Gordon starts to college next Sept. is going to Univ. of Denver.

Mrs. Yost joins me in sending kindest regards to you, Mrs. Ysrd and the girls.

Ever see this kind of stationery before?
Sincerely John W. Yost

1118

West China Union University, Chengtu
Szechwan, W. China
December 30th, 1943

The Secretary
Board of Governors of
West China Union University

Dear

I am writing to you today on the question of the SAN MIN CHU I YOUTH
CORPS BUILDING.

On receipt of the cable from Mr. Chang Chia-ngao, Chairman of the Board of Directors, a meeting was called of the Executive Committee to discuss the cable, and careful consideration was given to the suggestion made that the building should be recovered. At this meeting attended by all the members of the committee a resolution was adopted requesting the President of the University and Dr. Bell to take up the matter with Governor Chang Chun, and to suggest the possibility of fixing a time limit of five years for the contract.

At the interview with the President, Governor Chang expressed the opinion that it would be unwise to take this matter up with the Headquarters of the Youth Corps. When the government decided to select four university centres for the better carrying out of the program of the Youth Corps, which the Generalissimo himself had originated, Chengtu had been one of the centres chosen. In view of the number of students in the universities and colleges at Hwahsipa and the vicinity, it had seemed a desirable location for the Chengtu centre, and the university had been asked to allow the erection of this building on its grounds. To guard against difficulties that might arise in the future, and at the suggestion of the Board of Directors a contract had been prepared and signed by both parties. This, the Governor emphasized, had not been done in the case of any of the other buildings erected for the use of the Youth Corps. He added that since the purposes for which the buildings would be used were all good, having as their object the helping and training of young men and women in the universities, it would cause misunderstanding and even perhaps suspicion, if the Youth Corps Headquarters were asked to reconsider the matter so soon after the contract had been signed. It was not their intention that the activities carried on in the building should in any way interfere with the work of the university.

At a second meeting of the executive committee Pres. Dsang reported this interview with Governor Chang Chun and emphasized the following four points:

1. There was no good reason for refusing the request of the government when it was first made.
2. Because of the great and rapid rise in the cost of building and for other reasons, the original estimate of the cost had been greatly exceeded. Altogether over nine hundred thousand dollars had been spent, of which just over five hundred had been spent on the building itself. The Youth Corps Headquarters had supplied four hundred and eighty thousand, and the balance had been secured from individuals and organizations interested.
3. The local branch had a Board of Directors made up of representatives from the faculties of the universities here, and this board could control the use of the building. Article six of the contract had been designed to meet any problems arising from the use of the building for purposes other than those agreeable to the university authorities.

The Secretary, Board of Governors
West China Union University

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4. The University did not have the funds to purchase the building, and even if funds were available it would not be possible to make clear to the government the reason for the university's desire to change the contract and take ownership of the building at once. The misunderstanding which would result from the re-opening of negotiations could be most harmful to existing good relations.

Finally it was decided to send this letter to the Board of Governors, and for the record the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED that in view of all the circumstances we do not think it a wise plan to attempt at this time to revise the agreement made with the San Min Chu I Youth Corps Headquarters. Further, that we approve of the letter presented being sent to the Board of Governors in explanation of the decision reached.

With best wishes for the New Year

Yours sincerely,

/s/ ALBERT F. LUTLEY

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MEMORANDUM ON YOUTH CORPS BUILDING ON WEST CHINA CAMPUS

(This memorandum is based on personal observations and on conversations with perhaps a dozen Chinese and Western members of the staffs of the Christian Colleges in Chengtu.)

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The original permission for erection of the building was given without adequate consideration of the problems involved. Though the offer could be interpreted as an honor to the university, which was one of four centers singled out, it is obvious that it was also a logical step for any organization desiring a foothold in Christian higher education. The assertion that the University protected itself in the original agreement against misuse of the building is only partly true; it does not take into consideration the question as to whether or not the presence of such a symbol of a political organization would be for the best interests of the university.

It should be understood, however, that the building is not the local headquarters of the Youth Corps; it is rather a center in which social activities are carried on under the auspices of that organization. The local - and provincial - headquarters is in the city. The building is actually serving a purpose somewhat akin to that served by the Y.M.C.A. on American college campuses, providing both a recreational center and a small auditorium. There is some thought that, in promoting additional activities, it may prove a "fifth wheel," but in providing recreational facilities it is serving a need only partly met by the Student Center.

There is always the possibility that the building may become a center for spying, but this seems most unlikely. There is no evidence that it is now being used for such purposes, and it is obvious that spying is not dependent on any building. Indeed, it would seem that centralization of such activity, which does not appear to have taken place, would be helpful.

In this connection, it should be pointed out that there is considerable evidence to indicate that the Youth Corps is becoming less and less an organization dedicated to that purpose. The Youth Corps is now supposedly a non-political organization serving youth; at least the Generalissimo has given orders to that effect. While these orders may be somewhat euphonious and the Corps is bound to remain political in the sense that it supports the Party rather than its rivals, there is a tendency toward more democratic ideals. Chiang Ching-kwo, the Generalissimo's son, who has been the chief opponent of spying and has made a fine record as progressive magistrate in Kiangsi, is now probably the most important man in the Corps and likely to become its head.

There is some fear lest the building may contribute too greatly to the popularity of the movement. But whether or not this should be considered a danger would appear to depend on the nature of the movement. Not everyone shares the optimistic belief that the government is trying to win over the young people without being desirous of complete control as in Germany. But the building is clearly a good place in which to build patriotism and educate in regard to the needs of the country; and to this use there can hardly be much objection.

Though there is, at least in Chinese circles, no great fear of the building there is a very real criticism of the manner in which it is being run. The faculty member in charge - and no one seems to know just how he secured the position - is very energetic but unwise, pushing ahead without consultation. The presidents are unanimous in their disapproval of the present management and are seeking a solution which will prevent any danger of his getting the five universities into disrepute. This solution, which should soon go into effect, will probably involve appointment of the five presidents to a governing body.

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Memorandum on Youth Corps Building on
West China Campus

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A more serious fear is lest the building may help the movement to usurp the place which should be held by Christian organizations. Indeed, the presence of the building is something of an indication of failure or neglect. Had there been adequate social facilities under Christian auspices, it is unlikely that the building would ever have been accepted. But the fact is that, aside from the entirely inadequate - and, compared with the Youth Corps Building, rather pitiful - Student Center, no provision has been made on the campus for any center for student activities under Christian auspices.

It has been suggested that the University purchase the building from the Youth Corps. This solution is quite out of question at the moment. For one thing, it would be difficult to find the money. Though the original estimate of cost was \$75,000, the final cost, partly because of original underestimate and partly because of increasing costs, finally reached \$800,000. In the second place, even were this money available, attempt at immediate purchase would suggest suspicion of the government and invite on its part greater suspicion - and perhaps control - of Christian institutions.

The writer raised with the person most responsible for the acceptance of the original offer the question as to possible future gift of the building to the University, pointing out the tendency for missions to turn over their buildings and suggesting that that process might be slowed up if the government showed any reluctance to do likewise. He thought it impossible to foretell at the moment, but appeared interested in the argument.

The writer believes that, except for the angle now being attacked by the presidents, who are well aware of many of the dangers, no attempt be made to force the issue at the moment. The building is here, and the best solution would seem to be, not to attack from without but to work from within to direct and guide.

Chengtu, February 22, 1944

W. P. F.

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Agreement with Youth Corps Central Office

1. The purpose of the Chin Nien Kwan on the West China Union University campus is to provide a place for the welfare of the students as well as for their social service.
2. With reference to the erection of the Chin Nien Kwan the West China Union University shall be responsible only for renting the land required for the building; the cost of the whole building will be undertaken by the Headquarters of the Chin Nien Tuan.
3. Concerning the location of the Chin Nien Kwan, the Property Committee of the West China Union University and the Chin Nien Tuan will appoint a joint Committee to decide upon the site. The site cannot be definitely decided upon until it is approved by both parties.
4. Plans for the building will be drawn by selected architects, and approved by the Property Committee of the West China Union University.
5. When the Chin Nien Tuan stops using the Chin Nien Kwan it will donate the whole building to the West China Union University, and shall not transfer, sell or rent it to any other party.
6. If any of the activities in the Chin Nien Kwan are contrary to the original purpose for which the building was erected, or any hindrance to the work of the West China Union University, the University shall have the right to take ownership of the building, and pay for the building according to the current price at that time.
7. The above agreement will become effective as soon as it is approved by both parties, the W.C.U.U. and the Youth Corps Central Office.

(Word has been received that building operations for the Youth Corps building have ceased temporarily on account of lack of funds.)

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CHANG KIA-NGAU
277 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 4, 1944

Mr. C. A. Evans
West China Union University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:

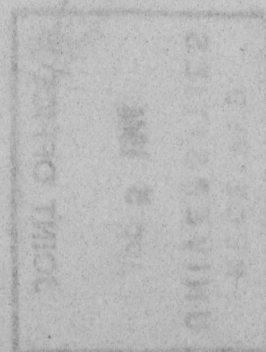
I am enclosing an excerpt from a letter to Mr. Chang from L.K. Chang, which he would appreciate your reading. The letter was from China and was translated here.

Mr. Chang would like to have your opinion as to what you think he should do about this matter. He had hoped to be able to talk to you about this the day he invited you to tiffin with Dr. Beech.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Gould
Dorothy Gould



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CHANG CHIA-HOANG
527 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 4, 1944

Mr. C. A. Evans
West China Union University
124th St. Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I am enclosing an account from a letter to
Mr. Chang from L. S. Evans and in which
I appreciate your writing. The letter was
from Chang and was translated here.

Mr. Chang would like to have your opinion
as to what you think he should do about this
matter. He has asked me to ask you to
write about this the day or earlier you can
write with my best.

Thanking you for answers, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Chang Chia-Hoang
Chang Chia-Hoang

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Excerpt from a letter to Mr. Chang from
L. K. Chang - Dec. 17, 1944

"Dear President Chang:

.....The Youth Corp building in our University was completed last Saturday and a ceremony was held for the occasion. Inasmuch as there has been a daily rise in building and material cost, the expenditure spent for the building was much beyond our estimation, and consequently, it also took a much longer time to finish the work. The final cost of the building reached something near CN\$500,000 to CN\$600,000. With all fittings and fixtures in the building, the total cost amounted to CN\$800,000 -CN\$900,000. The difference in building cost was made up from contributions. As the Youth Corp building is used for the purpose of training and educating young Chinese for higher standard of morality and character and it may be an imposition if we insist on getting it back from the Government now. A directors' meeting was held to discuss this matter, and the decision was unanimously in favor of not asking the government to get the building back at present. We have recently asked Governor Chang Chun for his opinion on this issue, and his answer was also in the negative. But this is contrary to the Board of Trustee's wishes, so will you be good enough to approach the Board of Trustees in the States informing them of these difficulties and asking for a delayed settlement regarding the building.

Yours Respectfully,

L. K. Chang x

P.S. Just before dispatching this letter your cable arrived expressing the wishes of the Board of Trustees. I paid a personal visit to Governor Chang conveying the wishes of the Board of Trustees. Governor Chang gave three reasons why he believed getting the building from the Government would be an imposition.

1. The National Government is pushing and enlarging the scope of training and cultivation of young Chinese.
2. The total cost of the building amounted to as much as CN\$800,000 - CN\$900,000.

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3. Since this building is used exclusively by the Government for the education of young Chinese, if we insist on getting it back we may hurt the feelings of Government people, which, in turn might lead to misunderstandings.

I have explained this in a letter to the Board of Trustees.....

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..... I have explained this in a letter to the Board of Trustees
of the ...

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May 4, 1944

Mrs. Dorothy Gould
277 Park Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Gould:

I am ashamed to acknowledge your letter of April 4th but first of all I was delayed because of the lateness of issuing the Minutes of the Executive Committee of West China Union University. Just prior to that meeting we received a statement which was issued on the field regarding the Youth Corps Building and it would seem that nothing more should be done at the present time. I can well understand the anxiety of Dr. Chang for this project and personally I do not see how anything else could have been done at that time.

I know that Dr. Chang has at heart the very best interest of West China Union University and shares with us the concern which is felt by many regarding educational trends in China at the present time. Our work, however, is a venture in faith and while there may be momentary setbacks or hinderances, yet the work will go on.

Kindly apologize to Dr. Chang for my neglect which was not intentional at all. I am sincerely sorry.

Very truly yours,

CAE:EW

C. A. EVANS

enc: Minutes, Exec. Comm.Meeting, W.C.U.C.

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