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COLLEGE FILES  
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FUKIEN  
Corres.

Gowdy, John

1928-1929

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Dean Scott is perhaps the ablest man on the staff,<sup>[7]</sup>  
and one of the truest Christians it has been my  
privilege to know. It would not be possible to be  
associated with him without seeing daily that  
he has been with Christ. Nevertheless, I do not  
always agree with him.

914 Susquehanna Avenue

Pittston Penn.

Feb. 24, 1928.

J. Eurney Barclay Esq.  
Church Missionary Society  
London

My dear Mr. Barclay,

Mr. B. A. Garside has  
asked me to write you about one or two  
matters of great importance with reference  
to Fookien Christian University.

I had also noticed the discrepancy  
between the reports of Mr. Lin and Dean  
Scott. Fortunately, I have letters also  
from Mr. Sawinghurst and Miss Isher  
Mr. Sawinghurst has had charge of the  
religious activities of the University during the  
autumn. He is a very devoted man and  
thoroughly reliable. His report confirms  
that of Mr. Lin. Miss Isher was my  
secretary when I was President of the University.  
She is a very sane, level headed business

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man on whose discernment and judgment  
I put great reliance. Her letters also.

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agrees with Mr. Lin's. My explanation of  
<sup>his</sup> ~~Scott's~~ letter is that he is accustomed  
to keep a diary and when he writes reports  
he consults this diary and copies from it.  
Moreover he is somewhat temperamental  
and subject to moods. I can easily under-  
stand his going into the chapel some  
Saturday when not so many were present  
and going home and writing in his  
diary what he reported to us. I feel  
very sure this is the explanation.

On the other hand, my own judgment  
is that it may be some time before  
we can expect great results in any of  
our schools in China. I think there will  
be a reaction in favor of Christianity,  
but it may be a year or two before that  
comes. The year is not long enough  
to make a fair test of the new organization.  
I have been pleased beyond all my hopes  
at the attitude of our Chinese who are in

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control. I think the <sup>2</sup> group of men who are now on the Board of Managers (I refer particularly to the Chinese) could scarcely be surpassed in any Christian community in China, for their ability, their training and for their devotion to Christ. I told the Trustees in my report last summer that if they were to wait fifty years, they could not hand over control to a better group. I believe that thoroughly.

It is not possible to guarantee the religious or other opinions of every man on the staff. They should all be devout Christians and missionary in spirit. I think it is possible to go further with the men who are to plan and to teach in the Bible department. Unless we are sure where they stand theologically, they should not be in such a position. Because of this, for three years I did my utmost to get The Rev. W. Y. Chen appointed to our staff and finally succeeded a year ago. I think it would be difficult to find a better

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man. He had already <sup>been to America</sup> **FEB 24 1928** and taken his B.A. and M.A. degrees. I decided that under these new conditions, every thing must be done to make the Bible department at least as attractive as any other in the University. Mr. Chen is exceedingly popular with all students in Foochow. I think he is the best preacher in the city. I brought him with me to America ~~this~~ <sup>last</sup> summer and planned the expenses of his further education, for as long as may be necessary, probably three years to enable him to take his degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In December he made an address at the Student Volunteer Convention in Detroit with the result that the S. V. Movement has asked for his services next year to go through the colleges of America. In January he made an address at the Foreign Missions Conference of North America at Atlantic City, as you know a most important body and he captivated them. His subject was "Fellowship with Christ." The secretary of the Board with which he is connected

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FEB 24 1928 [51]

It once put in <sup>3</sup> an application for his services for a year. Other requests have come in for his help in summer conferences. I am urging him to refuse all these and devote himself to the one object for which he came here. He is not physically strong and could not stand any of these efforts. Moreover, he is needed at the University as soon as he is fitted to return. I should feel very safe in placing the Christian work of the University in his hands for he will be thoroughly trained, but more important still, he is a man who knows and loves Christ and is imbued with the passion in our others to know Him.

It is no false modesty on my part when I say that Dr. C. J. Kim, who is now at the head of the University, has accomplished far more than it would have been possible for me to do during this academic year. My work here in attempting to raise money for the University has been very discouraging and the thing that has heartened me above all else has been

Mr. Lin's uncompromising Christian attitude  
I do not hesitate to say in all honesty <sup>[11]</sup>  
that I think the change to a Chinese  
administrator has been for the good of  
the university. We were fortunate in having  
such a man and I personally believe  
that his coming to us was Providential.

Mrs. Bowdy and I are hoping to be  
in London this summer and I should  
be very glad to call upon you and  
answer any questions that suggest  
themselves, so far as I am able.

With all good wishes

Yours very sincerely

FEB 24 1928

John Bowdy

FUKIEN

# TRANSFER

Fukien Christian University

April 13, 1928

~~Dr. John Gandy~~

*forwarded to Pittsburg  
4/20/28*

My dear Dr. Gandy:

I am quoting below a paragraph from a letter recently received from Mr. C. J. Lin:

"You will remember that we are under obligation to the China Medical Board to spend about \$5000.00 gold for Physics equipment before the end of the current five-year period. We would like to know when the money will be available so that we can notify Professor F. C. Martin who is now in southern California, to place orders before he leaves for China. When the money is available will you kindly notify Mr. Martin directly so as to save time, and let us know about it also."

You are quite familiar with the present state of Fukien finances and have, I know, been considering the question of how the \$5,000.00 still needed for completing the University's obligation to the China Medical Board can be secured. I believe it was your thought that one of the first uses to which our hoped-for income from the Hall Estate might be put would be the providing of funds to meet this China Medical Board obligation. Do you think that we should plan to take all or some part of the \$5,000.00 needed for this purpose from the first half year's income which we hope will amount to \$7500.00 and will be received before June 30th?

We are enclosing your usual semi-monthly check herewith.  
Very cordially yours,

BAG-H  
Enc. 1

*B. J. Lin*

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*check*

**TRANSFER**

*over*

*Mr. Gowdy 11/24/25*

Fukien Christian University

August 11, 1928

Dr. John Gowdy,  
c/o Dollar Steamship Line,  
S.S. President Jefferson sailing of Aug. 17th,  
San Francisco, Cal.

My dear Dr. Gowdy:

We have just received your letter of yesterday and are glad to know that you have at last completed the strenuous task of packing and are on your way to the West Coast. I trust you and Mrs. Gowdy have had a very pleasant journey overland. I think you may have found it pretty hot most of the way. I have passed on to the Methodist Board the cables you enclosed and are forwarding Mr. W.Y. Chen's letter to him in Paris. Incidentally, the latest address he has given is "Care of American Express, 11 Rue Scribe, Paris", although at the time he gave this address he indicated that he might shortly be changing it again.

We are entering the \$50.00 you enclosed in our records as a special gift for a scholarship and are forwarding it at once to Miss Asher. If any further explanation in regard to it is necessary it can be given to Miss Asher after you reach Foochow.

I failed to send a letter to you in Pittston regarding the proposed revision of the By-laws of Fukien Christian University. You are quite familiar with the various points raised at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 15th when the following action was taken:

"To receive the report of a special committee on reorganization, with general approval of the proposed changes, but with the understanding that formal action on these proposed changes will be postponed until Dr. Gowdy has had a chance to consult with the staff and Board of Managers of the University and to report back to the Trustees".

No formal list was suggested as to the special points which should be taken up with the Board of Managers after you reach the field. The proposed revision of the By-laws, copies of which have already been sent to President Lin, seem to meet in general the viewpoint of the Trustees. By comparing this proposed draft of the By-laws with the documents already worked out by the Board of Managers in connection with their reorganization, any important divergencies will become apparent. As our sub-committee redrafted the By-laws, you will remember that we tried to follow, as closely as possible, the form adopted by the field, so I believe you will find very few es-

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stantial differences.

Let us take up a few of the specific points covered.

Article II. Object. You will remember there was considerable discussion of the proposed restatement of the object of the University. Some felt that the revision taken from the By-laws as prepared by the field Board of Managers is quite acceptable. Others preferred the present form. There was no real agreement among the Trustees so it would be difficult to report to the Board of Managers any recommendation on this point. As I understood the sense of the meeting of the Trustees, they all desired that this statement of object be made as aggressively Christian as would be acceptable under the new educational regulations in China.

Article IV. The Board of Trustees. Section 1 dealing with the duties and powers of the Board has been made much briefer and more general statement. It does, however, by implication make clear that the final supervisory power rests with the Trustees. This, of course, must continue to be the case if the University is to carry on under the educational laws of the State of New York as it is now doing under its present charter. I notice that in all of our Universities the constitutions and by-laws, as worked out on the field by the re-organized boards of managers, make little or no reference to the existence of any board of trustees in the West. This is probably as is demanded by the situation but there should be a pretty clear understanding between the field and the home base as to the general place and responsibilities of the board of trustees under new policies of reorganization. Even though the board of trustees is happy to delegate to the field all matters pertaining to field administrative and financial affairs of the University, the right to delegate in itself implies the right to withdraw what has been delegated.

Article V. Board of Managers. The proposed form of this article does not exactly follow the wording worked out by the Board of Managers in its own By-laws. I believe, however, that little or nothing will be found in the draft of the Trustees which is objectionable to the Managers. If, on studying over this section with the Managers, anything is found that they do not agree to, you are familiar enough with the attitude of the Trustees to know what their wishes would be.

Article VII. Internal Administration of the University. In this Article the Trustees are following very closely the provisions in the By-laws of the Board of Managers. I believe the Managers will find nothing to which they can object.

Proposed Agreement. The Trustees have not as yet made a very thorough-going study of the proposed agreement as they have been anxious to reach an understanding first of the other details of reorganization and the adoption of changes in the By-laws. You have been present in all the discussions and know in general how they will probably react to all the points covered by the proposed agreement. The one point in this proposed agreement which may involve technical difficulties is the granting of degrees under the Chinese government. The Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York has not yet clearly defined its position on the subject of Chinese degrees. This same matter has come up in connection with at least two of our other Universities. At the present time Yenching Univer-

Dr. Gowdy-3

8/11/28

city is raising this question in connection with its application for a revision in its Charter. I have been hoping that the decision rendered on the Yenching case will clarify the situation for all the other Universities at the same time. When this matter is cleared I should think it would be quite in order to keep the section in the proposed agreement dealing with degrees substantially as it has already been drafted.

I am enclosing a copy of the proposed revision of the Bylaws as prepared by the Trustees so you will have this material available for your study. I am also enclosing a copy of the By-laws as prepared by the Board of Managers and of the proposed agreement between the Trustees and Managers as prepared by the Managers.

Let me once more wish Mrs. Gowdy and yourself a most pleasant journey and a joyous arrival in Poochow. It has been a rare privilege to know both of you this year.

Very cordially yours,

*B.A. Casside*

BAG-H

Enc.

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My dear Garside:

I had hoped to get a comfortable sum of money for Fukien from a special fund of the Methodist Board. I was depending on getting Dr. Elms and Dr. Sippendorfer together for this matter. As I understand it, Dr. Elms controls a special fund, what it is I do not know.

Before I left for California Dr. Sippendorfer told me of

this fund and ~~could~~ <sup>AUG 22 1928</sup> <sup>[27]</sup> would like to secure for us a substantial sum. I mentioned \$25,000 & he said he hoped they could do more than that.

When I returned from California Diefendorfer had gone to Kansas City for May. Before he came back Ehlers was taken suddenly ill with appendicitis and had to go to hospital. On Aug. 3 when I was in the office they were both away. So I was never able to get them together.

I have just written Ehlers asking for \$40,000, the minimum necessary to bring our endowment up to

\$400,000. This <sup>AUG 22 1928</sup> <sup>[37]</sup> the \$250,000 from the Hall Estate and the accumulation of its interest until June 30, 1929, except the \$6000 to be taken out for Physics apparatus. There is something like \$70,000 endowment now. The above interest will more than provide for the \$35,000 which we must have on hand for the C. M. B., where our contract with them expires June 30, 1929. With the \$40,000 which I hope Dr. Ehlers can give, we should have in the vicinity of \$400,000 endowment. The income from

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this, plus the \$10,000 received  
AUG 22 1928 47

annually from the contributing  
boards, plus the student fees  
which are seriously depleted  
just now, could carry the  
present budget until Mr.  
Lin can work up a local  
Chinese constituency. This must  
be slow under present conditions.  
In writing Ethel, I told him I  
was writing you, as I must  
depend on you now to put  
this through. I have also  
written Dr. Dippendorfer. If  
Ethel is back, see him. If he  
is not, see Dippendorfer.  
Dr. & Mrs. Bowen are on  
board with us.  
With all good wishes  
Cordially yours  
Foschou, China. John Garrowdy

Perhaps Dr. Dippendorfer might be with you when you see Ethel.

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Feb 11/4/29  
Foochow, China,  
Nov. 21, 1928.

Dear Mr. Garside:- **TRANSFER**

**FUKIEN**

I wish to write you to-day about two matters of business connected with the university. The first is about the proposed re-organization plan as amended by the Trustees. The annual meeting of the Board of Managers was delayed until after my return and occupied a whole day. President Lin kindly invited Mrs. Gowdy and me down the night before, for a faculty dinner and to spend the night. At the meeting next day there was not the slightest objection to the suggestions of the Trustees except at the very last part of the plan. Here, you will recall, there is a paragraph stating that the power to make any changes remains in the hands of the Trustees. The Managers were all perfectly willing to accept this, for their attitude towards the Trustees is one of perfect confidence. They feared, however, that that sentence might interfere with the registration of the University. So a committee was appointed to work on the matter and see if some way out could be found that would satisfy the Trustees and yet meet the conditions of registration. There has not been another meeting of the Board so there has been no opportunity to hear from the committee.

The other matter of business is in connection with the plans for re-building the Hall Memorial. I chafed greatly at the necessary delay, but Mr. Wiant, our architect and builder, was in America and returned only two weeks ago. At the first opportunity I went with him to the University and spent most of the day there going over the ruins and discussing plans. The foundation of the building can be used without change and also much of the outer wall, it was so solidly and thoroughly built. In the new plans I have insisted on fireproof construction, at any rate to the extent of re-inforced concrete floors. The faculty and managers have decided they would like to make the Hall Memorial an Arts Building instead of a dormitory, giving most of one floor to a chapel and part of another floor to the library, which would then be housed in a fireproof room. Since so much space is to be occupied in this way I have suggested that about four feet be added to the height of the walls thus making another whole floor available. I think this would give us enough extra space so that it would save us from the necessity of another recitation building for some time, unless there should be phenomenal and unexpected growth. Indeed anything but a steady growth is almost impossible because of the lack of preparatory schools.

The architect has estimated that in addition to the \$34,000 Mex. which we received from the insurance company, we shall need \$20,000 gold for the building and \$4000 gold for its furnishing, a total of \$24,000 gold. So, yesterday I mailed a letter to Mr. Robert T. Jones asking the Hall family if they could provide that amount of money. Knowing Mr. Jones' attitude, it was a very difficult letter to write, so I re-wrote it four times before I mailed it. I am very sure that the proposed change

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[2]

to an Arts Building, with one floor devoted to a chapel, will make a stronger appeal to the family. In my letter I did not speak of adding to the height of the wall. Since President Lin thinks it is almost necessary for the morale of the students to be able to announce some new building plans before the end of the term, I have asked Mr. Jones to cable me their decision, so that if it should be favorable, it could be announced here at once.

✓ Doubtless you are wondering what we mean to do for dormitory space. We have on the campus two double residences, built in Chinese temple style, with the curved roofs. They are not very well located for residences and they look so expensive we have been criticized for extravagance. These were built before I went to the University and I have always hoped that they might be changed and added to the unit of University buildings where they belong. Before my return the faculty and managers decided this was not only a desirable thing to do but was also the most economical way of providing dormitory accommodations. Each of these two buildings can be changed into a dormitory to house fifty students for about \$5000 Mex. To replace them, four residences can be built for \$40,000 Mex., a total of \$50,000 Mex. giving four members of the faculty much better housing accommodations, providing dormitory space for 100 students, and, we hope, taking away the ground for criticism. I very heartily approve of this plan and the architect says the buildings are well fitted for such a change. President Lin has been doing his utmost to raise this money locally, of course chiefly from Chinese. He has made an appeal to the provincial government for help, also to some of the higher officials individually. In addition, during the summer, the students were busy trying to raise money in their home towns, so that now I understand there is something like \$10,000 Mex. on hand. This is far from being enough. Mr. Lin is very hopeful, more so than I am, but I do my utmost not to let him see that I am not as optimistic as he. Even if we succeed in raising this money locally, we could then provide only for the students we now have. It would be necessary to find money for another dormitory at once, as two years are required to put up such a building here. I am just waiting for Mr. Wiant to have time to make an estimate when I intend to make an appeal to Mr. Harriman for such a building. I just wish I could see Harriman. He was in Europe last year and I had no chance at him. But I shall have to do the best I can by letter.

Last Sunday Mrs. Gowdy and I were invited down to the University for vespers and dinner. There was a splendid congregation of students, one of the best I have ever seen. I am told that the attendance at both church and chapel is much better than it used to be.

At the annual conference of the Methodist Church two weeks ago Bishop Birney appointed Mr. Stowe to work in the University, in the department of religion. Mr. Stowe is one of our very best men. He has just come back from furlough during which time he finished his work for his Ph. D. except his thesis, which he

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[3]

expects to do here. He moved his family to the University at once and began work.

I have been elected by the Methodists to represent them on the University Board of Managers.

We have established the most cordial relations with the University staff. President Lin makes his headquarters with us when he comes up to Foochow. As we have only one guest room we have bought a cot bed so that if the guest room is occupied we can take him in anyhow. I am very greatly pleased with the way things seem to be going at the University. Mr. Lin is just the man for President and I do hope he will stay.

Since I am supposed to keep an eye on the property I should like to say that the change to an Arts Building for the Hall Memorial and the change of the two double residences to dormitories are all to the good, if the money can be obtained. I do not know whether the Trustees will wish to take action on these proposed changes or not. I suppose it is the Board of Managers who should make that request and not I.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

*John Gowdy*  
John Gowdy.

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INDEXED

Foochow, China.  
Dec. 7, 1928.

FOOCHOW  
see 1/15/28  
ack. 1/23

Dear Mr. Garside:-

## TRANSFER

A matter of great importance in connection with the university has just been brought to my attention. As you are aware, according to our agreement with the China Medical Board, we are required to spend a certain amount of money for scientific equipment during this five year period which ends next July. The chemistry and Biology departments have both spent their quota, but the Physics department should spend about \*\$6000 gold during the coming spring. This department is very poorly equipped and is in great need of the apparatus. I have tried to hold them back from spending the money until it should actually be in hand. If you are receiving the income from the Hall Estate, this money should be available, and the university should be notified at once that they are authorized to spend this amount. If it is not spent, it will revert to the C. M. B., so it would seem very foolish not to use it.

I would greatly appreciate it if you can attend to this at once as President Lin and Mr. Martin of the Physics department are depending on me for this. There is now very little time left to order from abroad such a large shipment of goods. I shall ask the department to have the order ready so that when your authorization comes they may proceed without delay. In view of the immediate need for apparatus would it be asking too much for you to cable if the money is available? Any time you wish to cable me "Gowdy, Foochow" will reach me.

With all good wishes.

Cordially yours,

John Gowdy.  
John Gowdy.

\* P. S. We shall meet the requirements of the C. M. B. if we spend \$4300 gold on the Physics department, as the other two departments spent more than their quota.

J.G.

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*over*

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over

FUKIEN

*not here - 7/10*

Fukien Christian University

January 4, 1929

Dr. John Gowdy,  
Fukien Christian University,  
Focshow, China.

My dear Dr. Gowdy:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of a cablegram which Mr. Robert T. Jones had us send in his name yesterday. Mr. Jones called up by telephone during the morning and stated that he had received your letter and that while he and Mrs. Jones had studied the need at Fukien in a very sympathetic spirit, they had not found it possible to make any further contribution toward rebuilding the Hall Memorial. He stated that it was their feeling that they had no claim whatever on the funds they have already given to the University for the Gardiner Hall Dormitory and that they feel the University is entirely free to use the insurance money from this dormitory in any way it may desire.

Mr. Jones gave me over the telephone the substance of the message he wished to send you, so we put it in mission code for him and forwarded it yesterday. His attitude seemed quite friendly, and yet it is apparent that he is firm in his decision not to make any additional contribution at this time.

Your letter of November 21st has been mimeographed and distributed to all members of the Board of Trustees. We are having a meeting next week and will give earnest consideration to the matters you discuss. I fear that Mr. Jones' decision on the Hall Memorial will hold up for a while any restoration of the Hall Memorial as an Arts building. At the present time I know of no one here in America to whom our Board of Trustees might look for assistance of this kind. If you have any suggestions as to where we might turn we would be most happy to do what we can. You are appreciative of the difficulties of securing large funds for such objectives as these even when someone like yourself is here in America to present the need in a most convincing way. With no one now in America able to do promotional work for Fukien, the problem becomes infinitely more difficult. It might be possible to appeal to Mr. Harriman for funds to complete the Arts building rather than to ask his assistance for a second dormitory. You would be the best judge of the desirability or practicability of such a course. I sincerely hope that the campaign now being conducted in Fukien succeeds in raising the funds necessary for converting the residences into students' dormitories and providing additional faculty residences of a more modest type. The Board will take definite action on this proposal next week.

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Dr. Gowdy-2

1/4/29

The Hall Estate has finally been distributed and Fokien has received its quarter of a million dollars. Fifty thousand was paid over to the University direct in cash and securities and the other \$200,000. has been placed with the Harvard-Yenching Institute in trust for the University. The \$50,000.00 turned over direct has no other conditions on it than simply that the amount be kept intact as an endowment fund and certain securities turned over be sold, if at all, at a gradual rate. The conditions attached to the \$200,000.00 placed in the Institute by the Hall Estate Trustees has not yet been formally announced. I understand informally that the Trustees themselves provide in general that the income should be turned over to the institutions specified from year to year so long as they continue in actual operation and meet any other condition the Institute may see fit to impose. Thus, it will be up to the Board of Trustees of the Institute to decide how liberal a policy is to be adopted. They can either turn over the income without any restriction whatever, or else can lay down as strict injunctions as they desire. I trust the Institute will find it possible to follow a liberal policy in this regard.

With all good wishes to Mrs. Gowdy and yourself, I am

Very cordially yours,

*P. A. Garfield*

BAG-H

Enc.

0964

FUKIEN

TRANSFER

Fukien University.

January 23, 1929.

Dr. John Gowdy,  
Anglo Chinese College,  
Foochow, Cina.

My dear Dr. Gowdy:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 7th, in which you discuss the urgent need of the University for \$6,000 Gold for the purchase of physics equipment.

On January 15th we cabled the University, authorizing them to use up to Gold \$6,000 for the purchase of this physics equipment from the undesignated funds which we understand Miss Asher now has on hand.

We have sent Foochow copies of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Foochow Board of Trustees held on January 8th. You will have received a copy of these Minutes before this letter arrives and will therefore be familiar with the financial status of the University after receipt of the Hall securities. We were very happy indeed to see the distribution of the Estate and to find that Foochow was slated for \$250,000 in all, as Mr. Johnson intimated to you. We recognize that this large outcome is due largely to your own good work while in America.

We very much regretted to discover, however, that the income to July 31, 1929 will be considerably less than we had been led to hope. Instead of paying interest from January 1, 1928, the Trustees distributed the estate in such a way that interest really began on January 1, 1929. The Minutes of January 8th Meeting shows how the Trustees are seeking to meet the situation.

With all good wishes to Mrs. Gowdy and yourself, I am

Very cordially yours,

*B.A. Launder*

BAG/KR

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from M.B. 38[7]  
Foochow, China  
Jan. 28, 1928  
F. H. H. H. H. H.  
TRANSPORT

Dear Friends:

It is scarcely time for another quarterly letter, but so much is happening here that it just seems as if I must share it with you.

In the spring of 1927, while I was still President of the University, Dr. Diffendorfer of the Board of Foreign Missions was in Foochow. We invited the senior class of the University to meet him at dinner one evening. It was just at the time of the most violent anti-Christian agitation. Dr. Diffendorfer was greatly disturbed, and questioned the young men about it. The President of the class, who was also President of the whole student body, as well as President of the Y.M.C.A., in every way an outstanding man, prophesied to Dr. Diffendorfer that very soon the anti-Christian agitation would have spent itself and there would be a strong reaction in favor of Christianity. That prophecy has already come true. Just let me tell you of some of the things that are happening here.

Our provincial government has abolished by mandate gambling and opium smoking, the two great besetting sins of China, and the law is being enforced. One day I saw on the street a queer procession. It was a long string of hand carts drawn by coolies and protected by soldiers. These carts were filled with what appeared to be thousands of "Mah Jong" sets and other gambling implements and thousands of opium pipes and other opium smoking paraphernalia. After these things had been paraded through the streets with banners telling of the reform, they were burned before a great crowd of people. This autumn there have been several such bonfires, I am told.

Just after the order had gone out forbidding gambling, one of the great military leaders in the city, a general, celebrated his mother's birthday. It is the universal custom in China, except among Christians, on such occasions, to clear the table after the feast and devote the rest of the time to gambling, both men and women, at separate tables of course. This general was in a dilemma. He did not quite dare disobey the mandate which had just been issued, yet he could not imagine any other way of entertaining his guests. In his difficulty he appealed to an American Y.M.C.A. secretary who came to the rescue by running a moving picture show in the general's house from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. This is a new use for the movies, to take the place of gambling. This incident has done great good in the city, for it has taught the Chinese that gambling is not the only form of entertainment. Moreover, it has made good friends for the Y.M.C.A. in high places.

But still more strange than all these things are some other orders that have gone out from the government headquarters here, forbidding idol processions and the making of idol paper and all

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1929

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other idolatrous accessories. This does not mean at all that the government has become Christian, but it does mean what they say frankly, that such things are superstition pure and simple. I must confess I am a bit skeptical about the ability of the government to put this across. Governments have usually failed in attempting to abolish religion by mandate. But, in any case, all these instances express the attitude of the government and the general trend of things here.

Our evangelistic missionaries report unusual openness on the part of the people and the general feeling is that not in many years have we had the opportunity for the presentation of the Gospel that now confronts us. Our Fukien Christian University is having a larger attendance at church and chapel than ever before, though both of these are voluntary, and there is an unusual spirit of earnestness on the part of the students. In our Anglo-Chinese College senior high school, out of seventy-two students, sixty-six have elected Bible study courses. Last Sunday I substituted in teaching a Sunday School class at the college, while the regular teacher was preaching at the University Vesper service, and I had a dozen of the older students there, very eager and interested. Of course attendance was entirely voluntary.

It seems to me we have every reason for encouragement and I do hope that the friends in America will realize that it is not possible for us to take advantage of the opportunities that come to us if we are not constantly supported, not only by money but by prayers.

At Christmas every student in school was invited to some faculty home. We had two groups, on one evening about sixty and on another evening about thirty. Each home had a Christmas tree and while we did not have presents for the boys there was abundance of tea and cake. Part of the program in each home was the presentation of the Christmas message by a devout and forceful speaker.

We do ask that you will remember us constantly that we may measure up to our opportunities.

With all good wishes,

Yours in His service

John Gowdy

P.S. If you send any money gifts to the Board of Foreign Missions, and they are greatly needed, please say that they are "for the work of John Gowdy."

J.G.

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Foochow, China

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FUKIEN

April 5, 1929

TRANSFER  
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Dear Mr. Garfield:

I have just had a letter from Mr. Robert J. Jones saying he had asked you for the deficit on the Jones Hall and you had been unable to tell him. I have kept this matter before Mr. Jones from time to time, hoping that some day he would feel equal to it. Evidently the time has come. I know you thought you were providing for this, but Miss Asher says there was not as much money here as you had supposed. Even if there should be, if I succeed in getting this \$3500 gold from Mr. Jones, the money you had in mind can be used in some other way. The deficit is about \$7000 Mex. Indeed it should be more, because the measures that were taken two years ago to protect the building against incendiarism were outside of this. There may be some gain on exchange if the present rate continues, but it

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seems to me the whole sum should be given  
President Lin. This would free the amount  
already assigned by you for this purpose.  
I am sorry I was not able to persuade Mr.  
Jones to assume the responsibility for re-building  
the burned building.

✓ During this term I am giving my time  
entirely to the financial interests of the  
Anglo-Chinese College. I have just returned  
from five weeks in Shanghai, and I am  
starting out again at the end of this  
week on a trip south, to be gone from  
two to three months. I told President Lin  
that I would be glad to serve the  
University on this trip, so far as opportunity  
offered, so I have shown him my itinerary  
and he is furnishing me with a list of  
alumni in each city. I shall try to get them  
together and persuade them to do what  
they can towards the rebuilding. In Shanghai  
I got \$1000 Mex. from an American friend of  
mine & two fifty dollar subscriptions from  
alumni, for the University.

// President Lin's plans are as follows -  
to rebuild at a cost of \$50,000 Mex. The

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insurance of \$34,000 will have about \$2000 interest, then subscriptions amounting to about \$12,000 have been raised here, making a total of \$48,000. Still \$2000 are necessary to complete the building and \$2000 more for furnishing. This will be scanty furnishing & there is no margin for building. If I can get more, of course I shall.

Mr. Lin is very anxious to re-model one of the double residences at once for a dormitory. I was so sorry for him when I was down at the University a few days ago. With the renewed outbreak of the civil war, the radical element has been threatening & venturing to show its hand in various ways. He has had two threatening letters during the past few weeks, telling that buildings will be burned etc. It is really a terrible burden for a man to carry, and it makes constant vigilance necessary. It is never possible for the whole faculty to get together for a social or any other gathering.

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in the evening, because some of them have to be on watch all the time.

All of us out here, every missionary and non-missionary has been doing all possible to help this building fund. I'll try to find the list of missionary subscriptions & send it to you. We are after only a small sum, about \$1500 gold more than already raised. It seems to me that in an appeal of this kind the trustees might respond. [I do not mean the large givers like Dr. Hill or Dr. Warner who are always giving, but most of the others to whom an appeal has never been made, and who could perhaps help in an emergency like this] I find myself in an embarrassing place, connected with two institutions, and what I do for one I must do for the other, and it rather swamps me. But it is a joy to do even the little we can, and I think our Trustees should not be robbed of that pleasure and privilege.

Your orders have been so explicit that I presume Mr. Lin will not venture to re-model the double residence, since he does not have the money to replace it with

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two individual residences, though he feels under very great pressure. The need is so urgent that it is hard to understand how any one with the money can refuse.

There is a fine spirit at the University, and since the appointment of Mr. Storr the department of religion is looking up, very decidedly. #

The greatest problem they face is what to do to replace Miss Asher. If the Trustees are wise, they will send out a book keeper + stenographer (she must be a book keeper) whether it is in the budget or not. The Chinese assistant whom Miss Asher has trained and around whom we were hoping to build in her absence, is leaving at once to go to the Standard Oil Co. at about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times his present salary. He cannot be blamed, for he is meeting the terms of his contract, but it creates a very difficult situation for Mr. Lin. When a regular professor goes home it is usually possible to divide his work among other members of the

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staff, of course inadequately, nevertheless passably. This is not possible with Miss Asher's work, it is so different from all the others. Away back last autumn I advised President Lin to appeal to the Trustees. For two reasons he did not - he was so anxious to live within the budget and he thought book keeping was so easy anybody could do it. He has not quite got over this last idea yet, but when Miss Asher goes he will have his eyes opened. She has already stayed a year beyond her furlough time. President Lin promised to let her go in May so that she could get in a summer school term of study. This seems impossible now as she will probably stay away into July as to do as much as possible towards finishing the books for the fiscal year. She is so conscientious she feels she should not go if there is no one to take her place. I have told her that is Mr. Lin's responsibility, not hers, and when the time comes she must go. He will never get another like her. She works from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and very often takes work home with her. The University has no more valuable servant than Miss Asher and the Trustees should do everything in their power to get her back here.

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I cannot find my list of subscriptions just now but they range anywhere from \$25 Mex. to \$500 Mex. from the missionaries. I think the Trustees should know this and I think they would be glad to respond so far as they could. //

The faculty at the University are having a special dinner for Mrs. Gordy and me on Friday evening of this week before I start on my trip south. They have changed their prayer meeting to that evening and I am to lead. Mrs. Gordy has been shut in for nearly three months with arthritis, but she is much better now, and the doctor has given her permission to make this trip. She has lost only two weeks from her teaching, following the removal of her tonsils. The remainder of the time she turned our parlor into a school room and the boys came over here. She was to go south with me but she is not well enough for that so I must go alone.

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I think by the time classes begin in the autumn there will be a road between Foochow and the University. An immediate necessity is an automobile. Not only are hours wasted waiting for river launches but when the tide does not serve and there are no launches, again & again it has been necessary to miss engagements up here altogether. Because of our long rainy season here, a closed car is necessary. A Ford Tudor sedan, one door, costs here \$2515 Mex., or at the present rate of exchange \$1150 gold. This does not include bumpers, which are much more necessary here than at home, nor does it include an extra tire.

As I close I just wish I could impress upon the Trustees the great load of anxiety President Lin is bearing. I feel we must all do everything in our power to show our sympathy and to support him in his efforts.

With all good wishes

Cordially

John Lowdy



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FUKIEN

TRANSFER

Fukien Christian University

April 28, 1929

Mr. C. J. Lin,  
Dr. John Gowdy,  
Fukien Christian University,  
Focchow, China.

My dear Mr. Lin and Dr. Gowdy:

We attach hereto copies of minutes of a meeting of the Fukien Board of Trustees held on April 17. Several matters acted on by the Trustees have already been reported to you. I will comment herein on such items as seem to require further notice or explanation.

Amendment to Constitution (formerly By-laws) of the University.  
You will note that the Constitution of the University was approved by the Trustees substantially as this document was forwarded to us by the field. There are, however, one or two points on which the Trustees ask that I correspond with the field.

Article V, Section 1 (c). The Board of Trustees feel that the Board of Managers should, as far as possible, be quite distinct from the faculty of the University except, of course, for such ex officio representatives on the Board of Managers as the President of the University.

Article V, Section 6. No provision is made in the Constitution of the Board of Managers for sending on to the Board of Trustees and to the local governing bodies of the cooperating missions and churches such minutes of the Board of Managers and such reports of the work of the University as may be necessary to keep them informed of what the University is doing. We assume, however, that the Board of Managers will wish to distribute this information even though no formal provision is made therefor in their constitution.

Article V, Section 7. You will note that the definition of the vote necessary to decide matters brought before the Board of Managers is set in slightly different form in the Constitution of the University and the Constitution of the Board of Managers.

Article VI, Affiliated Schools. Although the Board of Managers recommended that this article be deleted, the Trustees thought it might be wiser to retain the article for the time being.

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at least, because there may be some possibility that at a later date the University will to arrange for affiliation with other schools. As far as we can see, the retention of this article will not do any harm.

The Board of Trustees was anxious to have the Constitution of the University substantially in harmony with the Constitution of the Board of Managers though they agreed that it was not necessary, and probably not desirable, that the phraseology of the two documents be identical.

Constitution of the Board of Managers. You will note that the Trustees, in accordance with the provision in the Constitution of the University, simply noted that the Constitution of the Board of Managers has been found to be consistent with the Constitution of the University.

Treasurer's Supplementary Report. This report does not seem to require any specific comments.

Our income from Harvard-Yenching Institute trust funds. You will both be very much interested in the letter from the Harvard-Yenching Institute which is attached to the minutes. Informal conversations with the Trustees of the Institute indicate that they are all desirous of placing as few limitations on the use of the income from the Institute Trust funds as the terms under which this trust fund was created will allow. It is clear, however, that they are anxious to use the income from this fund for strengthening the work in the field of Chinese studies in which the Institute is particularly interested. The Trustees have attempted to use the income from the Institute trust fund for 1928-29 and 1929-30 in the way that will best meet the conditions of the Institute Trustees, and will, at the same time, give a maximum amount of assistance to the University in meeting its other financial obligations.

You will note that action T-854 appropriates the income to be received previous to July 31, 1929 toward the expenses of 1928-29 budget. Since it is estimated that this income will be approximately Gold \$4,800.00 it should be possible to clear off the deficit of Gold \$3,528.00 and to care for a part of the outstanding building obligations amounting to Mex. \$7,000.00. I will write you more fully on this point as soon as we receive from the Institute the income which they have stated they will pay over about May 1.

You will note that of the income for 1929-30, amounting to approximately Gold \$10,000.00, the Trustees appropriated Gold \$8,000.00 for use within the 1929-30 budget as submitted by the Field, and provided that Gold \$2,000.00 should be used for developing and strengthening the work in the Chinese departments. The Trustees also ask that the Field prepare a statement as to their plans for using the income from this Institute trust fund during 1929-30. We hope that the Field will find this method of expending the income from the Institute Trust fund to be a satisfactory one and that you will be able to send us a statement which we can present to the Institute to show that the University is carrying out the conditions imposed by the Institute Trustees. I understand that the Institute is quite willing to include among the "purposes which are incidental" to the central purpose of strengthening the work in the Chinese departments such

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expenditures as purchase of books for, and maintenance of, University Library, a fair share of the University administration and operation expenses, etc.

Income from \$50,000. Hall endowment. The Trustees decided that for the year 1929-30 the income from the \$50,000. endowment received from the Hall Estate should be applied to the reduction of deficits now outstanding on the books of the Trustees. I think that two considerations were in the minds of the Trustees when taking this action. First, these long standing deficits must be cleared off before the finances of the University can ever be in satisfactory condition. Second, the amount to be received from the Rockefeller Foundation after this year is considerably reduced, so it is necessary that we hold something in reserve to replace these funds.

Continuation of grant from Rockefeller Foundation. The gist of this action by the Foundation has already been reported to you.

Budget for 1929-30. The Trustees made a careful study of the budget as submitted by the field and also summary of the budget including certain corrections, prepared by our New York office. The Trustees reluctantly decided that it would not be possible to provide for Dr. Metcalf's return and so followed the procedure of the field in omitting him from the estimates for next year. The Trustees also did everything they possibly could to provide for the entire amount asked by the field in submitting the budget to us. You will note that they were able to come within Mex.\$2,547.97 of the amount asked. We sincerely hope that the field will not find it difficult to make the adjustment necessary to balance the budget on this basis.

In connection with the budget, the Trustees noted the actions of the Managers at their February 2nd meeting, and also Mr. Lin's comments in his letter of February 9. They noted that one statement at the bottom of the first page on Mr. Lin's letter of February 9 is somewhat misleading. He states there that "we hope that the Trustees will be able to at least provide us with the same amount of appropriation as in the past, that is, Mex.\$59,200.00, exclusive of special and non-budget items as listed on page 2 of the budget, and will appropriate the available income from the Hall Estate and the grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to meet the deficit which amounts to Mex.\$8,879.00". The income from the Rockefeller Foundation has always been included within the regular appropriation of the Trustees, so this income could not also be applied to our meeting the additional deficit of \$8,879.00. Also, the appropriation by the Trustees last year was Mex.\$53,278.00 instead of \$59,200.00.

While the Board of Trustees were studying the budget Dr. E.C. Harner very generously promised that he would personally give Gold \$500.00 next year to help with meeting the current expenses of the University. This reduced the apparent deficit by a little over Mex.\$1,000.00. We were all very happy to make this change in the estimates we had prepared before the meeting.

You will note that the Trustees are making their appropriation for 1929-30 on an exchange rate of 2.10 to 1. We trust that this will prove a conservative basis and that at the end of the year we will have at least a small surplus from gain in exchange to be used for whatever needs may ap-

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pear most urgent.

Action T-839 defines the Trustees' appropriation toward the 1929-30 budget. I trust that these figures taken together with the budget summary contained in "Appendix D" will be quite easily understood.

Action T-842 instructs our office to send to the field on or about January first of each year a careful estimate of anticipated income for the next fiscal year, and asks the Board of Managers to prepare on the basis of these estimates, together with their own estimates of field income, a budget for the succeeding fiscal year in which estimate of expenditures do not exceed the available income. The action further suggests that, if the Managers so desire, they may prepare a supplementary statement of additional current expenditures which they would like to make during the next fiscal year if the necessary income can be secured. This procedure will, I hope, prove to be more satisfactory both to the field and to the home base than the one we have been using in the past. We realize that you on the field have often been forced to prepare your budget for the new year on very insufficient information as to income from the home base. On the other hand, our Board of Trustees is always distressed and perplexed when it is forced to confront a budget that does not balance, for we are unable to judge wisely where and how reductions can best be made.

Cooperation in work of Correlated Program. You will note that the Board of Trustees reiterated its general approval of the proposals for the Correlated Program, and stated its approval in principle of the joint promotional campaign as an appropriate method for financing our China colleges. We all earnestly hope that the July meeting of the Council of Higher Education will give us a final program for the correlation of our China colleges. Until such a program is formulated and accepted on the field there is not much more to be done here at the home base.

Field seal. The Trustees adopted the design preferred by the field authorities. We are having a seal press prepared at this time. Will the field have any use for such a seal or will you make use of a conventional rectangular seal for any formal University documents?

Field Treasurer. The Trustees noted sympathetically the problem created by Miss Asher's approaching furlough. They were not able, however, to make any suggestions as to finding anyone whom we could send out from America to carry on her work during her absence. I sincerely hope that the field has been able, or will shortly be able, to make satisfactory arrangements.

The Board transmitted to the American Board President Lin's request regarding Mr. Clarence A. Neff. Dr. W.E. Strong, who was present at the meeting, spoke very sympathetically of the request, but stated that he doubted very much whether the American Board would be able to make the necessary provision.

I believe that the other matters covered by the minutes do not require any comments.

BAG-H

Enc.

Very cordially yours,

*B. A. Garside*

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Union Union  
9th Floor

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S.S. Rhexenor  
Between Manila, P.I. and  
Singapore

FUKIEN

May 16, 1929.

TRANSFER

Dear Friends:

My letter to you this quarter must be of a rather unusual nature, for I am spending nearly all the term away from Foochow.

Nine years ago while I was president of the Anglo-Chinese College, at my solicitation the alumni undertook to build a new science hall. I made a trip to Shanghai, Amoy, Manila and Cebu, P.I. Most of the \$40,000 Mex. necessary was subscribed and was coming in when in 1923 I was transferred to the University. I handed over the subscription lists to my successor, but soon after that the college fell upon troublous times, and the whole matter was allowed to lapse.

I have again returned to work in the Anglo-Chinese College, this time as a teacher under a Chinese President, who was formerly one of my own students there. At the suggestion of the President, the Board of Managers have asked me to take up again the work I had begun nine years ago, of raising money for an alumni building.

As I have gone into the thing I find that it has to be done anew, and the old lists, some of which were lost, practically discarded. However, those of the alumni who had paid their previous pledge in full could not be overlooked.

Leaving Foochow on the evening of February 22, I went to Shanghai for a meeting of the Executive Committee of our Church, and at the close of this meeting I remained for two weeks work among the alumni. The old students gave me a banquet and to this came some men I had not seen for twenty years. To facilitate my work, one of the alumni placed his car and chauffeur and his private ricksha at my disposal, for Shanghai is a city of magnificent distances. I had to return to Foochow before I had seen all of the Shanghai alumni.

During the second part of the trip Mrs. Gowdy had planned to accompany me. When I left for Shanghai she was in bed with arthritis in her right knee. She was wholly unable to walk. During my absence the doctors concluded the source of the infection was in the tonsils, so she went to the hospital and had her tonsils removed. When I was ready to start north on April 14, she was a little better and could walk a few steps, but was altogether unfit for such a strenuous undertaking as had been planned, so I had to come alone.

During the months when she was laid up she missed her teaching only about two weeks, while her throat was healing

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from the tonsil operation. She turned our parlor into a school room, had a long chair made on which she could be carried into the parlor before the students came to the house, and was awaiting them on their arrival. The doctors say it will be months before she is entirely free from the infection, and the letters I have received indicate that improvement is very slow.

On April 14 I left for Amoy and there was entertained for a week in the home of one of the old boys. I was given the usual banquet and went among the boys for subscriptions, not one refusing.

To reach Manila I had to pass through Hongkong. I knew we had some old students there but I did not have their addresses. At noon of the day on which I was to leave I went to the cable office to send a wire to Manila giving the date of my expected arrival. In a moment one of my old students appeared. He works in the cable office and seeing my name on the cable came out at once. He was on duty and could not leave and I was in a hurry to get back to the Y where I was staying in Kowoon, across the harbor from Hongkong. But I had scarcely finished luncheon when I had a telephone message from Hongkong and soon three of the old boys appeared, determined to take me out to luncheon. Having just eaten, of course I could not, so they went with me to my steamer, had a good visit and made me promise to notify them of my arrival on my way back when they might have a chance "to show their hearts".

Three of the alumni met me in Manila, with two cars, one for me and one for my baggage, and they took me some distance away, where I was to stay. During all my stay in Manila I had a car and chauffeur at my disposal.

Here, again, I was given a banquet, at which every alumni in the city was present, fifteen in all. Afterwards, ways and means were discussed and it was decided that they themselves must subscribe first, which every man did. It seems to be the custom in the Philippines to ask their Chinese friends to help in any educational enterprise in which they may be interested. So, a list of prospects was prepared, all Chinese merchants, none of whom I had ever seen, and none of whom had ever known the college. Our leading alumni divided this list among them, each taking some names and agreeing to go with me to see these persons. In Manila we called on fifty-seven Chinese business men and received fifty-seven subscriptions, exclusive of our own fifteen alumni who all subscribed. The subscriptions ranged from twenty pesos (a peso is worth fifty cents of our American money) to five hundred pesos.

From Manila I went down to Cebu where I spent five days. Here we have ten alumni, bearily all boys of the younger

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generation. At 6 a.m. when I arrived, I was met at the pier by two of those and taken to a hotel where they had engaged a room for me. One of those informed me that at the hotel I was his guest and he placed his car and chauffeur absolutely at my disposal.

On my first evening I was given the usual banquet by the old boys and a photograph of the group taken. Then plans were made for the campaign. It was decided to invite about thirty of the leading Chinese merchants of the city to a feast on the following evening at the Far Eastern Club. Because our men belonged to the younger generation they thought it necessary to enlist the cooperation of one of the leading merchants of the city to whom I had brought a letter of introduction from his brother in Amoy, who was one of our alumni. We put it up to this man that it was his duty to be his brother's representative, and having accepted he carried the thing through to the end with great efficiency. He sent out the invitations in his name and acted as toastmaster, making a splendid speech. I followed with a speech in the Foochow dialect which almost nobody understood as these merchants all spoke Amoy dialect, but my speech was interpreted to them. I would have prepared to speak in English, but the boys said, being a foreigner, it would make more of an impression if I spoke in Chinese.

Next day was Sunday so I hunted up a church service with one of the boys and was asked to assist in the service.

At the feast on Saturday evening the boys did one thing that may not have been very politic, but which touched me very deeply. They gave orders that no wine should be served and no cigars or cigarettes passed. One of them said to me beforehand, "We all know missionaries are different from other people and we ought to recognize that difference. At any rate we ought to do it out of respect for our old teacher." If the feast had been only for our own alumni I would have expected this, but I presume every one of the thirty guests invited both smoked and drank. In spite of the fact that the boys wished to impress these guests favorably I was very glad they had the courage of their convictions.

Mr. Uy, who acted as toastmaster, gave up his work for the better part of two days and accompanied us on our tour of solicitation. We called on twenty-six merchants in Cebu and received twenty-six subscriptions, in addition to the subscriptions from every one of our own alumni.

Now I am on my way to Singapore and Sitiawan and have no idea what awaits me. In my next letter I shall try to give you a complete report.

Yours in His service,

John Gowdy.

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FUKIEN

TRANSFER

Fukien Christian University

July 30, 1929

Dr. John Gowdy,  
Anglo Chinese College,  
Foochow, China.

My dear Dr. Gowdy:

I am sorry that your letter telling of the needs and problems of Fukien at the present time has remained so long unacknowledged.

I have been very much perplexed to know how we could best approach the Trustees again on the question of securing their assistance in providing the funds necessary to complete the building projects on which Mr. Lin has been working so faithfully during the past year. At practically every meeting of the Trustees held this year we have made a presentation of what the University is doing and of the urgent need of assistance from the West, but in no instance have the Trustees taken any very active or personal interest in the matter. I presume it has been one of the inevitable consequences of the transfer of responsibility to the field that the Trustees should feel somewhat less obligation now than they have in the past. This is a tendency which we must strive to overcome.

I have quoted to Dr. Chamberlain the suggestions you make as to possible help from the Trustees and have asked for his counsel as to the best way in which we can bring the matter before the Board or before individual members who might be prevailed upon to help. You will remember that the Trustees have already been appealed to during the last few months to help in meeting the deficit in the 1929-30 budget. Dr. Warner responded by pledging \$500 of personal funds for this purpose. I have watched the reaction of other members of the Board in the hope that some of them would also be willing to step forward and assume responsibility for the small deficit still remaining, amounting in all to less than C\$2,000. None of them, however, made any offer. When Miss Asher was with us at the end of June we had a business session followed by a social half hour together, and finally the showing of pictures of the Fukien campus. I had hoped that we could secure a sufficiently large attendance at this meeting to permit us to bring up some of the urgent needs described in your letter. However, only a handful of Trustees were present and several of those whose interest we were most anxious to secure had to leave before the brief business session was completed. It was quite out of the question, therefore, for us to bring up at that time any serious appeal for help from the Board in meeting the need for further funds to complete the new dormitories.

I hope that it will be possible for us to get some of these matters before the Trustees for their serious consideration early this fall.

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I realize that it will be a great disappointment to the field that assistance has not been received early enough to permit the completion of this building work in time for the opening of the autumn semester.

I sincerely trust that the arrangement the University has made with Mr. McClure for carrying on the field treasurer's work in Miss Asher's absence will prove reasonably satisfactory. Miss Asher is certainly a splendid young woman and we earnestly hope that nothing will prevent her getting back to the field in the autumn of 1930. We are inviting her to spend a fortnight with us here in the Central Office. She will be with us during the first half of the month of September since that is the period when she has a little available time between the close of her Summer Session and the opening of the regular autumn term at Boston University.

We have all been very much distressed to learn of Mrs. Gowdy's illness. I sincerely hope that the arthritis has now entirely disappeared. Miss Asher told us of the valiant way in which Mrs. Gowdy continued her teaching work even while it was impossible for her to arise from her couch.

I am glad to receive your explanation of the deficit on the Jones Science Hall. I sincerely hope that Mr. R. T. Jones has found it possible to assume this deficit.

We have been trying to follow up as closely as we could the various unpaid Fukien pledges. On the whole, contributions have been coming in fairly well although a few have fallen rather badly behind. During the next few weeks I may send you a detailed statement concerning some of our pledges on which we have been able to secure little response. I have been reluctant to do this because I realize how much you are overburdened already with your responsibilities for both the Angle Chinese College and for Fukien. Obviously, however, a note from you to some of these Fukien friends would accomplish a great deal more than any amount of correspondence from our office. I am at this time sending out reminders to all those who are in arrears on their pledges and hope that we may secure a number of satisfactory responsibilities.

In this connection I should mention that the Methodist Board informs us that they have not secured any contributions from Mr. A. K. Harper of Fairfield, Ohio, since the fall of 1927. You will remember that Mr. Harper sent the University two payments of \$100 each during 1927 through the Methodist Board. Mr. Chenoweth tells me that they have sent a large number of reminders and have supplied Mr. Harper with various other types of material but have secured no response. So they have been forced to consider his pledge as no longer active. Do you know Mr. Harper well enough that it would be worth while for you to write him? Could you suggest any other steps we might take? Our contact, so far as the New York office has been concerned, has always been through the Methodist Board. From time to time I have supplied Mr. Chenoweth with Fukien material which he has sent to Mr. Harper, but I have never written to him direct.

You will be grieved to learn that Mrs. Chamberlain died a few

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Dr. Gouly-5

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days ago. I am not sure whether or not you were acquainted with her. I had never met her but from several remarks Dr. Chamberlain made from time to time I understood that she has long been in very frail health.

We very much enjoyed your general letter of May 16 written aboard the S. S. Haverener a copy of which was kindly sent us by the Methodist Board.

With warmest good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*BT Harside*

HAG-H

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ANGLO-CHINESE COLLEGE  
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

INDEXED

DR. JOHN GOWDY  
OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aug. 8, 1929.

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Garside:

Your letter of July 2 which came a few days ago makes me realize how long it is since I wrote you. This is due to the fact that I was away from Foochow during all of the spring term visiting among the alumni of the Anglo-Chinese College in the Philippines and in the Malay Peninsula, on a quest for \$40,000 for a science building.

It was during my absence, I think, that the action was taken to ask permission from the Trustees to open a department for women. I see it has been turned down very flatly, and I confess I am glad of it. I have pushed here some form of co-operation with Hua Ran until they took definite action that they would

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not unite with us. The ~~August~~ <sup>AUG 8</sup> 1929 definite and very firm. Time may change this attitude, but I think it will take considerable time. Even so, I think it would be unwise for us to admit women. The aim of the Church should be to see that both men and women are equally provided with opportunities for education. This is already true and it seems to me there could be no possible excuse, when we need money so badly, for us to incur the very great expense that would necessarily follow the admission of women. Even if money could be found I think it would be very unwise, for nearly all the women who would come to us would be from government schools, practically all non-Christian, and not of a type to have the best influence upon the men.

2. August 8, 1929

As you are already aware, President Lin is going ahead to rebuild the burned dormitory, making it into an Arts Hall. During my travels this spring, I tried

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on the side, to raise some money for the University, but was able to secure only \$1380 Mex. Subscriptions have been taken here among the missionaries and a few others outside, so that I think President Lin has enough money to finish the building. I fear he has nothing with which to furnish it. The most meager furnishing would cost about \$1500 gold. When I made my appeal to Mr. Jones for money to rebuild I included ~~\$4000 for furniture, and this amount would~~ <sup>four thousand dollars gold</sup> be necessary to do it adequately. It was absolutely necessary to get this building started and Mr. Lin is making a very brave effort under trying conditions. During all the efforts I made in America to secure money for the University, only three or four men on the Board of Trustees were ever approached. This was because I was usually after large sums and also

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because I realized ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~trustees~~ <sup>trustees</sup> had <sup>(47)</sup>  
their denominational benevolences to support.  
That is true of us missionaries here, but  
men and women of all denominations here have  
been approached to help with this rebuilding  
and have responded generously. This spring  
I secured one gift of \$1000 Mex. from Bishop  
Birney of our Church in China. Several of  
the missionaries here have given or raised  
\$500 Mex. each. Under these circumstances  
I am wondering if it is asking too much  
of the Trustees as individuals to do their  
best to provide the furniture for this  
building. In this I would not include  
the richer Trustees to whom one  
constantly appealing, but those who  
cannot afford to give largely or often,  
but who might be able to respond in  
an emergency of this kind, for a definite  
object. I should appreciate it if you  
would give them the opportunity, without  
~~unduly urging it~~ Appendix I

During the past few months I have  
often wondered what it meant for me

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to have charge of the property here. For instance, as you are now aware, Mr. Lin has gone ahead with the re-modelling of one of the double residences. I was away when this was done, but when I returned I took the matter up with him. My memory is that the Trustees had said this should not be done until there was money in hand to replace it with two residences. He tells me this is not so. With the furlongs that are due during the next two years I think there will be houses enough, but after that I fear there will be a congestion. Mr. Lin has secured one gift of \$10,000 ~~more~~ from a Chinese. Of this \$5000 has been paid and \$5000 more is promised for September. Mr. Wiant is preparing plans for one unit of a dormitory that will cost \$10,000, and this should be ready in September 1930, if not before. Mr. Lin has also authorized Mr. Wiant to prepare plans for a

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residence, the money for which he has from<sup>[6]</sup> some old balances. I should like the Trustees to understand that Mr. Lin is in a very difficult position. He has been almost forced to provide suitable dormitory accommodation. The old building where the boys now are is most unsuitable. What I fear is that pressure of circumstances and the rather irresponsible attitude of most of our Chinese towards debt, may result in Mr. Lin doing some things for which he does not have the money. Mr. Lin is much better than most Chinese in his attitude towards money, but a debt would not worry him as it would you or me. Fortunately he and I have the most cordial relations. I have talked with him very plainly on this subject and I have told our architect, Mr. Wiant, that I hope he will be absolutely sure that the money is available before he starts any building. Now what I want to know is this - Is it any business of mine to see that the President and the Board of Managers do not run the Trustees into debt by putting up buildings for

which sufficient funds may not be in hand? All that was said to me was that I was to have charge of the property. That is very indefinite, and I would appreciate more detailed instructions. I have not the slightest desire to interfere with Mr. Lin in any way, as I have done nothing about these enterprises though I have had serious misgivings. //

I hope you will do your utmost to get Miss Asher to return to the University next summer. I know she has plans for more extended education, but I am hoping she will be satisfied with this year at home. We have no more valuable member of the staff than Miss Asher.

I think Mr. Lin is feeling his burden to be very heavy. A few weeks ago he talked with me about resigning. He said he did not wish to do anything in a hurry that would embarrass the Board of Managers, and he was quite willing to carry on for a year.

or so, but he did ~~not~~ <sup>AUG 8 1929</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>1929</sup> might be <sup>81</sup>  
on the lookout for a successor. I confess I  
don't know where we should look to find  
any one who could approach him. He has  
the confidence of the missionary body very  
fully. Because of all this I hope the  
Trustees will do everything possible to  
show their sympathy and co-operation.

One thing should be done this year.  
No. 2. residence is too large for one family. The  
Trustees have given their consent to change  
it into a two-family house, but I think  
have not provided the money. Mr. Farley  
occupied this house and would not yield  
to my plan to have it remodelled. He is  
away now, and this change should be made  
before he returns. It is the cheapest way I  
know of to provide another residence! Before I  
close this letter I'll add the architect's  
estimate for the change.

With all good wishes

Cordially yours  
John Gowdy.



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TRANSFER

Fukien Christian University

September 9, 1929.

Dr. John Gowdy,  
Anglo-Chinese College,  
Focchow, China.

My dear Dr. Gowdy,

Your letter of August 8th arrived this morning. I hasten to reply.

We are glad to learn of your safe return to Focchow after such strenuous months of seeking funds for the Anglo-Chinese College and the University. On some distant day in the future when an Honor Roll is compiled of those who have rendered the greatest service to Christian higher education in China I hope they will place at the very top the names of those of you who have labored so unceasingly to secure the funds absolutely necessary to keep our educational institutions carrying on and growing. Money raising is the most trying, most thankless and most indispensable factor in missionary educational work.

Glad to have your comment on the proposal for the admission of women students to F.C.U. I certainly hope that our friends at Hwa Nan will change their attitude toward the proposals of the Council of Higher Education for the correlation of work at Hwa Nan and F.C.U.

Plant Financial Matters.

We are today authorizing Mr. McClure to draw the \$43,500. just received from Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Jones. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter I am writing Mr. McClure. I know that all of you on the field will rejoice at the news of this gift. We all recognize that it is due to a long period of faithful cultivation you have carried on both by letter and personal contact. I have felt that our office seemed lacking in its support of your appeal to Mr. and Mrs. Jones because we have been unable to send them any clear-cut statement showing that their original contribution for the construction of the Science Building was over-expended. Miss Asher and I are now sending Mr. McClure a detailed report covering our study of Fukien Plant accounts from the beginning to July 31, 1929. We have not been able to discover from our New York books the exact amount that has gone into the Science Building but so far as we are able to judge, the total

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Dr. John Gowdy

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expenditure is substantially less than the \$75,000 originally contributed by Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

I hope that this \$3,500. will both pay off the indebtedness to the Fukien Construction Bureau for work they did on the Science Building and will also leave a small balance for the completion of a few final pieces of work which Miss Asher tells me must still be done on the Science Hall. This contribution should also relieve our financial condition through releasing a part of the balances now in the hands of the Field Treasurer which we thought would have to be used to pay the outstanding debt to the Fukien Construction Bureau. During the week Miss Asher and I will make a study of these current balances in the Field Treasurer's hands, so far as we have received information regarding them, and will try to gain a general idea of how the University closed its fiscal year on July 31st. We will of course have no final figures until we receive the Field Treasurer's statement of how his accounts stood when the books were closed at the end of the fiscal year.

Dr. Chamberlain has indicated his warm interest in the suggestions in your earlier letters that we approach the Trustees for such personal contributions as they are able to make for the equipment of the Arts Hall and the meeting of other urgent plant needs. We have not as yet been able to agree, however, on any definite procedure in making this approach. The Trustees have been so widely scattered during the summer that we have been forced to delay action until this month. September has now begun and we should soon be taking some definite action. The two methods of approach would be to address letters to the Trustees or to bring the matter to their attention at the next meeting. Each method of approach has its advantages and its defects. I would like, if possible, to combine the two.

As I understand the situation, your most urgent needs are as follows:-

- \$1,500 to \$4,000 for furnishing the new Arts Hall,
- \$1,500 for remodelling Farley house into double residence,
- \$3,000 each for converting two double residences into student dormitories,
- \$3,500 each (more or less) for constructing four new single residences to replace double residences.

I believe that in addition to these needs the field is also seeking funds for new dormitories.

I hope that the Board of Trustees will be able to help out in some way in meeting at least the first two of the needs on the list. I will write more fully on the matter after Miss Asher and I have made a study of our Fukien financial situation.

#### Building Program.

At the next meeting of the Board of Trustees I will ask informally for their judgment as to just what they meant in stating that one of your duties

Dr. John Gowdy

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as Field Representative of the Board is to have charge of the University property on behalf of the Board. I will then write you their judgment. I am sure it is your desire that for the present at least no reference be made to the subject in the minutes or in official correspondence. I am sure it is quite safe to say that it was the general thought of the Trustees that they delegated to you as their representative the right to make decisions regarding plant matters affecting the interests of the Board of Trustees. Certainly, wherever any new construction work is planned or any remodelling of present buildings is contemplated, the administrative authorities of the University should confer with you and secure your advice and approval before going ahead. I am sure that wherever Mr. Lin has gone ahead too rapidly without consulting you it has been due simply to lack of a clear understanding of the changed relationships involved in the reorganization of the University. It will take time to work out clear understandings on all these matters. We will try to make the viewpoint of the Trustees clear in a manner that will not offend Mr. Lin by suggesting from time to time, either in minutes or in official correspondence that he consult with you before proceeding with building proposals under consideration.

You are quite right in your understanding that the Trustees have provided that remodelling of the double residences as dormitories should be undertaken only as funds are available for constructing new single residences to provide an equivalent amount of faculty accommodation. I am not sure why this is not clear in Mr. Lin's mind since the matter was clearly stated in the minutes of the meeting of the Fukien Trustees on January 8th and the covering letter we wrote on January 12th. In the minutes of the January 8th meeting, page 5, we find the following action:-

"T - 824 VOTED that the Board of Trustees records its general approval of the field's proposals in regard to the conversion of two double residences into student dormitories and the building of four single residences to care for the staff members now accommodated in these double residences, but understands that these changes will be undertaken only as the necessary funds are secured on the field."

In my covering letter to President Lin on January 12th, page 2, I commented as follows:-

"As regards the conversion of the two double residences into student dormitories, and the building of four single residences to accommodate the staff members now accommodated in these double residences, the Board of Trustees was quite happy to record its general approval. This was done with the understanding however that these changes will be made only as the field is able to secure the funds necessary to erect new residences as rapidly as the present double residences are converted to dormitory purposes and to provide the funds necessary for thus converting these residences into dormitories."

Dr. John Gowdy

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I believe I sent you a copy of my January 12th letter to Mr. Lin. I should certainly have done so and if the matter was overlooked apologies are in order. I am sure that you and Mr. Lin will be able to reach an understanding on these matters without my making any direct reference to them in my correspondence with Mr. Lin. Please let me know if at any time you feel that anything should be said in our correspondence with Mr. Lin to clarify in his mind the responsibilities the Trustees have placed on your shoulders. We are of course extremely cautious in emphasizing such matters as these for fear of offending our Chinese colleagues on the field but we are anxious on the other hand to avoid such vagueness as would cause misunderstandings.

Miss Asher's Plans.

We have been very much pleased to have Miss Asher with us in the office for a couple of weeks between the close of her summer school work and the opening of the autumn term. She was in the office last week and is here again this week. She has rendered extremely valuable service in helping us clear up a number of long standing plant difficulties and her presence has made it possible for us to talk over innumerable questions of policy and relationship. We have found Miss Asher both highly competent and an extremely delightful young woman. I can now begin to appreciate the feeling of the University that she is a most invaluable member of the staff. I have had one or two general conversations as regards her plans and believe there is a good prospect that she will arrange her studies so as to return to Fukien in the summer of 1930. We will do all we can to encourage her to follow such a course. I know, however, that she is unselfish in her planning and needs no encouragement to follow whatever course will seem to her to offer the greatest possibilities of Christian service both for the immediate and more distant future.

President Lin.

We can appreciate something of the tremendous burden Mr. Lin has been carrying ever since he assumed the presidency. Each of the Chinese presidents of our universities in China has been forced to carry an extremely heavy burden and we admire the way all of them have handled their tasks. No one has had any heavier burden than Mr. Lin. We certainly hope, however, that he will consent to carry on. If our Chinese presidents can at the very beginning set a record of patient endurance in the face of heavy obstacles it will mean much for the future of all our China colleges. Should it happen, however, that several of them resign in the face of these difficulties it would encourage their successors to yield to the Chinese tendency of resigning rather quickly when difficulties become too heavy or criticism too pronounced. I have tried to keep before our Trustees at all times the urgent necessity of upholding Mr. Lin in every possible way in these times when his burden is already so difficult. We will bring the situation to their attention again whenever the opportunity offers.

Give my warmest regards to Mrs. Gowdy. My wife often mentions both of you and I know would be happy to join me in sending greetings.

Very cordially yours,

*W. A. Laidlaw*

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Enc.

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FUKIEN  
Fukien Christian University

September 30, 1929

Dr. John Cowdy,  
Fukien Christian University  
Foochow, China.

My dear Dr. Cowdy:

We are enclosing herewith the minutes of the Fukien meeting held on September 25, together with a copy of a letter addressed to President Lin, commenting on the minutes of the meeting.

I hope the actions taken by the Trustees in appropriating available funds for additions to the 1929 budget and for equipping the Arts Hall and remodeling the Farley Residence will materially relieve the financial pressure under which you have been working. When we receive the Field Treasurer's report for the year ending July 31, the Trustees may find that there are other balances available which can properly be allocated to meet some of your urgent needs.

You will notice the action taken by the meeting requesting you, as field representative of the Trustees, to consult from time to time with the field authorities to insure that building operations be carried forward no faster than funds are available. The Trustees were anxious to phrase this minute in a way that would cause no misunderstanding or embarrassment on the field, but would, at the same time, re-emphasize the fact that the Trustees look to you as their field representative to safeguard the capital interests of the Trustees and to avoid the creation of any serious deficits in building operations for which they would later be responsible.

With warmest good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

*B. A. Garside*

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FUKIEN

TRANSFER

Fukien Christian University

October 4, 1929

Dr. John Gowdy,  
Anglo-Chinese College,  
Foochow, China.

My dear Dr. Gowdy:

One important question growing out of the reorganization of Fukien Christian University which has not as yet been entirely clarified is that of the status of the Western members of the University staff. A similar question has arisen in some of the other Universities. It will, of course, take some time to get these new relationships completely clarified, but the matter is of particular importance to Fukien this year because of the fact that a number of your Western members of the staff are now on furlough and are facing the question of their return to the field to conditions very much different from what existed when they went out five years or so ago.

The fundamental question is this:- How far is the Board of Trustees (or Founders) responsible for the appointment and support of Western members of the staff and how far is the Board of Directors responsible? There is a marked difference in the lines being followed by various of our Universities.

The Lingnan Method - Lingnan University has a very clear understanding that the Board of Trustees here in America is entirely responsible for the appointment and the support of Western members of staff, and to a large extent for all personal and financial questions affecting such members of the staff. The Board of Directors in China make formal requests to the Board of Trustees, or to Dr. James Henry as the Field Representative of the Trustees, for the appointment of the Western members of the staff. Acting on the basis of these requests, the Trustees find and appoint such staff members. At the time of appointment, the staff member enters into an agreement with the Board of Trustees covering the details of his salary, allowances, and term of service. The Trustees pay his travel expenses to and from the field, and even go so far as to send out from New York the monthly salary checks which are forwarded in a batch to Dr. Henry and by him distributed to the staff members. Any questions affecting the salary, allowances, or privileges of the Western members of the staff are passed on to Dr. Henry and are decided by him or forwarded to the Trustees for a decision. I presume that if any Western member of the staff should prove to be unsatisfactory to the Chinese

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administrative officers of the University, this fact would be communicated to Dr. Henry or the Trustees and suitable action would be taken. I believe that some modus operandi has been worked out in a way satisfactory to everyone. I do not know the details of actual internal administration on the Lingnan campus. I am sure you are more familiar with this than any of us here in America.

The Method at Fukien and Nanking - (Fukien and Nanking have gone ahead somewhat further in their reorganization than have Yenching and Chealoo. However, the two northern Universities are proceeding along somewhat the same lines, so what I say of Fukien and Nanking will apply to some extent at least to Yenching and Chealoo). Neither Fukien nor Nanking has as yet worked out a clearly defined policy as to the relationships of the foreign staff. In each of these institutions their foreign staff is divided into two groups, those supported by cooperating Boards and those supported by the University direct. The mission supported group is in each case the larger, particularly in case of Nanking. So far as the mission supported foreign staff are concerned, the problem is not quite so vital for they continue still to rely upon the large missionary organizations supporting them and have better reason to feel that, if for any cause their connection with the University is severed, their mission would be likely to continue their support and to assign them to work elsewhere.

The problem of the smaller group supported by the University direct is a more acute one. Our college Boards of Trustees in America each support only one institution and do not have quite the same permanent character or the large resources of the Mission Boards. Also these college boards have not formulated so clearly defined a policy as to their relationships with staff members. Until the present time the Boards of Trustees of these two institutions have not thought through carefully all the implications of the reorganization of the Universities. They have not attempted to redefine the relationships of the staff members under the new order. We have in general agreed that the Board of Directors should have greatly increased responsibilities and should perform most functions hitherto falling upon the Trustees. That is about as far as they have gone. I presume that the Boards of Directors too have not as yet completed the formulation of their new policy and have not reached decisions as to the exact nature of their relationship with the foreign personnel on the University staff.

From conversations with the University supported staff, both in Nanking and in Fukien, and from correspondence I have seen or have heard about during the last two years, I have gained the impression that many of our foreign workers at these two Universities are rather uncertain as to their present status and their future prospects. There seems to be a real danger that some of our most valuable workers may be lost unless a more definite and substantial policy can be formulated without too great delay. I am not in sufficiently intimate touch with the situation at Fukien to form any accurate judgment as to the problem of the University supported staff there and must look to you for guidance in regard to them.

What do you feel should be the general policy to be adopted by

the Trustees and the Board of Directors. Should we follow the Lingnan method and place this foreign personnel almost wholly under the Board of Trustees? Should we adopt the opposite policy and place them under the Board of Directors on practically the same basis as are the Chinese members of staff? Should we adopt some intermediate policy, and if so, just what should it be?

I am raising all these questions in a very tentative and informal way because I am anxious to get your judgment in regard to them. I plan to write Dr. Bowen in Nanking a somewhat similar letter. If you feel that the best thing to do is for us to let things work themselves out as they will without too much effort to guide tendencies, we will be glad to follow your judgment. If, on the other hand, you think it would be wise for our Trustees in America to take active steps in formulating a new policy as to their relationship with University supported foreign personnel, we need your suggestions as to how we should proceed.

Very cordially yours,

*W. A. H. H. H.*

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ANGLO-CHINESE COLLEGE  
FOOCHOW, CHINA

Dr. John Gowdy  
official representative  
of the  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 1, 1929.

My dear Garside:-

You will have from President Lin the account of the annual meeting of the Board of Managers, so I shall not go into that. Since then, however, a very important letter has come from you. After its receipt I went down to the University and went over some property matters with Mr. Lin.

I should like to say a word about the double house that has been made into a dormitory. Technically Mr. Lin may have disobeyed the Trustees, in doing this when he had money for only one residence to replace it, but under the conditions existing here, and considering only the best interests of the University, I don't see how he could have done anything else.

I think the Trustees would have approved if they had felt the pressure that was upon Mr. Lin. You know what a horror I have of debt, yet I feel that Mr. Lin did the right thing and I do hope the Trustees will approve. The conditions here are unspeakably difficult just now, because of the condition of the country, and we have to adjust ourselves to those conditions as well as we can.

The Trustees anticipated our asking for the gain on exchange and generously granted it. And in addition comes the \$2800 gold for the remodelling of the Farley house and for furniture for the Arts Hall. A new and unexpected situation has arisen on which we shall have to claim your indulgence. As you know, there is no road between Foochow and the University. We are entirely dependent on the river, with the result that there is a tremendous loss of time. A new road has been started and we are assured will be completed inside of four months.

Our land at the University goes to the edge of the river, so the new road will run through our land in front of the University. There will at once be a large traffic, and motor buses will run along that road. A fence becomes imperative, and it will cost about \$2000 Max., almost exactly the amount necessary for the remodelling of the Farley house. Just at present there are in this house Mr. and Mrs. Wang and four children Mr. and Mrs. Kao and four children and Mr. and Mrs. Chu. They are perfectly happy together, and being in one house they are able to divide servants. They do not desire any change. Such a condition would be almost impossible with foreign families.

Mr. Lin and I both feel so deeply the generosity of the Trustees that we do not feel like asking them for emergency money for the fence, but ask instead that the money intended for the Farley house be used for the fence. By the changed conditions, the fence has become imperative and the house is not so imperative as it was. I fear you will think we are very fickle, but it is not we who are changing but the conditions under which we live.

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If the Trustees would permit this change we would be very grateful. We must have the fence anyhow! Most of the \$2800 gold will be used for the furniture as directed. There has been before the Trustees for some time a request for \$6000 Mex. to remove graves and buy some extra land. If you could put this on the docket to try to give us next year we would appreciate it very much. The most imperative need just now is \$14,000 Mex. for a double residence for the Suttons and Farleys when they return next autumn. That building ought to be started now, if it is to be ready.

With the splendid exchange prevailing just now, \$6000 gold would do that and that is a small sum with which to furnish two residences. How I wish some one could be found to do this! I really don't know where Mr. Lin will put his families next autumn, if he does not get a double house at once. There are four young professors, bachelors, living together just now, all returned students, and you know as well as I that now that these men are all earning enough to support a family, they may all be married in a few months. The housing situation is really acute.

Less pressing needs, yet looming not very far distant are:

\$20,000.00 Mex.	to complete the quadrangular dormitory of which the front, or first unit is now being started and for which Mr. Lin got \$10,000.00 from a Chinese.
\$ 5,000.00	to remodel the second double residence into a dormitory and
\$14,000.00	to build another double house to replace the above and
\$14,000.00	for another double residences.

It is a pity this money could not be secured at once when exchange is so much in our favor.

The new dormitory made from the double residence is splendid. The inside is completely changed and in every way adapted to its purpose. It houses about 57 students and instructors, I understand.

We have a very excellent piece of land on which the proposed three double residences can be placed.

The University is getting along splendidly, and I must confess I am greatly pleased. Has President Lin written you that he was married this summer? I wish that the Trustees could take a little notice of that by a word of good wishes. Mrs. Lin is a graduate of John Hopkins Medical College and is a charming and capable woman. They were married in Shanghai and as soon as possible after their return Mrs. Gowdy and I gave a dinner in their honor. We have tried to make Mrs. Lin feel at home with us, as he has been accustomed to do, and to make our home their headquarters when they are in Foochow. You may easily understand what a great financial sacrifice it is for Mr. Lin to stay here. In a government institution his wife would also be getting a big salary. It is because of this that I wish the Trustees might take notice of his marriage and send best wishes.

During these trying times here, the heads of our various mission schools, who are all young Chinese returned students, all look to President Lin for leadership. Whenever a crisis arises, and that is not infrequent, these administrators have a meeting with President Lin and they decide upon a course of action and work in unison. In this way alone, through

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Mr. Lin's leadership, the University is making a large contribution to the Christian education in this province. It has become a commonplace now to hear one of these leaders say "Let us wait and see what the University will do". The Commissioner of Education for this province is a man whom President Lin knows intimately, with whom he studied in America, and to whom he does not hesitate to say what he thinks. He has very great influence with the Commissioner and that is a great help to all the other schools who use Mr. Lin as spokesman.

One thing was felt very keenly at the annual meeting. We have been waiting patiently and doing practically nothing as far as an aggressive financial campaign is concerned, until the people in East China, around Shanghai could come to some agreement. They do not seem to be able to do this, and it looks as if we could not wait much longer. This term there are 142 students, and it now looks as if next term we would have more than we have ever had. An increased student body means more teachers, more residences and more dormitories. We all felt we wished the Trustees would go ahead quietly just as Yenching did last year, and try to get funds to meet these needs that are pushing us. If the united campaign develops, it will not be hurt by any gum-shooting we may do now. I am sure the Trustees will see that something should be done at once.

With cordial good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) John Cowdy

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