

116 2500

UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

FUKIEN

Corres.

Lin, Ching-jun 1937

1
1
5
2
5
0
0

0323

11

OBSERVATIONS BY PROFESSOR ELISSEEFF
ON THE WORK OF THE SIX AFFILIATED UNIVERSITIES
BASED ON HIS VISIT TO CHINA DURING 1936-37

(Taken from the Minutes of the November 8th
meeting of the Harvard-Yenching Institute)

"The Director presented the report of Yenching University for the year 1936-37, and gave the following information concerning his visit to Yenching: He lived for five days with President Stuart, afterwards made several visits to Yenching, and also took part in the Commencement exercises. From President Stuart, Professor Hung and Professor Ku Chieh-kan, he received the impression that, in order to attract more students and to make Yenching different from the national universities, they would like to have more courses in the various languages that are so important for historical studies; that Professor Hung has found a professor for Russian; and was looking for a man to teach Manchu; and was eager to have a teacher of Mongolian. The Director delivered a lecture on the methods used in Chinese studies and pointed out the importance of a knowledge of China's neighbors for the understanding of the development of Chinese history. He said that changes have been made in the staff of Yenching so as to increase the interest and stimulate the activity of Chinese studies, and that, although the special field of the new President, Mr. Luh, is psychology, he is deeply interested in the problem of language. The new Dean of the Department of Chinese Literature is a young Chinese scholar, Lu Kan-ju, who took his Ph. D. degree in Paris, was trained by Granet, Maspero, and Pelliot, and speaks French fluently. In order to have another man in linguistics, Dr. Stuart arranged with the French Ambassador to send a young Chinese interested in linguistics, Kan Ming-k'ai, to Paris; and also succeeded in obtaining a fellowship from the French Government for him. The Director added that the whole trend at Yenching is to reinforce as much as possible training in the different languages, which he considered a wise program, since it would put Yenching on a different level from the other universities and would attract more students.

The Library at Yenching is in very good shape, the Director said, although it is crowded, and its only lack is in the most important series in Western languages. Professor Hung asked the Director if it would not be possible to have a special subsidy to reinforce this section, which he considered a sensible request, since the other libraries in Peking are also very poor in Western books. He thought it was needless for him to say that the publications of Yenching University are of high academic standard and are valuable contributions to Chinese history. The work on the indices is being constantly improved by the criticisms which have been made by different scholars, and each publication is better than the preceding one. That fact was recognized by the French Academy, which granted the Prix Stanislas Julien to Professor Hung.

The Director next presented the report of Fukien Christian University for 1936-37, which he said complied in every way with the requirements of the Trustees. In addition to the preliminary report which he sent from China to the last meeting of the Trustees, the Director added that he was surprised to find out from the report of the university that the Institute is subventioning courses on European diplomacy, on social pathology, social origins and evolution, and on the history of social thoughts; that out of a total of \$1,036.47 for the library, \$209.52 was spent on books on history and sociology. He was also surprised to learn from Mr. Farley, one of the very active members of the Faculty who is interested in Chinese studies and who collection of Chinese art and archaeology the University uses for the courses on history and archaeology, is receiving LC\$9,899.95 this year, and yet practically all his teaching is in English with about fifteen hours of instruction a week. The Director said he did not understand why a university should use a man for the teaching of English who would be more helpful in archaeological work and who would be able to give a course on Chinese relations with foreign countries or on Chinese archaeology. He said he would write to President Lin

0324

1936-1937

[2]

about these courses and ask him whether it would not be possible to spend more money for purely Chinese studies.

The Director informed the Trustees that the report of Shantung Christian University for 1936-37 had been received. During his visit in Tsinan, he was much impressed by the improvement which had been made in the library, where, in contrast to three years ago, he found they now have a very important collection of valuable books. Acquisitions have been made systematically, and good selections have been made of the different local histories which describe the counties of Shantung Province. The Chinese Library now occupies two large rooms in the main library building. Professor Menzies' archaeological collection is displayed in a very systematic and up-to-date manner in four rooms there, each room representing a certain historical period, which enables the visitor or student to see the chronological development of Chinese bronze and ceramic handicraft. Many objects are of great archaeological value, and, while the collection is not large, it represents a good selection of objects of practically every historical period.

The Director said that the new President, Mr. Liu (a graduate of Harvard in international law) is much interested in developing the Department of Chinese at Shantung; that in a letter, dated June 23, 1937, the President asked him to appeal to the Trustees to enable Shantung to secure a good man for the teaching of geography and another for research in Buddhism, for each of whom salaries of US\$2,500 would be needed. The Director felt that, before money for such projects is given, he should know who the men are who are to do the teaching and what their backgrounds are. He felt that it was natural that they should want to have a teacher of Buddhism at Shantung, because that province was the important center of Buddhism, and around Tsinan there are still monuments of Buddhist sculpture. He thought the university should educate a man and then send him to Harvard so that he may have a good training in Sanskrit.

The Director added that President Liu also stated in his letter that the books which have already been added to the library, and which they hope to add during the next year or so, have used up a great deal of shelf space and they are finding it necessary at the University to convert to the use of the library the rooms which had been arranged by Dr. Menzies as a museum. The sum of US\$10,000 would enable them to build a much more suitable room to house the interesting collection of specimens which will form the nucleus of the Sinological Museum and also to provide a suitable place for the collection of the publications of the Harvard-Yenching Institute. The Director said that he had informed the President that he was not against the principle involved, but that he did not know whether the Trustees would be willing to give money for a building, since their general policy has been not to subsidize building projects.

Reporting on his visit to West China Union University, the Director said that he stayed in Chengtu two weeks with Professor Graham; practically every day he had a talk with some members of the staff and had several meetings with different committees. The first thing which astonished him was that some members of the staff think that in each affiliated university a Harvard-Yenching Institute must be established; that the idea is so strong in their minds that Dr. Graham wrote in his report that he met members of the "Harvard-Yenching Institute" at Nanking University, in spite of the fact that at Nanking they have an Institute of Chinese Cultural Studies; and in another part of the report Dr. Graham referred to the members of the "Harvard-Yenching Institute Committee" of West China Union University. The Director said he explained to them that the Institute has one office only in China, at Yenching University, and that the Institute located in Cambridge. He said there was also a misunderstanding in regard to publications; they thought that every publication of theirs should contain a statement that it was made by the Institute instead of from a subsidy of the Institute's funds. At a

0325

1936-1937

[3]

committee meeting at which the Acting President, Professor Lindsay, was present, the Director explained that the money was given, not to a special committee or group, but to West China Union University for its Department of Chinese.

The Director felt that the difficulty in educational problems at West China is that the preparation of the students is very inadequate; some students from wealthy families have a good knowledge of Chinese, while others who come from the local schools have a very poor knowledge of it, a situation which makes it difficult for the teacher to explain Chinese texts. All the teaching is done in the traditional manner, which goes no farther than well-established commentaries on classical texts. During his visit to Chongtu in the spring of 1935, Professor Porter realized this weak point in the staff of the university and recommended to them a graduate of Yenching, Mr Chong Te-k'un, who had had two years teaching in Amoy. The schedule of classes shows that there are many instructors who give only two hours a week to teaching, and the number of the staff is consequently large, 15 teachers for 32 students.

The Director thought that every university should be asked to send him a list of all new candidates for appointment to professorships, with a statement of their academic careers, which would give him an opportunity to have general oversight of the teaching staff, and also would prevent the appointment of people merely because of their political or other influence. He said that his visit to different classes and his talk with professors only reinforced his opinion that the teaching of Chinese at West China is of college grade but that no true research work can be done by the staff. The Journal that is published is a collection of essays, written in beautiful Chinese, but without any scientific value.

The library lacks many important collections and desirable books. The money which has been given to the University by the Institute has been expended for other things, and the library has not received enough consideration. It is not used sufficiently by the students, not only because the old-fashioned staff has not encouraged the students to use it, but also because there are so many gaps in important works. The museum is temporarily located in the library. The Director pointed out to them that more planning should be done in regard to their purchasing, and asked Dr. Graham to prepare a catalogue of the museum.

The Chinese teachers are being paid on a very low basis, which makes it difficult to obtain good professors, since they prefer to go to the national universities rather than to stay with the missionary universities, where they are paid salaries out of all proportion to those the missionaries receive.

The Director recalled to the Trustees the fact that the five year period during which they permitted Dr. Graham's support to be provided from a surplus of \$20,000 received from the Restricted Income of the Institute that West China has on hand, terminated on April 30, 1937; and that they voted on April 12, 1937, that Dr. Graham's salary should be paid for six months from the end of that time, pending the Director's decision after his visit to China, as to whether Dr. Graham should be retained, and at what rate of pay. He stated that Dr. Graham has received \$1500 for the six months which ended October 31, 1937. In order not to give up the work which has already been begun at the museum, the Director recommended the appointment of Dr. Graham for ten months more, at a salary of \$2500, which will take care of him through August, 1938, and that Dr. Graham should be informed that his connection with the Institute will then terminate. He stated that Mr. Garside has informed him that there is a sufficient balance in the original fund of \$20,000 to pay for Dr. Graham's expenses coming home. The Director added that Dr. Graham should be asked to make a catalogue as soon as possible and send copies of what has already been done.

0326

1936-1937

[4]

In order to help raise the standards at the University, the Director further recommended that the Trustees vote that the Department of Chinese of West China make an appropriation in their budget for 1938-39 to send Mr. Cheng Te-k'un to Harvard for study.

The Director stated that, for the third consecutive year, no financial report was received from West China, although the general report was sent. He reminded the Trustees that they have voted -- and the universities have twice been told -- that, if reports were not received for the November meeting of the Trustees, payments of income from the Restricted Fund would be withheld until such reports were received. The Director further reminded the Trustees that the cutting off of one payment is of no effect, since the next payment is not due for several months and the universities have time to report to Cambridge before that. He definitely recommended that the two succeeding payments should be held up.

The Chairman expressed the opinion that the University should be advised that appropriations by the Institute must be combined with the University accounts.

The Director further stated that he delivered four lectures at West China; one on Chinese bronzes; one on the activities of the Harvard-Yenching Institute; one to the students on Chinese studies in general; and another to the Szechuan National University on methodology in Chinese studies. He added that he noticed that there is not a complete set of the Sinological Index Series at West China, and asked permission to inquire of Professor Hung as to whether he is sending the indices to all the affiliated universities in China, and, if not, to instruct him to send them free copies, and also to do the same for Hua Chung College.

The Director stated that no report was received from the University of Nanking for 1936-37. Concerning his visit to Nanking, he said that the situation there is somewhat different from that at the other institutions because of the special Institute of Chinese Cultural Studies, where they are continuing to do a good piece of work. The Journal and the several publications they issue are of high academic standard and give much information in regard to Chinese history and archaeology. While at the university, President Chen handed him a letter, dated May 28, 1937, in which he stated that the grant from the Institute has been of great help in the development of their Chinese courses and research in the historical side of Chinese cultural studies; that it is their aim to develop Chinese courses, including Chinese history, which will be outstanding for two things: first, to help train young men and women to become excellent teachers of the Chinese language, including cultural subjects; and second, to continue a moderate program of research that will strengthen the instruction as well as carry a well-rounded program of research in Chinese culture. With the letter, President Chen enclosed special projects for research which he felt would be of value in this development, and stated that they were anxious at Nanking to have outstanding, well-trained staff members who would be able to combine research with instruction. President Chen added that during the past few years the income assigned to the University has been maintained at US\$12,631.58, or about US\$3,000 less than the grant of the first few years that during the years when exchange was high they were able to purchase a good many books on Chinese cultural subjects, but of late years the regular program has made it impossible to allow very much for the purchase of books. If conditions are sufficiently improved to allow the income to be restored to the original figure of about \$15,000, they would like to use the difference between the present amount and the restored amount for the purchase of books and to have this difference, amounting to about \$3,000 definitely designated for this purpose. President Chen realized, however, that this might not be possible and had included in his requests an item of US\$2,000 for books.

The consensus of opinion among the Trustees was that action on all these projects should await more favorable conditions in China.

0327

1936-1937

[5]

The Director stated that no report for 1936-37 was received from Lingnan University. Concerning his visit to Lingnan, he said that his stay there was not very long because of his illness, but that he had an opportunity to inspect the library and to have a talk with the members of the Chinese Department and with Provost Henry. The library is still weak in Chinese Books, as well as in Western Books on sinology; the most important works are lacking and the people in charge of the library are not even familiar with the newest publications. He added that the teaching of Chinese has always been regarded at Lingnan as of secondary importance, and that is why it has never been raised to a scholarly standard. The teachers are more interested in traditional literary essays than in scholarly work in history or language. This was strongly felt by members of the university, and to improve the situation they sent one of their history teachers, Mr. Huang, to Cambridge and have paid his living and traveling expenses for one year. The Director told the Provost that, if Mr. Huang's work is very satisfactory, he would be willing to recommend a fellowship for next year. The Director further told the Provost that he was astonished that the Institute's contribution to Lingnan is mostly spent for the traveling expenses of the foreign members of the staff, and Mr. Henry promised to call the matter to the attention of the faculty.

Dr. North explained that that represented the conditions under which Lingnan operates; that the American budget was to be one thing and the Chinese another, and they would not interlock.

The Director informed the Trustees that he spent four days at Wuchang visiting Hua Chung College; that he delivered a lecture there on methodology in Chinese studies and was much impressed by the work that is being done in the institution. He said that President Wei had sent him a letter, dated June 18, 1937, in which he applied to the Trustees for a grant-in-aid to strengthen the Department of Chinese Literature and History in the College for the teaching of Chinese literature and history and to make possible some research in these fields. At present they have three full-time teachers in Chinese Literature and one in Chinese History; and, while they are able to offer the necessary courses, they are too short-handed to undertake much research work in Chinese studies, as they are doing in other departments in the college. This is a handicap even in the undergraduate teaching, because they are making the senior year a year of training in research in most of the departments, with the hope that their graduates may carry on independent study after their graduation from college. The great majority of students in China cannot afford to spend time in taking post-graduate courses. President Wei further wrote that, owing to their limited resources, they have not been able to build up their library for study and research in Chinese literature and history, and he reminded the Trustees that two years ago, when the College had the hope of having the Williams collection of books in New Haven immediately transported to Wuchang as a bequest to the College of Yale-in-China (to which Hua Chung is the successor), the Trustees voted to grant Hua Chung for 1935-36 and for four succeeding years annually thereafter the sum of US\$500 for the purpose of furnishing care and upkeep for the collection. As they have not been able to complete their new college buildings as soon as they expected so as to fulfill the condition of a fireproof building to house the collection, the grant has not been paid to the College. They are now erecting a group of buildings, one of which is the library, and another the Proctor Memorial Hall for the School of Arts. In either of these buildings, both fireproof, they would be able to fulfill the condition of the Trustees' grant when the Williams collection is sent out to Wuchang. In view of all these needs, President Wei applied to the Trustees for an annual grant amounting to LC\$12,000. The Director stated that the matter was taken up by the Educational Committee, who favored recommending to the Trustees that a grant of US\$4,000 be made to Hua Chung College for 1938-39.

Dr. North thought that the present situation gives that action all the more point, since the enrollment at Hua Chung has been practically doubled because the College has had to take care of government students."

0328

INDEXED

FUKIEN

February 8, 1957

Dr. C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

Dear Dr. Lin:

Thank you for your letter of December 28th, and for your approval of the plan as outlined by Mr. McClure covering remittances to the field.

I have written to him and need not repeat all that I have said in that letter, but nevertheless wish to let you know that we are in sympathy with this procedure and can see no reason why it should not be approved by the Board. It certainly would eliminate a lot of misunderstandings and adjustments. We have suggested that the request come through when the budget is set up for the coming year, and we trust this will be received in time for the spring meeting of the Board.

I have just come from the office of Dr. B. D. Willenbrock, with whom you spent some time when you were here in the States. Every time I see him he asks how you are getting on and wishes to be remembered.

About ten days ago I left Mrs. Evans in O'Farrell's Drug Store while I went up for the car; and when I returned, she was in deep conversation with Dr. Buttrick. She in turn wanted to be remembered to you and asked how Fukien and you all were getting on. You will see, therefore, your old friends do not forget you, and that there is continued interest in your welfare.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Lin, I am

Sincerely yours,

C. A. Evans

CAE:RC

0329

ucke

FUKIEN

FUKIEN

INDEXED

February 16, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

My dear Dr. Lin:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 28th. This deals chiefly with various financial matters.

General Financial Matters. During the last couple of months the financial position of our Fukien Trustees has improved somewhat. One of the happenings which brought us the greatest encouragement was the payment on December 21st of \$7.25 in back dividends by the Aluminum Company of America. On our 200 shares of preferred stock this amounted to \$1,450. There still remains outstanding \$9 per share, or \$1,800 on our 200 shares. There seems grounds for hope that some or all of this remainder of back dividends may be paid by the Company during 1937. At a meeting held on February 2nd, our Executive Committee decided that the wisest use of the \$1,450 is to apply it against the heavy deficits which the Trustees are now carrying. It seemed wise also to use the remaining \$1,800 whenever it comes in for this same purpose.

This payment of back dividends on Aluminum preferred stock was also of great benefit to all of our China Colleges through the additional income it gave to the Harvard-Yenching Institute. The Institute was able to clear off the advance made from its general funds to the Restricted Account, and to leave \$25,250 surplus in that account for whatever uses might be mutually agreed upon between the Institute Trustees and the representatives of the six beneficiary Colleges in China. The Boards of Trustees of some of our Colleges are inclined to recommend that this surplus, together with any further surplus accruing from additional payments of back dividends on the Aluminum preferred stock held by the Institute be set up by the Institute as a reserve fund to guard against future reductions in payments to the individual Colleges. Our Fukien Trustees are inclined to prefer, however, that our pro rata share of the \$25,250 be used to help in clearing off the deficits which still remain. Within the next few weeks we will have a conference of representatives of each of these Colleges to decide what recommendations should be made to the Trustees of the Institute.

Promotional Efforts. Our Fukien promotional committee has not been as active as it should have been during recent months. At the annual meeting last spring Mr. Sites was elected Chairman of the Committee.

0330

February 16, 1937

We have not been very successful in getting him actively at work. Dr. E. G. Warner, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee has been much more active both in our Fukien Board and as our representative on our Associated Boards Committee on Promotion. But unfortunately Dr. Warner has been ill during the last month or so, so the plans we have made for beginning some vigorous efforts in January had to be postponed. We understand that Dr. Warner is now beginning to get about again and we hope that we can soon get the Committee together.

Meantime, the promotional representatives of the Associated Boards have been seeing the friends on our Fukien cultivation list in all the communities where they have been at work. We sent out just before Christmas a mailing to all the names on our Fukien lists whom we would not be able to see in person at the present time. This appeal brought in a fair amount of new gifts, though the total was not very large. Several of our Fukien Trustees have made personal gifts during the last month or so. The largest of these have been two gifts from Dr. Hill, the first of \$1,000 and the second for \$2,000. When Dr. Hill sent his second gift of \$2,000 he stated that he had no special suggestion as to the designation, but intimated that he would like to have it used for current purposes. I asked him whether he would like to see this gift connected in any way with Dr. W. Y. Chen's department of work, since Dr. Hill supported that department for a number of years. Dr. Hill replied that he was anxious to see this department continue to prosper and to have Dr. Chen retained by the University, so he would be quite willing to see the \$2,000 used in this way but he shrewdly added a warning that we should not consider this gift as the beginning of a regular contribution toward Dr. Chen's salary. I frankly hope that, now that the depression seems to be about over, Dr. and Mrs. Hill will be able to resume the generous contribution they made toward the Fukien budget for so many years. Tying these gifts up with Dr. Chen's work might help to encourage the resumption of their contribution. But we should perhaps not press this too vigorously right now. We would like to have your advice on the possibility and desirability of allocating this latest \$2,000 from Dr. Hill for the support of Dr. Chen and his department.

We understand that Dr. Chen is giving at least the major part of his time to preparations for the Hangchow Conference next year, and I suppose that for the present he is able to give little or no attention to teaching work at FCU. But we are very anxious that he be restored to Fukien Christian University as soon as the Hangchow Conference is over if that be at all possible and in line with his larger service to the Christian enterprise in China. Would the assurance of support from Dr. and Mrs. Hill help to keep him at Fukien Christian University?

Our Fukien Trustees are focusing their promotional efforts this year toward securing, in cooperation with the Associated Boards, as much as possible of the \$14,000 listed in the preferred objectives of the Associated Boards as needed for current purposes at Fukien Christian University. If we can secure this \$14,000 it would enable us to provide not only the US\$3,250 which the Trustees are pledging from new gifts toward the University budget for 1936-37, but would enable us to wipe off the deficits which have been such a heavy handicap during the last few years. We are, of course, counting all gifts for current purposes as within this objective of \$14,000 and are making such adjustments as are necessary in order to do this. Up to the

V February 16, 1937

present, we have secured a little less than US\$5,000, so we still have a long way to go to complete the \$14,000.

Just before Christmas we sent you twenty-five copies of the small booklet published by our Fukien Trustees, "Three Wise Men - And A Star". We thought we had checked carefully all the incidents described in the booklet, but we discovered soon after the edition was off the press that we had inadvertently ascribed to Dr. W. I. Chen an incident which had occurred instead to another young minister in Fukien back in 1927. We therefore revised this section of the booklet and had another edition printed in which this mistake was corrected. We did not discover the error until just after we had mailed you twenty-five copies of the original edition. A little later on, after the new edition was off the press, we sent you another supply of twenty-five copies of the revised form. I am afraid I failed to write you, as I intended to do at that time, telling you of the reasons for this change. I am sure that if you read over the first copies of the book, you will notice this inaccuracy on pages two and three. We trust that the revised edition is correct in all the facts stated. We had the material gone over carefully by several of our Trustees who know Fukien and all three of the men described in the booklet, and hope that no other errors slipped by us.

This little booklet has met with a very favorable response here in America, not only among our Fukien constituency but also among the constituency of our China Colleges generally. If you need any additional copies, we would be glad to supply them.

We are glad that you sent out the Christmas calendars to all the friends on our Fukien mailing list. As yet I have not seen a copy of your annual report but no doubt that will be arriving in due course.

We note that Professor Sutton, and possibly Professor Farley, will be on furlough during 1937-38. We will keep them in mind as we make our Fukien promotional plans and will try to use them whenever possible. But we realize that it is very difficult for furloughed members of staff who are anxious to devote the major part of their time to further study to undertake very much effective promotional work in addition.

While we are far from having found the solution to our problems of financial support at Fukien Christian University, we are encouraged at the progress made during recent months. If economic conditions in America continue to become more prosperous, and if both the Fukien Trustees and the Associated Boards can continue to go forward in their promotional efforts, the critical financial situation should be gradually relieved. Meantime, however, there will still be the same need for all of us to exercise a maximum of care and economy - and at many points real sacrifice.

Status of Funds for Library Building. Since our Trustees' difficulty in providing the full amount of the \$20,000 set aside for the Library Building has been due to the heavy deficits in the current sections of our accounts, the progress we have made toward clearing those deficits has been having a favorable effect upon the funds available for the Library Building. At the present time we could, by disposing of the securities held in the plant section, produce somewhat more than \$15,000 of the total \$20,000

0332

President Lin

February 16, 1937

required. We are trying to push ahead with our promotional work, and with the clearance of our deficits, to the point where the balance of the \$20,000 can be made available whenever needed by the field. We will await your report from the field whenever you have \$5,000 of the amount required for furnishings and equipment.

College of Rural Reconstruction. We are glad to note that the various matters in this phase of the work, which we have been discussing during recent months seem to be working out happily. We will await further word from you after the meeting of the Council of Higher Education being held this month.

Very cordially yours,

B. J. Janside

BAG:MP

0333

1
1
6
2
5
0
0

FUKIEN

March 8, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

My dear President Lin:

Here is a piece of promotional material gotten out by the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association which we, in this office, think is unusually effective. With some modifications it could well be adapted to the American Promotional Program of the China Christian Colleges. I am writing each of the Colleges listed on this letterhead asking them to:

1. Select two of their best students to write an article of similar character and length about their life in the University. It should, of course, be briefly biographical, giving something of their home background, and then touch on their interest in the University and what they propose to do when they have finished their University training - in short, take the same ideas that are incorporated in the enclosed booklet and apply them to the University.
2. Have good photographs with proper lighting from which cuts may be made.
3. Have them sign the article both in Chinese and English. These signatures should be on a separate piece of white paper and made in black ink so that they will photograph properly for a signature block.
4. Will you please give this immediate attention so that we may have the materials back from all of the Colleges as quickly as possible?

The idea is to have one attractive piece of publicity for mailing which will include the work of the eleven Colleges.

The purpose of our asking for two articles is that when the booklet has been completed we hope to have it include practically all phases of the work done by the various Colleges, and since it may be that some of the articles will overlap, we thought best to have two from each University - thus enabling us to select the one best adapted to our purpose. The one which is not included in the booklet will doubtless be used in some other type of promotion.

Thanking you sincerely for your cooperation in this matter, I am

Sincerely yours,

GCA/B
HCC.

George C. Aydelett.

0334

學大和協建福立私

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCHOW"

FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

CODE:
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

March 24, 1937

Arch 5/28/37

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

FUKIEN

Dear Dr. Garside:

This is to report to you the recent visits on the campus of Professor Serge Elisseeff, and Mr. J. Gurney Barclay of the Church Missionary Society.

The enclosed copy of my letter to Dean Chase will give you the general outline of Professor Elisseeff's schedule while he was on our campus. We found him to be a very pleasant man. Mrs. Elisseeff is a very charming lady. She made a few sketches of the scenes on our campus, although it was raining for the most part throughout the week they were here. Prof. Elisseeff was troubled by his neck so he dared not exert himself too much, but he did see and meet most of the places and people here which were of special interest to his mission.

Prof. Elisseeff complimented us that we probably made the best report received by the Institute. He desires to have all the reports to the Institute in Cambridge around the first of October. We shall have our report in by that time, although I told him that it was rather difficult to collect the material during the summer months from the various faculty members who are mostly away for trips or research work in other parts of the country. We are planning to get them to write their separate reports to me before the close of the semester.

Prof. Elisseeff was really impressed by the work of our Chinese staff here. He suggested himself that he would make a strong recommendation to the Harvard-Yenching Institute Trustees on his return to Cambridge next September to help us to the amount of about US\$10,000 towards our library building, \$5,000 towards the collection of local records, and a considerable fund for the archaeological and ceramics work which is being carried on by Prof. Farley. Of course, he told me that he could not make this a definite promise as it would require definite action by the Board of Trustees, but in view of the better financial conditions of the Institute as your letter of February 16 indicated there might be a possibility of the approval of his recommendations. If there are suitable occasions I hope you will make our needs known to some of the Trustees of the Institute there.

The Elisseeffs stayed in Canton only two days. They went from there back to Shanghai instead of going to Central and West China direct from Canton as previously planned. We received a letter a few days ago from Shanghai saying that he had had an

0355

MAR 24

[2]

1937

operation on his neck (lymphatic gland trouble) and was feeling better. He got worse in Canton, so left rather hurriedly to go back to see the doctor in Shanghai whom he had treated him before he came to Foochow.

The address which Prof. Elisseeff gave before the Associated Boards and which you sent us copies reached us recently. We have distributed copies to the persons who are interested in the subject, both on and outside the campus.

Mr. Barclay of the Church Missionary Society spent about a day with us. We showed him our rural service centers and the general education provisions on the campus. At the meals he had in our home he met a number of faculty members. He came on a holiday, March 12, so we could not have him speak to our student body. That was the only day Bishop Hind could arrange for him to come to see us, and he had to leave here that evening. He will come to Foochow again in the middle part of April to attend the general Synod of the Chung Hua Sheng Gung Hui, to be held at Trinity College, Foochow, April 18 - 25. This seems to be the first time that the national Synod has ever met here. Mr. Barclay will leave before the Synod is over for North China. His visit to our campus was preceded by Dr. Anderson from West China University as an official representative of the C.M.S. helping Mr. Barclay. Mr. Barclay was in West China before he came to Foochow through Yunnan, Kwangsi, and Kwantung.

Both Dr. Anderson and Mr. Barclay made the suggestion that the C.M.S. is ready to cooperate again with F.C.U., and asked us what would be the best form of cooperation. They were thinking of sending a representative here to join our faculty. Mr. Barclay told me that they were ready to consider that provided a suitable person could be found. He said it would be a little difficult to appeal in England for a cash contribution to the work here at the present time, and that it would be easier to ask for the support of a missionary teacher. He also said that there is no specific candidate he had in mind for our purpose. We suggested that they might send some person who is already on the field for the time being so as to establish definite relationship at the earliest possible time.

Mr. Barclay was planning to be in New York around May 24. He asked me about the meeting of our Trustees. If this letter reaches you in time for you to arrange to have the regular annual meeting of the Fukien Trustees around that time it would be very fine, and he could then see what is being done in America and the Trustees could also present to him the need of the university and their desire for the C.M.S. cooperation at Fukien. I think the best approach is to ask the C.M.S. to send us a man or a woman. Mr. Barclay understands thoroughly that the person whom the Society sends must be well qualified for college teaching in some specialized field, as well as a person of fine Christian personality. I have already written to Bishop Hind of the Fukien Synod stating that we would appreciate it if he would officially present the request to have the C.M.S. send a person to be assigned to Fukien Christian University. The specific field of teaching of the person could be on any line of our work here for every department needs to be strengthened. We can take a teacher of Religion, English

0356

MAR 24
1937

[3]

- 3 -

in
Literature and Foreign Languages, European History, or any one of the
Science or Agricultural Departments. I do not know whether we should
at the present time suggest the support of the departmental expenses,
as well as provision for a residence for the new missionary. I did
not mention either of these items to either Mr. Barclay or Bishop Hind,
for fear they might be scared by the additional financial requirements,
but we sincerely desire their cooperation and the Christian influence
that a British Christian could exert on our campus in the training of
our students.

You probably remember that the C.M.S. stopped their
financial grant to us in 1932. They have maintained a very cordial
attitude towards the work here, and for the last three years the Fukien
Synod has made an annual contribution of M\$100.00 as an expression of
their appreciation and interest in our work. They have also regularly
elected their representative on our Board of Managers. Mr. Barclay
told me both in London when I was there in 1935 and later on wrote me
that the C.M.S. wanted to know about the status and work of Professor
Frank C. Martin who was formerly on our staff in the Department of Physics.
I think he now clearly understands the case, that Mr. Martin and his
family had been entirely supported by the university during their two
terms of service here, and that the discontinuance of their service
was a necessity because of the general unfitness of Mr. Martin as a
class room teacher.

Yours sincerely,

B. J. Lin.

CJL:A

0357

March 3, 1937

Dean George H. Chase
Graduate School
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dean Chase:

Professor and Mrs. Serge Elisseeff left Fukien this morning for Canton. They were here just a week, having arrived on the campus with me from Shanghai on February 24. Our faculty and students were greatly impressed by his profound scholarship in Chinese Studies and his very pleasing personality. In his most friendly way he conveyed to us the work and the future plans of the Trustees of the Harvard-Yenching Institute, and the ways in which we at Fukien can most effectively cooperate.

He seemed to be pleased with our fine collection of rare books, other valuable literature, and materials relating to Fukien culture. He praised the research work and publications by the various Chinese professors on our staff; and the archaeological and ceramic work by our American professor, Malcolm F. Farley. He visited practically all the departments relating to Chinese Studies on our campus. He addressed our student body and faculty at convocation. He also met with our faculty Committee on Chinese Studies, our student organization The Fukien Culture Society, and held conferences with individual scholars.

We took Prof. and Mrs. Elisseeff to visit several famous monasteries in and around Foochow, and a number of other places of historical significance. We also arranged to have them meet a number of old Chinese scholars and younger research workers, as well as to see a few of the private collections of Chinese paintings and libraries. The Commissioner of Education of Fukien Province called a special meeting of all the students of the Foochow schools to hear Prof. Elisseeff speak. The Governor of the Province would have entertained him had he returned from Nanking in time.

Prof. Elisseeff has, without exception, impressed the scholars and students here as a man of wide learning and sound scholarship. We in Fukien have greatly profited by his visit, as we now know more about the plans of the Trustees of the Institute, and we shall be able to cooperate in the important undertaking for Chinese Studies under Prof. Elisseeff's leadership more effectively in the days to come.

We understand that Prof. Elisseeff will stay two or three days in Canton and he will then take a boat back to Shanghai where he will have the doctor examine his neck which has been quite

0358

MAR 3

1937

a bother to him during the last few weeks. Should the doctor think it necessary he might have to go to the Peiping Medical College for a thorough examination and treatment before going on to West China and other parts of the country.

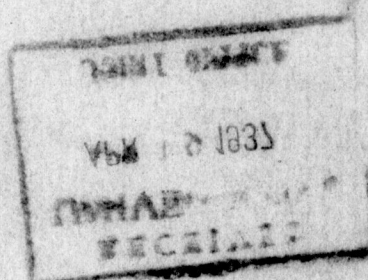
I remember with great pleasure my visit with you when I was in America last. It is our hope that sometime you will visit us. As Prof. and Mrs. Elisseoff will probably write you, Fukien is not only rich in resources for Chinese Studies but is also famous for its scenic beauty. We cordially extend to you our invitation to visit Fukien.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

President.

CJL:A



0359

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCHOW"

學大和協建福立私
FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

[1] 3/10/37 1 carbon of
report to Council
of Higher Education
attached
1 copy Pres. Repat.
CODE 1936-36
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

March 24, 1937

FUKIEN

INDEXED

Act 5/28/37

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

Dear Dr. Garside:

Let me acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 16. I have also received your letters dated December 19 about the pamphlet for Fukien, January 10 about the foreign scholarships in the United States, and February 19 about the minutes on the greater unity among the Boards of Trustees of the Christian Colleges in China.

We are glad to have the news about our general financial conditions. I hope that the Harvard-Yenching Institute will release the additional fund towards meeting the deficit of our Trustees. We also hope that our promotional committee will be able to do more work in cooperation with the committee of the Associated Boards. I shall write to both Mr. Sites and Dr. Warner.

We are certainly grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Hill for their continued interest in the work here. Dr. W. Y. Chen is giving full time as the General Secretary of the National Christian Council to prepare for the Hangchow Conference. It is the understanding of both Dr. Chen and our Board of Managers that he will return to work at Fukien after the conference is over in 1938. I was with him for sometime in Shanghai in February, and there was no indication of any change of this plan on the part of Dr. Chen. There is some possibility, however, that Dr. Chen might be elected Bishop of the Methodist Church at the East Asia Conference which convenes in Nanking today. In that case it would probably be quite hard to have him come back to Fukien. We are assuming at the present time that he is a member of our staff on leave of absence. I shall write to Dr. Hill about this. While Dr. Chen is working for the National Christian Council his salary is taken care of by that organization, so we suggest that Dr. Hill's second gift of \$2,000 be applied on our current budget. This would greatly strengthen our work in the Department of Religion.

We are also glad to have your account of the possibility for our library fund. We shall push on the campaign in the near future and will let you know the results of our efforts a little later. We did not do much about the campaign here, first because of the uncertainty of our Trustees' attitude inwards releasing the money, and then on account of the China New Year season. With your assurance we can now go ahead, and it is our hope that before long we shall be able to secure the expected sum.

The booklet, "Three Wise Men - And a Star", came to us duly. I did not read the first edition as I was away at the time it arrived. I read only the second edition which is correct in every

0360

MAR 24
1937

[2]

- 2 -

respect, and in general is a very effective presentation. I think we have enough copies for our use here. We appreciate so much your effort in getting this out for Fukien. We feel keenly the lack of publicity for our work. Owing to the pressure of duties our staff members here have done very little to help in this respect, although we have a committee in charge of publicity. My annual report was ready for sometime, but was never published. I shall enclose a typewritten copy for whatever use you may care to make of it. It is probably too late now for it to be of any use. We shall have a report for the present year's work in a few months time.

Are you using both of the Fukien motion picture films? If you can spare one of them will you send a set back to us? We are trying to work out some motion pictures before Dr. Sutton leaves for America the latter part of June, and the copy we used there might be of some help in our arrangement for a new set. Have you any suggestions with regard to improving the pictures? I know there are many places which need improvement, and we want to get as full an opinion as possible from you in connection with your experience in using the pictures during the last few years.

Professor and Mrs. Sutton and their four children will leave from Hongkong, via Europe, by the "Scharnhorst" on June 27. They will, therefore, arrive in New York first and will see you about what they can do in helping with promotion work both for Fukien and for the Associated Boards. Professor Farley's plans are not certain yet. Dean T.H.E. Chen will also be going to America this summer for further study. Although we are waiting for information by cable within the next week or so as to where he may be going, it is quite likely that he will be on the Pacific coast at the University of California, Stanford, or The Colorado State Teachers College. The Hon. Davenport of New York has consented to make a gift of US\$2,000 towards his two years of study in America. We are arranging to give him half salary for one year, as our regular allowance for sabbatical leave for Chinese professors, which will help to pay his travel expenses. The uncertainty of the date of his going is due to the possibility of taking his family with him with the limited financial resources available at the present time. Our office here cannot make reservation for passage for him until we know how many tickets he will need.

Owing to my prolonged stay in Nanking and Shanghai, and then the visit of Dr. and Mrs. Elisseeff, I have not been able to write you earlier about the outcome and the spirit of the meeting of the Council of Higher Education in Shanghai, February 3 - 5. In the first meeting of the Union Universities President Stuart presented his ideas and then followed a discussion which lasted the whole morning. The discussion was reported to the Council at the next two or three meetings. The general impression was that the chief idea of President Stuart was to pull Yenching out from the united campaign activities in America and to oppose any form of united action on the part of the Associated Boards in America. He charged against the rest of the Christian Colleges implicitly that they had not lived up to the spirit of the Correlated Program and, therefore, it would be better to declare it finished. It seemed to be the consensus of opinion of the Council, however, that that was not the case. The Council, therefore, prepared a statement, which

0361

MAR 24

[3]

1937

- 3 -

you have undoubtedly received, about our interpretation of the Correlated Program and our general support of the efforts of our friends in America for a more united service there. You have, no doubt, had a more detailed report from Mr. Cressy, the Secretary. Dr. Edward Hume told me that he had also written you, and I wish to give my impressions for your reference. On the whole the spirit of the Council was very good.

Comment

As to our College of Rural Reconstruction, it was approved by the Council of Higher Education without any hesitation, for the facts about its necessity and the future prospects were so clear that everybody was in favor of what we have done. In this connection you may be interested to know that several members raised the question as to whether or not Yen-ching would like to present officially its part in rural work to the Council, for as you know Yen-ching, ^{together with} Tsing Hua, and Nankai University, secured a fairly large sum from the Rockefeller Foundation for rural work in North China, which has never been officially reported to the Council. We in Fukien, of course, cannot go forward with the rural work beyond our available resources. The Fukien Government will probably increase a little its grant towards the work for the coming academic year and we may get an additional grant from Nanking for that purpose. We are, however, planning our work in a very conservative way with a view that should the sources of financial aid be cut off we would be able to carry on this important service at a minimum cost which could be carried by our budget.

Comment

I notice from your stationery that Dean Henry van Deusen is now on our Board of Trustees. I have not noted any formal action of invitation to him in the minutes of the Board of Trustees. I should be glad to hear from you about it before I write to him.* He is a very good man to have on our Board. Quite a few of our staff members were in touch with him when they were studying at Union. I had a couple of visits with him when I was in New York. We were together at the ordination service of Rev. Brewster Bingham. The Bingham arrived from Peiping on March 19 and are now staying with Professor Beach on our campus.

Yours sincerely,

B. J. Lin.

CJL:A

* Was he elected at large, or does he represent one of our cooperating mission boards?

I am also enclosing a sheet of information prepared for Mr. Cressy which may prove useful to you for reference.

0362

*sent to President
Letter 5/24/37
Appendix B [4]*

1. A Year of National Crisis. The year under review found China in one of the most difficult periods in the history of the Republic. Japanese aggression in the North and the various forms of encroachments in other parts of the country were imminent during a greater part of the time. The people throughout the country, and especially the student group, were very indignant and at the same time were helpless. They wondered whether there was any justice left in the world. It seemed to them that might had actually become right and that only the strong had any claim for consideration by world public opinion. Furthermore, they were doubtful about their own government officials as to their ability and sincerity in making a definite stand for the nation. They were no less doubtful as to what they themselves could do to help China. There was a prevailing sense of agony and cynicism that turned into despair. This emotional storm could only be cleared up by some spiritual force, and the public naturally demanded a new educational program. Many educational institutions and the government spontaneously worked out some kind of emergency plan to meet this urgent need. F.C.U. was among the earliest to put such a program into effect, and the result was quite satisfactory. It gradually changed the psychology of both the students and faculty members. We in F.C.U. did not only not have any interruption in our work, but found the year one of the most fruitful in our history.

2. Educational Experiment. Our faculty worked out an experimental plan which was put into effect at the beginning of the spring semester. We offered special courses which were designed to help students better understand the national and international conditions. We provided facilities for strenuous physical training and self-discipline including manual labor. We arranged for instruction and practice in certain technical fields which would help the students in meeting emergencies. We mobilized

1935-36

(5)

the whole college, students, faculty, and workmen, in an earnest effort and systematic way to carry forward our rural reconstruction program in the surrounding villages. Training in group life and cooperative action were especially emphasized. Special chapel services were arranged, and systematic convocation lectures were planned. Due to the additional time required for the special training, classes were held on Saturday afternoon. There was generally earnest effort and hard work on the part of everybody. An immediate improvement in morale could be easily detected. There was a great gain in both intellectual understanding and character growth, and throughout the rest of the year a fine spirit prevailed. There was a definite recovery of self-confidence, courage, and hopefulness. The program was a spiritual triumph as well as an academic success.

3. Departmental Progress and New Personnel. In the regular departmental work there were a number of improvements over that of the previous year. The Physics and Mathematics Department enrolled more major students than at any time in the past. The addition of Dr. Henry Chen to our staff as the Acting Head of this department had much to do with this. There was a considerable increase in physics equipment made possible by the grant from the Ministry of Education, Nanking. Many pieces of apparatus were designed by Dr. Chen and made in our own Work Shop. The work in the English Department was strengthened by the coming of Miss Eunice T. Thomas from America in the spring term. Her much needed service was made possible by a gift from one of our Trustees. We were fortunate in securing Miss Li Gwan Fang from Shanghai as Dean of Women and Lecturer in Sociology. Miss Li, with her training in China and America and her experience as a magazine editor and a Christian social worker, is a fine leader among our women students and a helpful factor in the campus religious life. We secured a very experienced college teacher and administrator in the person of Prof. Lin Hsi Chien for our Social Science work.

0364

4. Chinese Cultural Studies and Collections. Considerable progress was made in our Chinese Studies. Three issues of "Fukien Culture" on special topics particularly attracted the attention of scholars both in China and in the West. The annual publication of the F.C.U. Journal made public a number of articles of unusual quality. A large number of archaeological specimens were secured for our museum from the excavation of two ancient sites in Foochow. Some of these finds reveal very important information with regard to the history of the people of Fukien Province. Our library received valuable additions during the year. Dr. G. Reynolds Turner of Hweian, South Fukien, donated to the university his collection of books on China by Western scholars which he had accumulated during the last thirty-five years. The collection consists of nearly 1000 volumes. In recognition of this gift the Ministry of Education, Nanking, issued a special certificate of commendation in honor of the donor. A complete set of the Chinese literary works, Shun Shu Chi Cheng, which is being published in 4000 volumes, was ordered as a gift to the university by our alumni in Shanghai; 400 volumes were received before the end of the year.

5. Rural Reconstruction. The year under review should mark a new page in our rural work. Our humble success in the Nieu Tien Rural Service Station attracted much wider attention than its scope deserved. At the beginning of the fall term, 1935, the Government of Fukien turned over the Wu Li Ting Rural Experiment Station consisting of thirteen villages to our administration. Work in adult education and a program for the improvement of production were undertaken. Schools for adult men and women and for the young people, who had not had a chance for an elementary education before, were established in a number of villages with crowded attendance. A plan for health service was installed with the cooperation of the Foochow Christian

Union Hospital and the Government Midwifery School. Clinics were opened regularly for the villagers and training classes for rural health service were held for village girls to prepare them for voluntary service in their respective communities. Health pictures were shown, educational plays were produced and given by the F.C.U. student clubs, and several health contests were held including a baby contest in which more than 180 children participated. At each of the several large public gatherings there were more than 1000 villagers present.

In the production service the promotion of poultry and pig raising was especially successful. The improvement of chicken stock was worked out on the university campus and the improved eggs were introduced to the farmers by a system of egg exchange; the farmers would exchange their own eggs for the improved eggs on one condition, that the improved eggs would be used only for setting purposes. It is now quite common to see the good stock of chickens prospering in 20 or more villages. This service has so much improved the quantity and quality of chickens and eggs that a cooperative marketing organization had to be established for the distribution of the increased product. Pig raising also received much stimulation from our Station which supplied the farmers with improved stock. Young pigs were distributed to farmers for breeding purposes on a cooperative plan which proved to be very beneficial to the people. Agricultural fairs for better rice seed selection and wheat production were held. With the ^{good} harvests the farmers have had recently our program in agricultural improvement has gained much confidence and appreciation, and as a result there is a great demand for our agricultural extension service.

6. Contribution to the Youth and Religion Movement. An outstanding service we rendered to China during the year was through the work of Prof. W. Y. Chen of our Department of Religion and Psychology. He served as the platform speaker of the Youth and Religion Movement in the

1935-36

[8]

fall and winter of 1935. He traveled through 13 cities covering the North, South, and Southwestern parts of the country. During that time Dr. Chen spoke to more than 150,000 students of whom more than 7000 definitely dedicated their lives or decided to inquire further into the ways of Christian living.

7. Students and Graduates. We graduated one of the largest classes last June, 30 students. All the graduates are in satisfactory employment. Some of them received offers for work several months before they graduated. We had a number of calls which we could not properly fill. It was an unusual compliment to our institution that during this year of general economic difficulty which made it hard for so many college students in other centers to find work we were not able to meet all the demands for our graduates.

8. Finances. When we were making up the budget for the year we were threatened with a deficit of about \$20,000 Local Currency, due to the decrease in income. Thanks to the generous efforts of the many friends of the university and the rise in the exchange rate after the National Currency Reform in China last fall, our Treasurer's office was able to close the books in June without a deficit.

9. Summary and Conclusion. The year 1935-36 gave F.C.U. a fruitful experience in an educational enterprise. Our attempts in putting into effect a new educational program to meet the needs of our students in the time of national crisis proved to be very effective and beneficial. Our rural service opened a greater field of work which brought in hopeful results. The work in the various departments made creditable progress. The spirit of both students and faculty as manifested in their loyal cooperation and earnestness in work in the time of great difficulty has been most gratifying. But the needs of China are more urgently presented to us as the national crisis is not only not over but is steadily increasing in its intensity. The responsibility of

0367

of F.C.U. as a Christian institution of higher learning in meeting these needs is more clear than ever. We are, therefore, going forward into another year of work with a deep sense of humility and a strong conviction of our mission. We earnestly pray that our strength may be equal to our task.

C. J. Lin

President

Foochow

October 31, 1936

0368

over

[1]
over

INDEXED

FUKIEN

May 28, 1937

President C. J. Lin,
Miss Eva M. Asher,
Fukien Christian University,
Foochow, China

Dear President Lin and Miss Asher,

We have for acknowledgment President Lin's letters of March 24th. Both these letters deal with various matters which came before the Annual Meeting of the Fukien Trustees on May 13th. I am enclosing herewith the minutes of that meeting. In commenting on the minutes I will keep in mind President Lin's letters. The usual supply of minutes is being sent forward under separate cover.

Review of Work of Past Year. The Board was grateful for the interesting report of the work for the year 1935-36 which we received from President Lin not long before the meeting, and which I should have acknowledged before this. I had copies of this report distributed to all members of the Board in advance of the meeting. Dr. Fairfield and I made brief reports of the work for the year 1936-37 so far as we could describe it from our correspondence from the field. I should have written you in February, suggesting that you send us, about March 31st, a report of the first nine months of the current academic year which we could present to the Trustees at the Annual Meeting. Let me now suggest that you put down on your calendar for March, 1938, a reminder that you send such a report for the first eight or nine months of 1937-38, which will reach New York by May 1, 1938, so as to be available for the 1938 Annual Meeting of the Trustees.

In general, the Board expressed itself as being greatly pleased with the reports of the work of the past year. It recognized that these accomplishments are made possible only by the ability and the devotion of the administration and faculty of the University, working always under the guidance and inspiration of the Divine Providence which has so prospered the institution since it was first established.

College of Rural Reconstruction. The Board was happy to record its recognition of, and good wishes for, the newly-established College of Rural Reconstruction.

0369

Pres. Lin,
Miss Asher

-2-

May 28, 1937

Diplomas and Degrees, October 1934 to April 1936. Action T-1143 was taken to correct the technical omission described in the preamble to the action. I believe the matter is now clear, and requires no further action at this end.

Financial Statement and Forecast. While we cannot tell until June 30th just how we will come out during this fiscal year, the report to date looks encouraging. The Trustees are, as you know, eager to close the year with as substantial a surplus as possible in order to reduce somewhat the large deficits we had to carry forward from previous years.

Budget Estimates, 1937-38. In defining their contributions to the 1937-38 budget, in Action T-1145, the Trustees tried to put their support at the highest possible figures. They included not only all the sources of assured income but also added about US \$2,500 more in estimated "special gifts for current budget" than is yet in sight. Of course the Trustees and the Associated Boards together will make every effort to secure increased income during the coming year. But experience has shown that most new gifts are likely to be designated for capital purposes, such as endowment or for buildings (as, for instance, the library), so the gifts received without any designation may not be much more than the amount required to keep these home base activities going forward and to assist in a modest way in the field budget.

The Board considered the suggestion that for 1937-38 we define our contribution in terms of U.S. dollars, rather than Chinese dollars. But it was thought wiser to continue during the coming year the same basis of appropriation as has been used in the past. Both Mr. Evans and I urged the desirability of changing to U.S. dollars, but apparently our eloquence and our logic were not sufficient for the task. If, a year hence, the field still considers the U.S. dollar basis of appropriations more desirable, please present a renewal of your request for the change, and we'll bring it forward again.

Either Mr. Evans or I will be writing within the next week or so to give Mr. McClure and Miss Asher more definite information as to ways by which the Trustees' appropriations for 1937-38 will be transmitted.

Matters Arising from Associated Boards Meeting. A substantial amount of time was given to a discussion of these matters. Most of the members present had taken an active part in the meeting of the Associated Boards, and were both familiar and in accord with the actions referred by the Associated Boards to the individual Boards. We have quoted these ABCCC actions at length in our Fuzien minutes, so most of our comments here can be brief.

(1) Training Teachers of Philosophy. The Associated Boards' Committee on Christian Character stressed the importance of having men and women of the very highest academic qualifications as well as the most positive Christian character in the departments of Philosophy of all the Colleges, and made a concrete request to the Nanking Theological Seminary that it help

0370

May 28, 1937

at this point through providing special scholarships in the field of Philosophy. We are all proud of the personnel and work of the department of Philosophy at F.C.U., and know that everyone will be glad to secure every possible assistance in raising up trained and devoted men to carry on in future when the present members of staff reach retirement age.

(2) Financial and Budget Data. The field treasurer's office at F.C.U. deserves our praise and gratitude for its promptness and cooperation in supplying this type of data.

(3) Cooperation and Correlation. This subject engaged much of the time and thought of the Associated Boards, both in meetings of its various standing committees during April and May, and in the Annual Meeting itself. The action quoted on pages 4 and 5 was formulated only after very careful study. The Associated Boards desires, as always, the fullest measure of cooperation among the participating Colleges. But it recognizes both that conditions in China are constantly changing and that the initiative in matters of cooperation must continue to rest with the institutions themselves and not with boards in the West. Because of the importance of these issues, the Associated Boards proposes an educational conference in China next year, probably just before the Hangchow conference. The Fukien trustees expressed their general agreement, and asked the Executive Committee to take the matter under very careful consideration.

(4) United Promotional Work. Our Fukien Trustees are anxious to cooperate fully with the united efforts of the entire group of colleges. This united promotional work is growing steadily, though - as always in promotional efforts of this sort - the volume of new gifts obtained continues to lag somewhat behind the efforts we are putting forth. We hope that this current year will show satisfactory progress, and our hopes for next year are quite a bit brighter than they are for the current year. An increasing number of potential donors in large amounts are being discovered and are becoming actively interested, and each year should show a growing number of gifts in large amounts, both for the entire group of Colleges and for individual institutions.

(5) Greater Unity. The F.C.U. board has always been actively in favor of every movement in the direction of greater unity, and the present movement is no exception. I am not sure whether we have sent you copies of the report and recommendations of the Committee on Great Unity - if not we will see that they are sent. In essence, the Committee is recommending that as a first step the standing committees of the individual Boards be merged with the corresponding committees of the Associated Boards, which will then serve the individual Colleges as well as the whole group. This will be a very modest step, and while it may not mean very great progress should not cause any serious objection.

Visit of Dr. Kelly. We know that all of you in F.C.U. are looking forward eagerly to the coming of Dr. Kelly, and that you will make every use of him while he is on the campus.

President Lin
Miss Asher

May 28, 1937

Other Matters in President Lin's Letters. We have noted with appreciation all the information in these two letters, but will not comment at length except where some special factor is involved.

Fukien film. We are glad to note that you are planning to secure new motion picture film which Dr. Sutton will bring with him when he sails the latter part of June. We should have returned one set of our Fukien film to you, but it could hardly reach you before Dr. Sutton sails, and since there might be complications on account of duty, together with a chance that the film might be lost or damaged in transit, we thought it wiser not to try to send it. We can, however, work in together the present film with any new material Dr. Sutton brings. You ask whether we have any suggestions as to improvement in our F.C.U. films. The present films are excellent as scenic views, and give some interesting glimpses of the University, its personnel, and its work. But to have real human interest, and to make people remember it, it must tell a story. If you would get some individual or group on the campus to write an interesting story of some young man - or young woman, or both - taking them from the time they first make their plans to come to F.C.U., on through the four years of their stay on the campus, then show them going into worthwhile Christian service for China, you would have a picture worth more than all the disconnected scenes that could ever be assembled. The Ginling movie is so far ahead of anything else that has ever come from any of our Colleges. It tells a story - simply but well. F.C.U. could do equally well, might even do better.

Staff coming to America. Glad to note the plans of Dr. and Mrs. Sutton, Professor Farley, and Dean Chen. It is fine that Mr. Ravenport is providing such generous support. It would have been well if we had known a little earlier that Mr. Ravenport was considering this special appropriation toward Mr. Chen's travel and study here, for our Fukien office here is trying to keep all of our Fukien donors and prospects under constant cultivation, and it is embarrassing both to us and to the field if we make one type of request without knowing that the field is proposing something quite different. No harm done this time, but it is a point at which we should all be careful in future.

Council of Higher Education. The sympathetic attitude of our F.C.U. trustees on this matter is indicated above. Thank you for writing so fully and frankly.

Mr. H. R. Van Dusen. No, this is not Dean Van Dusen of Union Seminary, but a friendly layman in Scranton Penna. He was secured through the efforts of Mr. Cartwright, and is a representative of the Methodist Board. I will ask the girls to send you his address, so you can send him a word of greeting.

Mr. Barclay. Glad his trip was so encouraging, and sorry he could not be with us in the Annual Meeting.

With all good wishes, I am

BAG/G
Enc.

Most cordially yours,

B. A. Garside

0372

FUKIEN

June 25, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

Dear Dr. Lin:

We have recently received from Dean Chase the following request, written on behalf of Harvard-Yenching Institute:-

"After the recent meeting of the Trustees of the Institute, one of the Trustees suggested that perhaps it was a duty of the Board to try to find out what had been accomplished by graduates of the six institutions in China who might be regarded as having been helped by Institute funds. His statement was a bit vague, but I gather that what he was interested in was the later careers of graduates whose work had been essentially in Chinese studies in the six institutions.

"I imagine that records are kept of the graduates, and that this information could be got together. Would you let me know if this is correct, and whether you would collect such information, or whether you think it would be better if I wrote directly to the separate institutions."

I have written Dr. Chase, saying that our office would be glad to assist in securing this information from the six beneficiary institutions. We would be grateful if you would pass this letter along to the proper person with a request that he compile this information for Fukien Christian University, and forward it in due course to our office. This should be done with all promptness, for we cannot complete our compilation of this information for forwarding to Dean Chase until we have heard from each of the six colleges.

Sincerely yours,

BA Garfield

BAG/A

0373

FUKIEN

June 26, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

Dear President Lin:

A short time ago we received from Mrs. Malcolm H. Farley a letter in which she asks certain questions with regard to payment for dental work which had been necessary during recent months. I quote from her letter.

"I believe that I wrote you before that one of the reasons why I felt that I ought to come home last fall was on account of my teeth. They were in very poor condition and I have just recently finished having the last of them extracted. My dental bill will be one hundred dollars when the work on my plates is completed. I am wondering what the university's policy is in regard to large dental bills. I know that on the field we pay all of our dental bills now but I do not know if that includes major bills at home or not. When we were home last term I had a great deal of work done and the university paid half of the bill. Will you please let me know what the regulation is in regard to this?"

I replied to Mrs. Farley in effect that our New York Office is always guided by instructions from the field in our payment of the salary and allowances of members of staff on furlough. Since these payments are a direct charge against the University budget, our New York Office is merely acting as the representative of the field authorities. I said therefore that we would refer this matter to you for decision, and would follow whatever procedure you direct.

With all good wishes, I am,

Very cordially yours,

BA Gasside

BAG.A

0374

Air Mail

Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China
August 6, 1937

Dr. B. A. Garside
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, New York

Dear Dr. Garside:

We are inviting Dr. Weindling of the Plant Pathology Department of Cornell University to join our staff for a period of three years, at a salary of \$300.00 National Currency per month, paying his traveling expenses from his home to Foochow, via the shortest route, tourist passage across the Pacific. We shall also provide free of charge a place for him to live on the campus, either with a family or with Mr. Kellogg or Mr. Beach. He is not entitled to outfit allowance or any of the other special allowances for our regular staff members who come for a full term of service.

Under date of August 4 we sent Dr. Weindling a cable in plain language reading as follows: "Fukien University invites you teach Plant Pathology according your terms beginning September. Letter follows. Lin, President."

We hope that he began immediately upon receipt of the cable to make arrangements to come, but he may wait for the letter before doing anything about passage, etc. We are today sending him an air mail letter enlarging upon the cable and telling him something about the work we expect him to do. Since we are sending you this letter by air mail we cannot enclose a copy of our letter to him as anything more would make it overweight. We have asked him to get in touch with you and told him that you would help in the matter of passage, etc., and advance the necessary money for traveling. We also told him that we would ask you to advance him his first month's salary at the current rate of exchange at the time of payment in case he needed it. We want him to come as soon as possible, as classes for the fall term begin on September 12.

It is very difficult to find Chinese specialists in Plant Pathology, and I think Dr. Weindling's terms are quite reasonable. He is a man of good training and experience and has been teaching at Cornell University, Ithaca. (You may address him there). He is a bachelor about 40 years of age. The Fukien Government will make an additional grant to us to cover Dr. Weindling's travel.

see
A few weeks ago I received a letter from Dr. Hodous stating that Dr. Bliss, a former missionary at Shaowu, Fukien, under the American Board Mission, would like to come to Fukien to complete the work he started in Shaowu in the diseases of cattle, particularly rinderpest which is quite common in cows, goats, etc. Dr. Bliss has already worked out the principles involved, but the development of the serum for immunity against this disease remains to be completed. It would require about two years to work it out. Dr. Bliss is willing to pay his own traveling expenses and work without salary (he receives a pension from the American Board), but it would be necessary for the university to pay the traveling expenses, return trip, from Oberlin to China for Mrs. Bliss. Also he would expect the university to furnish the necessary equipment and supplies, which would not amount to a great deal, and provide a place for them to live. The Fukien Government is interested in this project and is willing to bear about half of the expense involved. We plan to invite Dr. and Mrs. Bliss to come as soon as they can on the terms as outlined above. So to save the expense of further air mail letters or cables, we now authorize you to advance money for Mrs. Bliss' traveling expenses when they apply for it. Of course, this is also on the basis of the shortest route, tourist passage across the Pacific. What Dr. Bliss does here will be a contribution not only to Fukien Province but to all China, and it is something that is greatly needed.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. Lin

0375

學大和協建福立私

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCHOW"

FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

CODE:
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

August 19, 1937

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

Dear Dr. Garside:

I write to report to you, and through you to our Trustees, the general conditions in Fukien and our plan of work. So far, it is peaceful here, and there is no immediate prospect of fighting in this province. It is not likely that Japan will try to occupy Fukien Province as a military base. The government, however, is prepared to meet any invasion which may be attempted. We are, therefore, planning things according to our regular schedule. We shall hold final entrance examinations on September 1 and 2 for new students. The fall faculty conference will be held on September 10 - 12, and classes begin on the 13th. Judging from the results of the first entrance examinations it would seem that we shall have a record-breaking freshman class.

There is a general feeling of tenseness on the part of the masses due to Japanese aggression in North China, and recently in Shanghai. There is a possibility that the Japanese might bomb Foochow for revenge in case their forces are continually beaten at other places. In fact, what will take place in the future depends entirely on Japan for China cannot carry on offensive warfare, and it is very difficult to predict what the Japanese will do. All of our plans, therefore, are dependent so much on the policy of the Japanese militarist. So far as Fukien is concerned we feel that we have no cause for immediate great danger.

On August 6 we sent you an air mail letter regarding our invitation to Dr. Weindling of Cornell University, and also about the return of Dr. and Mrs. Bliss. If Dr. Weindling should not be willing to come to China under the present political conditions we would not urge him to do so. In that case, we would expect to hear directly from him by cable. Should he think that he would like to come in any case, we would not stop him, for although we do not know how things will turn out between China and Japan we are planning to carry on our work just the same. The same will also apply to Dr. and Mrs. Bliss. If they are willing to take the risk of coming we shall be ready to receive them, if we are still here in Foochow when they come.

In reply to your letter of June 26 regarding Mrs. Farley's request about her dental bill, we desire to have our staff members build up and be in good physical condition to return to the field, and are willing to pay half of their dental bills. You are, therefore, authorized to pay half of the amount and charge it

0376

AUG 19

[27]

1937

- 2 -

against our current budget.

Miss Asher sent the Harvard-Yenching report to Dr. Elisseeff, as well as a copy to your office, a few days ago, so it should reach them in ample time for the September meeting of the Trustees of the Institute. She also sent the report for the New York Education Board to your office last week.

*Noted
more*

We are expecting the return of Professor Edwin Chen sometime in September, although we have not heard what boat he is planning to take. Dean and Mrs. Theodore Chen should have arrived in California about the middle of July. Mr. Cheng Chung Fu, Graduate Assistant for the last two or three years in our Biology Department, is due to leave Shanghai for America today. He is going to Allegheny College where President Tolley is giving him a scholarship on the same basis that he received one of our graduates last year. Dickinson College is not taking any of our students this year, but wants another one in 1938. We may have two or three additions to our Agricultural staff, but on account of the unsettled conditions in China we have not definitely contracted with any of them yet. You will probably have seen the Suttons and Mr. Farley before this letter reaches you. There are no other changes in our staff members.

The Nanking Government has granted us \$12,000 National Currency for the present academic year towards our science work and agricultural books. The Fukien Government has notified us that they ~~will~~ appropriate \$20,000 towards the teaching staff and equipment in the College of Rural Reconstruction. The Bureau of Reconstruction of the Fukien Government continues its appropriation for about \$10,000 for experiment work in Horticulture. They have also increased the appropriation for our Rural Service Experiment Station by a few hundred dollars bringing the total up to a little more than \$4,000. Should there be military operations in this province because of Japanese invasion, the money from the government might not be continued. In that case, however, conditions would probably prevent us from carrying on our work.

We shall try to keep you informed of conditions here from time to time. As I said, many things depend on Japan, and for which China cannot take the responsibility. The outcome may be that Japan will have a change of heart, or she may be beaten up so badly in China that she will have to change her policy. The latter is not impossible, for China is one in her resistance to Japanese invasion. The people are not only not afraid of the fighting which might take place, but they are really willing to make any sacrifice to show Japan that force alone cannot dominate over justice.

Yours sincerely,

B. J. Lin.

CJL:A

0377

Air Mail

Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China
August 19, 1937

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

Dear Dr. Garside:

I wrote you a two-page letter this morning about conditions here and our plan of work and some general information about staff, finances, etc. Thinking, however, that you people may be eager to know what is the state of affairs with us here in Fukien, I quote below the paragraphs of my letter telling about that to send to you by air mail.

"I write to report to you, and through you to our Trustees, the general conditions in Fukien and our plan of work. So far, it is peaceful here, and there is no immediate prospect of fighting in this province. It is not likely that Japan will try to occupy Fukien Province as a military base. The government, however, is prepared to meet any invasion which may be attempted. We are, therefore, planning things according to our regular schedule. We shall hold final entrance examinations on September 1 and 2 for new students. The fall faculty conference will be held on September 10 - 12, and classes begin on the 13th. Judging from the results of the first entrance examinations it would seem that we shall have a record-breaking freshman class.

"There is a general feeling of tenseness on the part of the masses due to Japanese aggression in North China, and recently in Shanghai. There is a possibility that the Japanese might bomb Foochow for revenge in case their forces are continually beaten at other places. In fact, what will take place in the future depends entirely on Japan for China cannot carry on offensive warfare, and it is very difficult to predict what the Japanese will do. All of our plans, therefore, are dependent so much on the policy of the Japanese militarist. So far as Fukien is concerned we feel that we have no cause for immediate great danger.

"On August 6 we sent you an air mail letter regarding our invitation to Dr. Weindling of Cornell University, and also about the return of Dr. and Mrs. Bliss. If Dr. Weindling should not be willing to come to China under the present political conditions we would not urge him to do so. In that case, we would expect to hear directly from him by cable. Should he think that he would like to come in any case, we would not stop him, for although we do not know how things will turn out between China and Japan we are planning to carry on our work just the same. The same will also apply to Dr. and Mrs. Bliss. If they are willing to take the risk of coming we shall be ready to receive them, if we are still here in Foochow when they come.

"We shall try to keep you informed of conditions here from time to time. As I said, many things depend on Japan, and for which China cannot take the responsibility. The outcome may be that Japan will have a change of heart, or she may be beaten up so badly in China that she will have to change her policy. The latter is not impossible, for China is one in her resistance to Japanese invasion. The people are not only not afraid of the fighting which might take place, but they are really willing to make any sacrifice to show Japan that force alone cannot dominate over justice".

The full letter follows by ordinary mail.

Sincerely yours,

B. J. Lin

The Harvard-Yenching report has been sent
to Dr. Elisseoff and to your office; also
Re: N.Y. State ED. Dist. to you.

0378

C-1

September 1, 1937

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Fairfield:

You will have heard from Mr. R. W. McClure about our request to use the Shaowu Mission property. Mr. George Shepherd and Mr. McClure are the only two members of the Shaowu Mission left I believe. I talked with Mr. Shepherd when I was in Nanking in July about the possible use of the property there by F.C.U. and he heartily agreed and expressed his readiness to support this proposition. Mr. McClure has also given his consent, so far as it lies in his authority as an agent of the American Board here, for the temporary use of that property in case of an emergency. I am writing to you now in more detail as to what use might be made of the property if the American Board gives us the privilege.

The immediate use of the property, in case we can clear the soldiers out, would be to provide a place for the safe-keeping of the university records and other documents which are of permanent value, but are not in immediate daily use in Foochow. Some women with children among our staff members may be moved up there beforehand. This is for protection against serious Japanese air raids on Foochow which might result in the destruction of some of our important buildings. Although our campus is four miles from Foochow City, experience during the last few weeks seems to show that the Japanese have more or less definite plans to deliberately destroy educational and cultural institutions. If we can get adequate space in Shaowu it may be possible to move some of our more valuable things such as science equipment, library, etc., up there. To reap any definite benefit from this move steps need to be taken very quickly, for every day almost we have some Japanese planes and bombers either passing over us or looking us over. It is a four or five day trip from Foochow to Shaowu, and under present circumstances it may take a little longer.

We think of Shaowu because the American Board property is already there and also because the location is hard to approach from a military point of view. In case of evacuating Foochow the Foochow Government would probably have a strong line of defense from Yenping up.

The second idea of making use of the property is to open it up as an educational center for North Fukien. It is in our minds that if no emergency calls for moving the university up to Shaowu

0379

SEP 1
1937

[2]

we can still make use of the American Board's property as an experiment station or as a vocational school for the people in that section. You probably know very well that in the whole of North Fukien, which makes up about one-third of the province, there is no school of Senior High School grade, and it is precisely those places which need educational facilities and vocational institutions. Sometime ago I asked the Foochow Union High School to cooperate with us in organizing some kind of vocational school for North Fukien, but the Board of Managers of that school is unable to join in with us. Several months ago we were talking in Nanking about linking up Shaowu with the Kiangsi Rural Service Station which has been conducted under the auspices of Madame Chiang Kai Shek. With our rural reconstruction work steadily developing we should be able to extend this service around that region if the American Board will help us realize it. This also seems to be a good occasion for making this start, and the Fukien Government is also planning to move some of the schools around Foochow into the interior of the province. One of the responsible Commissioners of the Government has assured me that the Government would be glad to cooperate with F.C.U. in financing such a project in Shaowu, if we would be responsible for securing the necessary buildings and property and administration. I understand that quite a few acres of farm and hill land in connection with the Shaowu property which can be used for agricultural and forestry purposes. We, therefore, hope very much that you will give us formal authorization to make use of that property which you are not using at the present time.

The first steps we are taking now are to get the soldiers out of the buildings in Shaowu. I understand that the mission property there has been occupied by the 76th Division of the National Army since 1932. I have taken the matter up with the Fukien Government and they are trying to see what can be done. Owing to the long occupation of those buildings by the soldiers, considerable repairs would certainly be in order. I am also asking the Government to appropriate a few thousand dollars for that purpose. It would seem that there would be every advantage to the mission to loan the property to us, for you are not using it and our presence in Shaowu will help to extend the work of the mission and strengthen the facilities for the training of church leaders and other lines of activities. The service to the community would also be considerable. We shall tackle the most urgent needs of the people there and render as much assistance as is possible in a modern scientific way.

From the documents left by Rev. Charles L. Storrs we found that there are thirteen big and small buildings belonging to the mission and are now occupied by the soldiers. They include the girls' school building, women's school building, two hospital buildings, four rather large residences, and a few native style quarters including two small chapels. The original cost of the buildings and land come to around \$150,000, but most of the buildings were built about 1905. It was estimated by Mr. Storrs that it would need around \$15,000 for repairs to restore the buildings to their original conditions.

0380

SEP 1
1937

[3]

- 3 -

There are a large number of deeds relating to the land, but no one knows off-hand exactly how much land the mission has there. I have made a rough estimate from the documents available in Foochow that you probably have altogether about ten or twelve acres. The school building for boys, formerly called Han Mei, is now used by the church as a primary school and is not included in the list of buildings mentioned above. I understand that there are one or two foreign residences which are being used in connection with this primary school. It would seem that all the property there would be adequate for our whole university including an extension school.

The conditions of the university have been reported to you through Dr. B. A. Garside of our New York office. I am enclosing herewith a copy of my letter of this date to Dr. Garside. We shall keep you informed from time to time about the development of conditions here. I shall write you again after school opens on September 13.

Sometime ago Dr. Lewis Hodous wrote me about the desire of Dr. El L. Bliss to return to China to complete his research work on the development of a serum for immunity against rinderpest, a disease found among Chinese cows. Dr. Hodous said that Dr. Bliss considered F. C. U. as the best place for his work and that he and Mrs. Bliss would be glad to come to work here without salary if F.C.U. could provide a place for them to live and the necessary traveling expenses for Mrs. Bliss. The time required to complete his work is about two years. On the strength of this statement we are extending an invitation to Dr. and Mrs. Bliss to come on the terms as outlined by Dr. Hodous. It will be a great contribution to China when Dr. Bliss succeeds in developing this serum. We are, therefore, willing to do our part. The Fukien Government would also be willing to help with the traveling expenses of Mrs. Bliss. Should the American Board see fit to have them come, you will know that F.C.U. is ready to receive them.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. L.

CJL:A

0381

學大和協建福立私

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCHOW"

FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

CODE:
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

September 1, 1937

Feb 10/15/37
sent to Trustees
cler

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

Dear Dr. Garside:

In reply to your cable of August 21 asking about conditions and plans here we sent you the following cable under date of August 24:

copy

"No immediate danger. College opens September. Lin" /

My air mail letter of August 19 explained some of the things we were trying to do and which we are still following. Since then we have moved the ~~Chen Library~~ from the attic of the Science Hall which is not fire proof to the Basement floor of the Arts Hall. We have also moved a part of the library in the Arts Hall to one of the basement rooms. Some of the more valuable equipment of the Chemistry Department which is located on the second floor of the Science Hall has been moved to the sub-basement of that building. All of this moving is done as a precautionary measure in case of possible bombing by Japanese planes. We figure that with several concrete floors above the basement of both the Science Hall and the Arts Hall these buildings could stand ordinary bombs of from 50 - 100 pounds. If the Japanese should bomb us intensively as one of the cultural institutions, as they have been doing in other parts of the country, with heavier bombs, we have no way of escape.

For the protection of our staff members and students during possible air raids by Japanese planes, we have set aside certain spaces in the sub-basement floors of the Science and Arts Halls for refuge during the raids. We have also supplied sufficient sandbags to be put at the windows of the basement floors on short notice against possible machine gun shooting from the aeroplanes. This is also to be done in certain basement rooms of the women's dormitory for the women students. We have made short-cut paths under the trees between the men's dormitories and the Science and Arts halls' back doors to the basements so that the students can run into them in a few moments time. We believe that these several buildings are strong enough to withstand any ordinary attacks from the air.

For staff families we have quite a number of caves dug into the hills near some of the residences. (These caves were prepared in 1933-34 when the Nineteenth Route Army started a revolution in Foochow. They were not very well done, so we are now making improvements on them.) We shall prepare two or three more caves on the hillside for a new group of residences which do not have such provisions at the present time. Sandbags have also been prepared at the various gateways for . We are arranging for some central warning signal stations as well as providing means for fire protection.

SEP 1
1937

[2]

All of the above provisions aim to keep our college work going even under serious air raids on Foochow by Japanese planes, as we feel that the struggle between China and Japan will be quite long drawn out and we could not stop our college work awaiting a final settlement in the future. Therefore, we are opening college as scheduled. Today we are having the second entrance examinations for new students, and all of the applicants showed up for the exams. We do not know yet how many of the old or new students will come to register from September 7 to the close of the registration period, but we hope that there will be a sufficient number to warrant carrying on the work.

Some preliminary plans have also been made in case Foochow should have to be evacuated for military operations. We have asked the various departments to collect together the most important documents and records to be ready for shipment to some place of safety in case we had to leave here on short notice. We have secured the consent of the Agent of the American Board Mission in Shaowu, North Fukien, for the use of their property there. When the arrangement for these buildings have been made we may shift some of our permanent records up there for safekeeping. The buildings available in Shaowu are thirteen in number, both large and small, including two school buildings, two hospital buildings and four rather large residences. (The buildings have been occupied by soldiers since 1932. If we can get the soldiers to move out we shall need some money for repairs. We have taken the first steps by asking the Fukien Government to get the soldiers to move out, but we have not heard as to how successful they have been. I am writing a letter about this to Dr. Fairfield, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for your supplementary information on this point.)

To relieve students from financial stringency during these difficult times we have decided to reduce our tuition by \$20.00 a year. We will, then, collect \$30.00 per term instead of \$40 as before. If the student enrolment is seriously affected by the present crisis our finances will, of course, also be greatly affected. The grants from the Fukien Government will be reduced by one-third. That will affect our rural work in general. (We shall, however, do our best to fit out budget to the present conditions, and we hope that by reducing certain items in the budget ^{we shall} be able to carry on the work.)

As a part of our agricultural program we are planting food crops which will help out in case of a food shortage; such crops as potatoes, tomatoes, wheat, etc.

No hostilities have yet been started within Fukien Province. There was a big air raid on Canton by Japanese planes yesterday. Several times recently Japanese bombers and scouting planes have been passing over Foochow, but they have not dropped any bombs. One never can tell though when they will actually do it. Sufficient military preparation has been made against the landing of Japanese troops along the Fukien coast and at the mouth of the Min River leading to Foochow.

Practically all of our old staff members are on the campus with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. Scott who served as a substitute preacher in the Shanghai Community Church during August, and Dr. Henry Chen, Head of our Physics Department, whose home is in Soochow. We have sent telegrams

0383

SEP 1 1937

[3]

to them asking them to come back in time for the opening of school. With the exception of the return of Edwin Chen from the University of Southern California, we shall probably not have any new teachers. Edwin Chen is expected to arrive in Foochow today.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. L.

CJL: A

P.S. Sept. 2/37. Since the above was written reports have come in that air raids have been made on Kienning, about 250 miles inland Northwest of Foochow, and on Changchow and Chuanchow, 150 -200 miles on the coast South of Foochow.

C. J. L.

0384

1
1
6
2
5
0
0

September 15, 1937
Dept. Plant Pathology
Cornell University
Ithaca, N.Y.

President C.J.Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, Fukien
China

SEP 18 1937

My Dear Dr. Lin:

On my return to Ithaca from a brief vacation, I find your air mail letter of August 6, and a letter from Dr. Garside of Sept. 10, with the content of which you are probably familiar.

Let me first express my sincerest thanks for your kind invitation. I am very sorry of being forced by the circumstances ~~eto~~ miss this fine opportunity of serving your institution and your country, and of getting acquainted in such an agreeable way as indicated in your letter.

You will have seen from my night cable and air mail letter that, in the present unfortunate situation, it did not seem advisable to accept your very kind offer. Although I should have liked to delay the decision, it would not have been fair to keep you in uncertainty.

Let us hope that the political situation will be improved soon. I certainly shall be interested to hear from you in future.

With the best wished,

Very sincerely yours,

R. Weindling

0386

September 18, 1937.

President C. J. Lin,
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China.

Dear Dr. Lin:

During recent weeks we have been in correspondence with Dr. Weindling with reference to the invitation that he go out to F. C. U. this year.

Inasmuch as the United States Government is not at present issuing passports for travel to China by American citizens, it would not be possible for Dr. Weindling to go out at this time in any event. So we do not need to face the question of whether we should urge him to accept the University's invitation despite the disturbed conditions in China. But even though he is not able to accept the invitation just at this time, we do hope that the way will open a little later for you to secure his services.

We have been very much pleased to receive this morning a cablegram from President Lucy Wang stating that Hua Nan has opened with a fair enrollment and is evidently going aggressively ahead with its plans for the autumn work. We hope that the next day or two will bring similar good news from F. C. U. At the same time we recognize that all of you are passing through very troubled days just now, and undoubtedly you will be kept under a severe strain during the weeks and months which lie ahead. We have been thinking of you constantly during these recent weeks, and you will continue to be very much in our thoughts and our prayers.

Very sincerely yours,

B. A. Linside

RLG/am

0387

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCHOW"

Steve

學大和協建福立私
FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

CODE:
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

October 1, 1937

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

Acc 11/17

Dear Dr. Garside:

On September 25 we sent you the following cable:

"Foochow quiet. Work going well. Students
hundred sixty." Chingjunlin.

We meant to convey to you in this cable three things. First, that Foochow has been quiet. We have had no attacks from the Japanese either from the air or from the coast. Japanese warships have been patrolling along the coast catching Chinese coastal boats and fishing boats from time to time, but have not definitely attempted to land. Japanese aeroplanes pay their casual visits to the city, but have never yet dropped any bombs here. People in Foochow have been rather scared of the possibility of bombing on some occasions, but generally they have behaved themselves very well. The police have conducted practices for safety against possible bombings; hence there has been very good order and a fine spirit among those who stay in the city. Sometime ago, a good many people, particularly women and children, moved to the surrounding villages leaving quite a few shops and houses closed, but they have come back to the city and business conditions are now almost normal. We do not expect any immediate danger or serious military operations here unless the Japanese get so mad that they bomb Foochow even though it is not a military base. It is not likely that we shall have to stop our work in the near future.

Another thing we attempted to report to you was our student enrolment. We stated that we had 160 students. Yesterday was the last day for registration, and the total number is 172.* Of this number 46 are women and 126 are men. The enrolment comes almost up to that of last fall which was 174. There are still a number of applications from students who could not return to their colleges in the war zones, but we have refused them admission as we are now in the third week of school for this term and it would be quite difficult to have new students come in after so long a time. We still have a number of old students who could not come on account of difficulties in connection with transportation, and more than three-fifths of the new students who were accepted for admission have not shown up. Had they all come as we expected before the war started, we should have had to use part of the old frame buildings for additional dormitory space.

And then we meant to convey to you the generally fine spirit that has prevailed on the campus since the opening of school. Before the fall semester began we decided to reduce our tuition from \$40 to \$30, so as to lessen the financial burden of the students. The other

*noted
Jm*

0388

OCT 1

[2]

- 2 -

1937

fees were collected at the same rate as usual and in advance, although the government advised that board money and tuition fees might be collected in installments. A few students had financial difficulties, but generally speaking they were able to produce the necessary amount of money. The success of this attempt will save us a great deal of trouble during the semester. We are now quite confident that we can go on with the work without much internal interruptions on account of student board or other expenses which might not be easily collected from students after they had registered.

We have already reported to you by letter or by our Weekly Bulletin that all of our faculty members were on the campus before the beginning of the term with the exception of Henry Chen who is in Soochow. We still hope, however, that he will come. Land communication between Fukien and other parts of China is still open, and also people can travel on the foreign boats along the coast of China. We also told you about the special course in War-time Knowledge and the special training, and the precautions which we are making against possible air raids by the Japanese. The faculty realize their especially heavy responsibility at this time and are, therefore, unusually diligent in their work, even though many of them are carrying much heavier loads than ever before.

For a while the Foochow Christian community, as well as the general public, was disturbed by the order of the American Government to the Consul here to evacuate its citizens and to close the Consulate in Foochow. Many people could not understand why the American Government was so ready to obey the threatened orders of Japan while its citizens were residing in a friendly nation. Some of the Christian institutions were threatened with the lack of teaching staff had the missionaries decided to go. Fortunately, all of the missionaries here who have regular work have decided to stay on and only some of the mothers with children are planning to go. It seems quite strange that the isolationists could have so much influence in Washington at the present time. We hope that the traditional American friendship to China will be effectively shown at this time of difficulty in China, for either the implied yielding of the American interest in the Far East or the invoking of the Neutrality Act would not merely mean neutrality for America, but it would operate decidedly in favor of Japan and against China, which I sincerely believe is not the intention of the American people. I have the confidence that America will soon exercise her great influence and power for peace in the Far East and throughout the world in general.

The war conditions between Japan and China are, no doubt, being daily fully reported in the New York papers. The Japanese have used almost all of their standing armies and the majority of their marines and aeroplanes in attacking China during the last two months. It is estimated that there are around 200,000 Japanese soldiers and marines in Shanghai alone. More than 130 warships and a couple hundred aeroplanes have been taking part in the war at Woosung and Shanghai. For a month and a half now they have not gained any advance in the Shanghai region, although they have destroyed a great deal of civilian property and lives. There are more than 250,000 Japanese troops operating in North China, not including those stationed in Manchuria. They have been making some

0389

OCT 1
1937

[3]

advance on the Tientsin-Pukow railway, the Peiping-Hankow railway, and the Peiping-Suiyuan railway. With the exception of the Peiping-Suiyuan railway no considerable advance of importance has been gained by the Japanese. They have made some advance on the Peiping-Suiyuan railway even into the northern part of Shangi, but they are beginning to meet Central Government troops who have already begun to drive them back. China has a nation now fully prepared to resist Japan in a long drawn out war. If munition supplies could be regularly forthcoming there is no question but that the Japanese would collapse in the end. Of course, we all hope that peace might soon be restored, but this does not depend on the wish of the Chinese and it is not likely that Japan herself would take the proper steps towards peace. It has come to the place now that only a stiff resistance from the Chinese and strong international pressure from the League of Nations or from a few strong powers can accomplish peace, and we sincerely hope that America will see the opportunity of rendering a great service to the peace of the world by exerting her influence in the Far East now in a peaceful way instead of being finally dragged in when others have made a mess of things.

The Chinese people are going through a most wonderful experience. They have never felt such a strength of unity as at the present time. In spite of all that Japanese planes and guns have done to the people in many cities and villages the courage and determination of the Chinese have increased with each bomb that Japan has dropped. Even we Chinese ourselves are quite surprised at the strength and unconquerable power of the Chinese nation. Future Chinese historians will certainly be grateful to the Japanese who have continually insulted and oppressed China until she had to wake up. We have already seen very clearly the beginning of a new day in this country. Christian education is, therefore, facing new opportunities which cannot be compared with any time in the past.

omit (In regard to the Shaowu property of the American Board Mission, about which I wrote you sometime ago, the Fukien Government has ordered the soldiers to move out. At the present time, however, we do not have sufficient staff here to warrant sending any one up there. Therefore, for the time being we are letting the matter rest. *noted H.M.*)

Yours sincerely,

C.J.L.

CJL:A

P.S. Oct. 2. Henry Chen got in late last night after a six-day trip overland by way of Yenping, so our staff is complete now. Also three old students got in on a boat from Shanghai late yesterday, thus bringing our student enrolment up to 175. The Fukien Government arranged with a British boat to bring about 1000 Fukienese from the Shanghai area. *noted H.M.*

C.J.L.

0390

Wick

over

October 13, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

Dear President Lin:

Let me acknowledge two letters from you which have arrived recently dated August 19th and September 1st.

We are grateful to you for the information concerning the situation at the University and in the city of Foochow which you give in such an interesting way in these two letters. I have had the second of the two letters mimeographed for distribution to the members of our Fukien Board of Trustees and a few other Fukien friends. We have also distributed to our Fukien constituency the cable you sent reporting that the University had opened with an enrollment of 160.

It is difficult for us to write freely on the situation in China these days, because we know that censorship is already in effect in certain parts of China, and it is difficult to predict where it may be imposed before this letter reaches the field. But we assure you that all of the American friends of China are warmly sympathetic and are eager to assist in any way they can.

Thank you for your authorization to pay one-half of Mrs. Farley's dental bill. We will proceed on this basis, charging the payment against the regular budget.

We certainly hope that it will not be necessary for F.C.U. to transfer any of its work to Shanghai, but it is encouraging to know that this location will be available if a shift in location is absolutely necessary.

All of our American boards of trustees are very much concerned about the financial problems which our colleges will face this year as a result of the crisis in China. As we have written you, we are making an effort to secure a special emergency fund, a part of which will be allocated to the various colleges, and the remainder of which will be held for the present to be assigned to the places in the greatest need of assistance. As yet, however, our plans are only in the preliminary stage, and we dare not give too much encouragement that any substantial amount of new money will be secured. We will keep you informed of developments.

Thank you for preparing the information concerning F.C.U. students who have majored in Chinese studies and their careers after graduation. This was sent us with Miss Asher's letter of August 17th. We are forwarding this information to Dean Chase in Cambridge.

0391

President Lin

-2-

October 13, 1937

We have been anxiously watching the news dispatches from China day by day. We are gratified that thus far there seems to have been no serious trouble in the immediate vicinity of Foochow. May you continue to have at least fairly peaceful conditions during the remainder of this academic year.

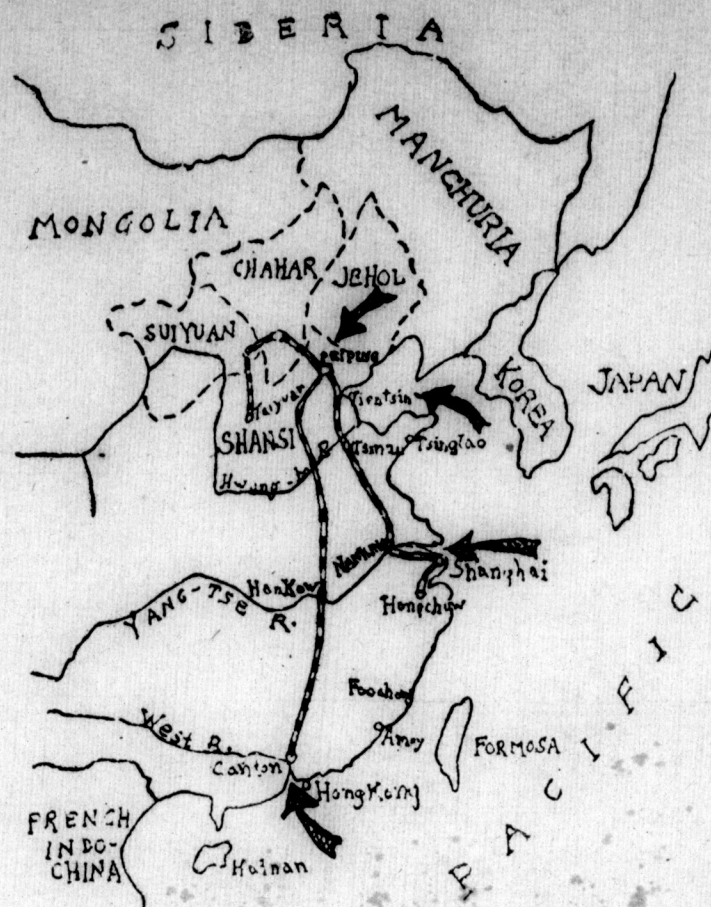
Very sincerely yours,

Bo Lunde

BAG:MP

0392

1
1
6
2
5
0
0



Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China
October 28, 1937.

Dear Friends:

The Sino-Japanese war is assuming increasing dimensions. The Japanese land forces are spreading in North China on three fronts, and in the Shanghai and Woosung area as the fourth front. With Peiping and Tientsin as centers in the North one column of the Japanese troops has been pushing down along the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, and occupying some cities in the northern part of Shantung Province. Along the Peiping-Hankow line the Japanese are

operating on the eastern border of Shansi Province; and, along the Peiping-Suiyuan road, northwestward, the Japanese forces are spreading into Suiyuan and northern Shansi. It is estimated that there are more than 350,000 Japanese soldiers engaged in this section and they are now occupying 700,000 square miles of Chinese territory. In the Shanghai area there are 120,000 to 150,000 Japanese soldiers and marines together with about 100 warships and 400 aeroplanes operating along the Yangtze River, the Whangpoo River, leading into Shanghai City, and the peninsula north of the Whangpoo.

Since the fighting started in the North on the night of July 7, the Japanese forces have made some advances on all of the three railway lines. The ease with which they have done this is due to the political situation in North China during the last four or five years. Since the seizure of Manchuria by Japan in 1931 she has considered these five provinces in North China as being within her control. The power of the Chinese political authorities over those regions was greatly weakened by the Japanese demands, and thus military preparations for defense slackened. Through bribery and threat, as well as opium and morphine poisoning, the general morale in the North had almost collapsed,

0393

OCT 28

1937

(2)

but for the last week or so the Central Government troops have been in control and they have already driven back the Japanese forces on those fronts. Some of the Japanese troops are being withdrawn from North China to Manchuria for fear of an uprising of the Chinese population in the Northeast.

The Shanghai defense has been from the beginning, August 13, carried on by the Central Government troops, and in spite of the enormous war machinery leveled at them by the Japanese troops they have held their lines without yielding an inch. When the interested powers in Shanghai proposed to both China and Japan that the International Settlement be made a neutral zone, Japanese militarists replied that they would break down the Chinese resistance within two weeks' time so it would not be necessary to consider the proposal. But with continuous calls for reinforcements from Japan, her land, naval, and air forces have been suffering big losses during the last two months without making any gain for themselves except the wanton destruction of civilian property and non-combatant lives on Chinese soil. Their general failure to succeed in China has angered the Japanese militarists, hence the blockading of China's seacoast, the shelling and destruction of Chinese fishing boats and farm villages along the coast, as well as sending aeroplanes to bomb civilian towns and the non-combatant population. Many educational and cultural institutions and Christian hospitals have either been totally destroyed or so greatly damaged that the continuation of work in them is impossible.

- Despite the strong Japanese military forces on our soil, the Chinese are determined to resist to the end. They realize that China is a weak nation from the military point of view. But they also realize that a stiff resistance is the only chance left to save themselves. In this China is solidly united. In fact, she has never been so united since the Sino-Japanese war of 1894-95. Our people are prepared to sacrifice everything to meet the national emergency. They know how Japan has treated the Formosans and Koreans and our people in Manchuria, and they remember how they themselves have been oppressed by Japan during the last six years, through illegal stationing of Japanese police, smuggling, and trade in narcotics, etc. Therefore, they really rather appreciate the chance to resist at the present time which may result in throwing off the Japanese shackles once and for all. Thus our Central Government has never had such loyal

0394

OCT 28
1937

support from the people as a whole. As the fighting goes on the Chinese have been surprised at the weakness of the Japanese fighting forces and the great moral and physical resources of their own army. They feel strongly that they are fighting now not only for their own national existence, but that they are also upholding the sanctity of international agreements, such as the Nine-Power Treaty and the Kellogg-Briand Peace Pact, both of which China and Japan signed, and for the peace of the world which Japanese aggression now threatens. They hope that before long the moral judgment of the world as expressed by the League of Nations, the church, and labor organizations throughout the world will assert itself in more concrete forms, such as economic sanctions, so that it will soon halt Japanese aggression and thus lessen the sufferings of the Chinese people as well as those of the Japanese masses. It is not likely that Japan, in spite of her superior war equipment, will be able to score decisive victories in a short time as she has expected. And it will be impossible for her to conquer China.

Our people were at first quite surprised at the attitude of the American Government in ordering the evacuation of American citizens from this country. The departure of Ambassador Nelson T. Johnson to a gunboat when Japan declared that she would bombard Nanking, while diplomats of other countries disregarded the warning, rather puzzled the Chinese people. We have always considered America our friend. It was the United States which called the Washington Conference and who was chiefly responsible for the Nine-Power Treaty which guarantees the sovereignty, the territorial integrity, and the freedom of the Chinese people to work out their own problems. America was also the moving spirit in forming the Kellogg-Briand Peace Pact. Both of these treaties Japan openly violated, and yet America was trying to be neutral. But the recent announcement by the American Government and President Roosevelt's speech in Chicago, as well as the readiness of the United States to join in the Nine-Power Conference, again makes clear to us that America is not unmindful of her treaty obligations and her old friendship for China. As everybody knows, if the Neutrality Act were invoked it would not only work to the advantage of Japan, but it would definitely hurt China for we do not have a strong navy and we cannot transport the necessary war supplies. We are glad that America is now taking an active part which will be a great influence for peace in the Far East.

0395

1937

Due to the war, air bombardment, and naval blockade, everything in this country has been disarranged. Business has greatly decreased, and foreign trade is almost dead. But the educational institutions are trying to continue their work. Three great educational centers, Peiping-Tientsin, Nanking, and Shanghai, have practically ceased to function. Canton in the South cannot do much real work. More than twenty colleges and universities have been destroyed by the Japanese so far. Students in the war zones are being transferred to other schools. Emergency colleges and schools have been established in the interior provinces. Many institutions have combined their forces and started work again in less dangerous localities. Fukien is quite fortunate in this respect so far. Fukien Province has not suffered much destruction. Our university opened on schedule time with a normal enrollment. A number of students have come to us from other institutions for work. Many more applied for admission, but owing to our limited accommodations we were not able to take them in. Both our faculty and students are hard at work, and have a fine spirit, for they realize the opportunities and responsibilities which are before them. It is gratifying to report that due to the trying circumstances our young people have grown in moral strength.

I have written the above in order to give you a summary and interpretation of the events that have taken place in China in connection with the Sino-Japanese conflict during the last three months. I know all of you have followed the news in the papers, but sometimes it may be hard for you to visualize what is the real situation in China at the present time. The simple sketch of the map of China on the first page will show you the strategic points in the war zone. Of course, it is impossible to indicate how the Japanese aeroplanes have been constantly bombing the various places. If this kind of letter can be of any help to you I shall attempt to follow it with others in the future. For your information I am enclosing a reprint of the Open Letter to Japan by Dr. E. Stanley Jones, the famous American missionary and world evangelist who for 30 years has been engaged in Christian service in the Far East. It states the case as seen by a Christian missionary from India.

Yours sincerely,

Shing-jun Lin
President

CJL:A

0396

November 1, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

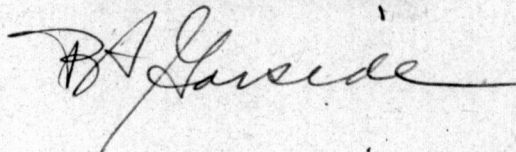
Dear President Lin:

I am sending this note of introduction to accompany a questionnaire being sent to you by Mr. Daniel L. Lee.

Mr. Lee has been engaged in research at Drew University, making a study of religious work and activities being carried on for and among the students of the Christian Colleges of China. In this connection he has worked out the questionnaire which he is now sending to you and to the China Colleges.

While we realize that you and your colleagues are carrying particularly heavy burdens just now because of the critical situation in China, we hope that you will be able to give the assistance Mr. Lee requests. His study should be of value not only to him when he returns to take up teaching work at Yenching, but also to the general field of Christian life and activities of all the Colleges.

Very sincerely yours,



EAG:MP

0397

November 17, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

Dear Dr. Lin:

Thank you for your letter of October 1st, with its interesting and encouraging news as to the progress of the work at F.C.U. We are delighted that the opening weeks of the College year went off so well, and we hope that you will continue to have fairly normal conditions under which to carry on.

We have sent copies of the letter to all members of the Board of Trustees, and will also be sharing excerpts with a number of our Fukien constituency. An appeal is now going out to the entire constituency of the China Colleges. Those specifically related to a single institution are to receive appeals in the name of the Board of Trustees of that institution, and those related to the entire group will receive appeals in the name of the Associated Boards. We are making every possible effort to secure the funds which the Colleges must have in order to carry on their work this year.

Of course, we are all very deeply stirred by the news which comes to us from China day by day. Whenever we write you we realize that the situation will probably change materially during the weeks our letter is en route. But we do hope that this will find things peaceful on the F.C.U. campus and that all of you will enjoy a very pleasant holiday season.

Very sincerely yours,

BA Gause

BAG:MP

0398

017

學大和協建福立私

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCHOW"

FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCHOW, CHINA.

CODE:
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

November 19, 1937

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

Dear Dr. Garside:

sent
This will acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated September 18. We have also received word from Dr. Weindling. We hope that when conditions are better we may take the matter up with him again.

omit
The mail day before yesterday brought in two letters from Mr. Evans dated September 25 and October 2, respectively, enclosing the medical reports of the Sutton family. From Mr. Evan's letter of September 25 we know that our cable to you announcing the opening of school and conditions in Foochow reached you in due time.

The Japanese forces have made advances on all the lines in the North as well as getting control of Shanghai. The Chinese have expected all of this, as well as even worse things to come. We are prepared to have all of the coastal provinces occupied by the Japanese forces as the war goes on, but we will not let them have the same without paying due price for it. China's final victory will come when Japan proves herself unable to keep the places she has occupied and collapse on her excessive assertions and display of military prowess. And when we do come back it will truly be the beginning of a new life for China, so the Chinese are neither afraid or discouraged over the recent military reverses.

The Japanese have started occupying an island, Ching Men, outside of Amoy, and are trying to land forces on the mainland near Amoy. So far, they have not been successful. Foochow continues to be quiet, although we expect that some trouble will come sooner or later. Our university has a fine spirit. Both the students and faculty are going along in a normal mode of life as we have reported to you during the last few weeks. We have sent a man to Shaowu to investigate the conditions of the American Board property there and the possibilities of the future development of agricultural extension service. The man has not come back for a full report yet. When we have considered the conditions we may make a plan which may be submitted both to our Board of Managers and Trustees. We received a cable some time ago from the American Board in Boston giving their approval of our making use of their property in Shaowu.

*omit
copied
rec'd
sent*
We sent you last week 75 copies of the reprints of Dr. Stanley Jones' Open Letter to Japan. A Chinese translation of that letter has been widely distributed in Fukien Province after we made the translation public in the newspapers here. We have sent this to all of our friends on our foreign mailing list, so the copies

0399

NOV 19
1937

we sent you may be used in any way you wish. We had Dr. Jones' letter reprinted here. We sent with Dr. Jones' letter to friends in America a copy of my letter of October 28, copies of which were also sent to you.

frd
From Mr. Evan's letter we notice that the Sutton family have been in New York, and they are no doubt in touch with you now. I am sure Dr. Sutton will be glad to be of any service which he can render for F.C.U. in particular or the Christian Colleges in general. We understand that Mr. Farley has probably gone to Paris. Mr. Theodore Chen has reported that they are doing very well in Los Angeles. One of our former staff members, Mr. Tan Jen Mei, is ~~now~~ at Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa., and one of our graduates, Mr. Lin Kung Hsiang is at Cornell (130 Dryden Road, Ithaca). I am sure they will be glad to cooperate with you in any way you can make use of them in connection with promotional work for Fukien.

just
Enclosed herewith please find a copy of my letter to Mr. Cressy of the China Christian Educational Association. I hope he has made a general report to the Associated Boards about the conditions of the Christian Colleges in China, so I do not need to report much about them here. Probably only West China Union University, Central China College, and Hwa Nan and Fukien in Foochow are the only ones carrying on under normal conditions, the rest all being closed, such as Yenching, Cheeloo, Ginling, or greatly affected, such as Nanking, Soochow, Shanghai, St. Johns, Hangchow, and Lingnan. From the educational point of view the present disaster may prove to be an opportunity for a fundamental readjustment of Christian higher education to China's needs. We hope that both the responsible people here in this country and our friends abroad will seize the opportunity and make the best of it.

Yours sincerely,

B. J. Lin

CJL:A

0400

November 18, 1937

Mr. E. H. Cressy
169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road
Shanghai

Dear Mr. Cressy:

I have your general letter of November 2 to the presidents of the Christian colleges raising the question of the suggested appeal for special funds as recommended by the executive Committee of the China Christian Educational Association. If you are going to have a meeting we will ask Dr. W. Y. Chen to represent me. I am also writing to Dr. Chen about this.

I question very much the advisability of a special appeal for the Christian colleges alone at this time of the national emergency in the name of the China Christian Educational Association. I would suggest that the Association cable or write to Christian educational organizations abroad for a general appeal ^{for the urgent need for justice} to China as a nation against Japanese aggression, and secondly some contribution towards the relief work of the wounded and the refugees arising out of the Japanese war in China. For if the Japanese aggression goes on no matter how much money our friends may give for the Christian colleges they will soon be destroyed or greatly damaged. On the other hand, if we can rally the world public opinion to press for some effective restraint on Japanese military aggression, Christian education in China in general will thereby be benefitted.

Moreover, there are so many miscellaneous appeals to our friends abroad. Because of certain particular interests, we may secure some money for the colleges and Christian students, but it may serve in a measure to interfere with the general appeal for the larger need of China, such as medical service and refugee relief. I understand that the N.C.C. has been appealing to their Christian constituency abroad for assistance in its emergency service in China. The National Committee of the Y.M.C.A. has been pushing a campaign abroad for student relief work. If the Educational Association ^{could co-ordinate} with these existing organizations it would seem to me that we should not appeal as a separate body for the same projects. Undoubtedly, there are urgent needs for individual colleges, but I hope that each will appeal to its own Board whose members are especially concerned with same, rather than to have a general appeal which will serve to detract attention from the greater needs of China as a whole.

I am not in favor of raising funds for the Christian students alone. The Christian students in China are not suffering

0401

NOV 18 1937

[4]

- 2 -

especially because they are Christians. We ought to help all the students in China in the war zones without discrimination, for in China there is no hostility between Christian and non-Christian students, and suffering comes from a common source, the Japanese aggression - rather than from internal persecution of Christian students as such.

We will not join in the appeal for emergency aid at this time should the conference decide to make such an appeal, because of the reasons outlined above. To be sure, we have not been affected materially by the Japanese bombardment and military operations, but there are serious financial needs which we should prepare for in this time of emergency. The Japanese have occupied an island near Amoy, and Foochow is only a few hours distant by road from there, and we have visits from Japanese aeroplanes, but we feel that our particular needs should be the concern of our Board of Managers and Trustees rather than the care of our Christian friends in general abroad.

As you have hinted, this may be a good time for Christian higher education to make adjustments to meet China's needs. We should not be content to do things just in order to maintain our status quo. This is a time of great difficulty, but also it may be a great opportunity. Many things may be accepted at this time which could not be done in ordinary times, so I hope that the China Christian Educational Association, or Council, of Higher Education, will not yield too much to the individual needs of certain institutions and miss the larger perspective of our work in China as a whole.

Yours sincerely,

President.

CJL:A

0402

57
November 18, 1937

Dr. W. Y. Chen
169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road
Shanghai

Dear Dr. Chen:

May I ask you to represent me in a conference which Mr. Cressy may possibly call to discuss the proposal of making a general appeal in the name of the China Christian Educational Association for funds abroad for the Christian colleges. Enclosed herewith please find a copy of my letter to Mr. Cressy about this. I give my reasons in that letter for not being in favor of such an appeal. I would urge instead that the Association make its contribution by sending appeals for China as a whole and that general consideration be given to ^{the advancement of} Christian higher education in China at this conference.

We are conscious of the urgent needs of the individual colleges, but it would seem rather selfish to use the name of the Educational Association for the colleges alone while the whole of China is in danger, for the appeal for the colleges alone may affect the case of China as a whole in that it may attract the attention of our friends to the smaller units of work which depends so much on the general conditions of China. Furthermore, whatever gifts may be made to these colleges may prove to be in vain because of the unlimited possibilities of the Japanese aggression in China. We must help to strike at the root of things. Individual colleges can probably get a more ready response through their respective Boards of Trustees or mission boards abroad. A national body like the China Christian Educational Association should deal with the problems of the nation as a whole.

I also feel very strongly that we should not at this time separate the Christian college students from other college students, for the issue here in China is not between Christians and non-Christians, but between innocent Chinese and militaristic Japanese. We must not mislead our friends abroad that it is the Christian students who are suffering from the injustice and cruelties of the Japanese militarists, but all of the Chinese people. I think the policy adopted by the N.C.C. is the right one; Christian bodies in China exist for service in general and not for service for the Christians alone. F.C.U. would not, therefore, associate itself with any appeal abroad for a narrow interest alone.

To summarize my personal position I may state that first, I would be in favor of an immediate appeal in the name of the China

0403

NOV 18
1937

[6]

Christian Educational Association to the world for justice to China. Second, an appeal to the friends of China for aid to the educational and cultural institutions in this country which Japanese have deliberately and wantonly set out to destroy, and third, an appeal for general help to students who were, or are being put, into great difficulty because of Japan's military operations. If some substantial results come for the second and third items, our Educational Association will cooperate with other institutions as to how that money can be most profitably applied. In case of designated gifts for Christian educational work or Christian students in general, then the Educational Association should cooperate with the N.C.C. and the Y.M.C.A. in making a fair distribution according to the needs. Should some Christian colleges insist that the Educational Association should do something especially for them, I think it would be better to use the name of the Council of Christian Higher Education instead of the Association.

Yours sincerely,

CJL:A

1
1
6
2
5
0
0

0404

The fall term found F.C.U. opened on schedule time, September 13, although there were possibilities of delaying the work on account of the invasion of the Japanese forces both in North China and in Shanghai, and the possibility of air raids on Foochow. The work was started with a faculty retreat lasting for two and a half days at which time we planned for curriculum adjustments and some precautionary measures against air bombing. We have made the basement and the sub-basement rooms of the Arts Hall and the Science Hall as places of safety by piling up sand bags in the outside windows and prepared some dugouts along the hill-sides. Means for fire protection and arrangement for the safety of the more valuable equipment and books have also been effected.

During the first few days registration moved very slowly, but in the end our student enrolment mounted to 175 which is about the same as last fall. About two-thirds of the new students and one-fourth of the old students were prevented from returning on account of communication difficulties and financial handicaps. All of our faculty members are on the campus. Prof. Edwin Chen of the Rural Economics Department returned from a year of study in America, and two part-time lecturers have been added to the Departments of Chinese and Education, respectively. We have considerably lowered the tuition charge to help relieve the financial burden of the students during this time of great difficulties.

Adjustments have been made in our educational program to help meet the present crisis. Besides our regular work as it is carried on in normal times, we have added the following three lines of training which have worked out quite satisfactorily so far.

1. The War-Time Knowledge Course. This course is required of the whole student body, and is conducted by seven members of the faculty. The course consists of six units: (1) First Aid and Public Health in War Time, (2) Gas Defense, (3) Communication and War Engineering, (4) War Economics, (5) International Law in War-Time, (6) Food Production and Conservation. The student body is divided into six groups, each group attending each of the above units for seven successive sessions, by rotation. The course is conducted according to regular academic standards, reading, experiments, and examinations all being required. Three credit points will be given to all students who at the end of the semester have satisfactorily completed the work.

2. Special Military and Physical Training. In addition to the regular military and nurses training required of all freshmen, the whole student body is required to give two afternoons a week, after 4:30, for special training and drill in military science which has not been included in the regular course. The authorities in the city are giving us assistance and aid in this work. Beginning with last year physical training and athletics were required of the whole student body. This semester in addition to the usual morning group exercise and required athletics, all students must spend two afternoons after 4:30 in physical training under the guidance of the athletic director. Faculty members also participate in this which has helped to increase the interest of the students and to create a fine spirit of comradeship.

3. Practical Service to the People. This is one of the most important parts of our new educational plan. We suspend regular classes one day a week for students and faculty to work in the neighboring villages. The student body is divided into two main divisions: (A) Regional Service Units, and (B) Mobile Units. Division (A) is first subdivided into seven groups for special training in the morning in (1) First Aid and Health, (2) Food Production, (3) Current Events,

DEC 8
1937

(27)

-2-

(4) Military Knowledge, (5) Citizenship Training, (6) Gas Defense, (7) Communication. Then the students in these groups are redistributed into seventeen regional service units. Each unit is made up of one student from each of the seven training groups, with one, or more, faculty member as advisor. Each unit is assigned a special region consisting of a group of villages which it visits regularly once a week in the afternoon. The object of the service is to train the people in the regions ear-marked along the six or seven lines of knowledge mentioned above.

Division B consists of five mobile units; namely, (1) Drama, (2) Mass Singing, (3) Demonstration in Gas Defense, (4) the Arts and Technique of Organization, and the (5) Technique of Communication. They move from one region to another as it is ready for such presentations. These units vary in the number of students according to their respective needs. All the divisions and units are formed by the students choosing the field of their own particular interest and ability. There are already many signs of initiative, self-education, and enthusiasm on the part of the students in the service rendered.

It will be of interest to mention that the regular student-activity organizations remain in active operation. All departmental clubs, as well as the Student Self-Government and the Student Christian Association, are functioning as usual, except that their activities are coordinated along the main objective of national defense. The Student Christian Association is doing an unusually good piece of work this semester.

The Japanese invasion of China presents new problems and new challenges to F.C.U. education. The Chinese people have confidence that they will win in the long run, because their cause is just. But in the long drawn-out struggle against Japanese imperialism there is urgent need of leadership to mobilize the masses to work and to sacrifice for the national cause. Technical knowledge along various lines is required in this struggle both for defense purposes at the front and for production and care of the ordinary daily life of the people throughout the land. Then there is the constant need of maintaining a high morale in the nation in carrying on the resistance. There is need of real spiritual resources, such as courage and endurance in face of defeat and suffering; kindness and sympathy in face of a furious and desperate struggle for existence. We, therefore, need a true and strong religious faith to sustain ourselves in all of this.

We believe that Christian education should, and can, meet such needs. The students in the Christian colleges should constitute the main stock from which such needs can be met. They should also be prepared for the great task of reconstruction after the war is over. F.C.U. is one of the very few Christian colleges which has been able to carry on its educational service without serious interruptions thus far, so we should face the opportunities and responsibilities with greater effort and courage than ever. We are constantly working for better adjustments in our curriculum, in our methods of teaching, and in our direct service to the people and the nation. We are also preparing for the possibility of Japanese invasion of the province. Japanese militarism may succeed for the time being in occupying some of our land, destroying our property, buildings and equipment, and killing our people. But it will not be able to destroy the spirit of F.C.U. or to prevent the upbuilding of a new and better China.

C.J.Lin

0406

During the year under review the work in all the departments of the university was very satisfactory. For this we are grateful. The educational service of F.C.U. has long been held in high esteem by society and has repeatedly received the commendation of the Ministry of Education. We always try to put forth our best efforts, and the reputation and the influence of the university have been growing steadily. One of the results is the increase of applicants for admission. But on account of the Japanese military and economic aggression the financial ability of the people has been steadily decreasing. Many worthy students could not manage to come; and others later found it impossible to continue. We need, therefore, to greatly increase the number of scholarships and aidships, so as to help those worthy students who otherwise are too poor to finance themselves for further study with us.

Our student guidance policy during the year centered chiefly around (1) the building of character through special emphasis on spiritual cultivation; (2) training of physical strength through military drill, modern physical exercises, required athletics, and manual labor; and (3) the cultivation of their ability to serve the people by encouraging them to participate in the rural reconstruction work. We also paid special attention to other agencies, such as departmental clubs, collection and observation trips, publications, and the activities of the Student Christian Association and the Student Self-Government Association for the development of their will and the widening of their experience. The general spirit of the faculty and students was very good throughout. The following will give a brief account of the work of each department.

1. Arts College. There was a reorganization of the Arts Departments. The work in the Departments of Political Science and Economics was combined with the Chinese and History Departments and the Department of Rural Economics, respectively. The Department of Foreign Languages and Literature was combined with the Departments of Western Philosophy and Religion. We have, therefore, only three departments in the Arts College; namely, (1) the Department of Chinese Literature and History, (2) the Department of Western Language, Literature, and Philosophy, and (3) the Department of Education and Psychology.

The Department of Chinese Literature and History gives special emphasis to the study of Fukien culture and literature. It has started the collection of local records from the various counties and districts of the province, and has prepared a History of Fukien Literature. The Department of Western Languages, Literature and Philosophy pays special attention to modern western thoughts and the training of teachers in English. The Department of Education and Psychology offered new courses in Secondary and Primary Education, Methods in Teaching, Educational Administration, Rural Education, and Character Education. To provide facilities for practice teaching for the students in the department, we effected a reorganization of the Hui-Gie Village School and made better readjustments of the other village schools in our rural experiment stations.

2. Science College. The work and equipment of our Science College has, for sometime, been recognized as being of the very highest grade. With the additional grant from the Ministry of Education, we have further strengthened our work in that field. The Department of Biology gave comparatively more time this year to the investigation and classification of the flora and fauna of the Province of Fukien, and to a careful study of economic birds and economic entomology. Prof. Tso-Hsin Chong has published a standard Manual for publication. Both of these works use chiefly materials and illustrations from Chinese sources.

The Department of Chemistry has made noteworthy contributions in the field of applied and industrial chemistry. Last winter we sent Professor

DEC 8 1937

{2}

-2-

T. H. Wang and Mr. Lin I of this department to the National Research Institute, Nanking, to participate in the research work of Applied Chemistry. Successful experiments have been conducted in the study of the Min River Water, the Fukien soy bean sauce, the manufacture of fish liver oil, and the analysis of the quality and fragrance of Fukien tea. Satisfactory results were also recorded in the analysis of Fukien clay and in the improvement of manufacturing Fukien porcelain. In both of these we contributed to the efforts of the Fukien Government along the same lines. Professor Willard J. Sutton is now on furlough and will take further work in Ceramics at Alfred University.

The Department of Physics and Mathematics concentrated on the making of apparatus for the first two years of college laboratory work. The results show that the articles made in our own Work Shop are not only cheaper than the purchase price of the same abroad, but that they are often superior in the convenience of use and adaptability to conditions here.

3. College of Rural Reconstruction. This university has been working on rural improvements for a number of years. Favorable records have been established in reforestation, rice selection, studies in injurious insects, sericulture, and apiculture. On the extension side, science extension clubs have long been organized to educate and guide the farmers in improving their farm crops. Later on we organized a Rural Service Department and established the Wu Li Ting Rural Experiment Station.

In the fall of 1936 the Ministry of Education approved our organization of a Department of Agriculture and a Department of Rural Economics, for the improvement in agriculture and the training of rural service leaders for the province. The Fukien Government took great interest in this plan and made substantial grants towards the establishment of several teaching chairs. The Fukien Bureau of Reconstruction cooperated with the university in establishing a Horticultural Experiment Station for the improvement of citrus fruit, jasmine, and some of the outstanding Fukien vegetables. The new Horticultural building was completed last spring. We also carried on work in the improvement of stock for chickens and goats.

The Provincial Bureau of Health came in to do public health and sanitation work in our Wu Li Ting Rural Experiment Station, which was a great help in this service to the villagers. The division of Entomology in the Agriculture Department has gained much confidence from both the people and the government by a successful movement for the extermination of stink bugs which for the last few years destroyed a large percentage of the lychee fruit which is one of the chief products of Fukien Province. The new college faculty rendered a valuable service to the province by conducting a survey of waste land and its utilization in three counties south of Foochow last spring. Their report was published by the Fukien Government in a special volume of 114 pages.

4. Publications and Library. Members of our faculty have generally undertaken some research work in addition to their regular teaching work. Hence, we have several publications, such as the "Hsieh Ta Journal," "Fukien Culture," "F.C.U. Literary Journal." The fourth volume of the "Hsieh Ta Journal" was issued during the year. It is the general publication in which the special research articles of the faculty are published. "Fukien Culture" has reached its 24th number. This publication specializes in the study of history, the social system and customs of the province. The fifth number of the "F.C.U. Literary Journal" was issued under the Department of Chinese Literature and History. This magazine makes a special study of literature, history, and geography.

The archaeological collection which Professor Malcolm F. Farley has accumulated during a number of years had added to it a number of specimens of

0408

historical significance made available during the period the government was carrying on extensive excavations of land and graves in connection with the construction of public buildings in Foochow. The collection is quite unique in many ways. It grows also in volume. It now fills every space in the Museum Room in the Arts Hall and the Farley house. There is need for better accommodation, if it is to be made available for study and research purposes.

We have in our library the valuable Chen collection of Chinese works numbering nearly 30,000 volumes. Dr. G. Reynolds Turner donated to the library his thirty-five years collection of nearly 1000 volumes on China by foreign authors. With the books we already had and the additions of the year, there is no space left in our library. It was, therefore, necessary for us to plan the building of a new library. The plan of the building and the location for same had more or less been decided upon. A campaign was earnestly launched to raise the necessary funds, but on account of the Japanese invasion the work along this line has been temporarily suspended.

In summarizing, we may state that the education of F.C.U. during 1936-37 has been an attempt to adjust our program to meet the needs of the people during the time of national crisis. We may mention the following three lines of effort for emphasis:

1. The Reorganization of Departmental Work. We have reorganized the original seven departments in the Arts College into three departments; namely, the work in History, Political Science, and part of Sociology is combined with the Department of Chinese Literature to form a new Department of Chinese Literature and History. We combined the Department of Economics and a part of Sociology into a newly established Department of Rural Economics. Because of the frequent interchangeable personnel in the Department of Philosophy and Religion and in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, we combined these two departments into one of Western Languages, Literature, and Philosophy. The division of Economic Entomology in the Biology Department was transferred to the newly established Department of Agriculture. With the deduction of a number of departments and the concentration of personnel, departmental organization has become more systematic and the courses of studies generally enriched. Teaching efficiency under the new arrangement has also been noticed.

2. Establishment of two more Departments in the College of Rural Reconstruction. We have considerable foundation in the rural reconstruction work. Improvement in agriculture has been recognized in this country as one of the most urgent needs. Taking into consideration all the difficulties involved, we started a Department of Agriculture and a Department of Rural Economics for the advancement of practical education in production and in the training of leadership for rural service. The Government of Fukien has given us substantial support, and society in general earnestly approve of our move. There has been an enthusiastic response from the students in this new field of education. This is, of course, just a beginning, and we shall have to continue our efforts along this line for the next few years before we can really make contributions of a permanent nature to the economic life of the people in this province.

3. Emphasis on the Spiritual Education of the Students. F.C.U. has always upheld character education as one of its foremost objectives. During the time of a great national crisis the building of character among the students should receive increased attention. During the year we have made careful plans and quiet, but effective, execution of same in the various gatherings, such as the daily flag-raising and flag-lowering ceremony, daily chapel service, Vesper Service, and the Monday morning Memorial meeting for spiritual cultivation and character building. Those who participated in these meetings received considerable help. Spiritual forces are an

DEC 8
1937

[47]

-4-

essential part of the reconstruction of a new nation. Christ-like character which manifests itself in love, sacrifice, and service is the source of those spiritual forces. This training is probably the most valuable contribution which the university can make to China.

C.J.Lin

1
1
6
2
5
0
0

04 10

CABLE ADDRESS:
"HSIHO, FOOCOW"

學大和協建福立私
FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FOOCOW, CHINA.

CODE:
"MISSIONS"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
處公辦長校

December 21, 1937

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

Dear Dr. Garside:

Enclosed herewith I am sending you a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Managers which was held on December 11. Under separate cover, we are sending you twenty-five additional copies for distribution to the Board of Trustees and the few secretaries on your list to whom you send material. I am also enclosing a copy of my report for 1936-37 and a copy for the Fall Term, 1937. We are not mimeographing or printing these reports here. If you think it is worthwhile to mimeograph them there for distribution to our Trustees we shall be glad to have it done.

Budget for 1937-38. The budget was made last January, at which time we sent you a detailed copy. We have, however, revised it several times on account of changes in income and expenditure. The income from the government, as you will notice, has been considerably reduced due to the war, and because of the war we did not engage several teachers for our Department of Agriculture as we had planned. The enclosed copy is a summary of the final budget which we submitted to the Board of Managers and which was approved at the last meeting. It is very likely that some further reductions will be made in the income from the government sources. For instance, the grant from the Ministry of Education, Central Government, has already been reduced 30% beginning with September. That is, instead of receiving \$1000 per month as we did for July and August, we received only \$700 for the month of September. The grants from the Fukien Government, beginning with September, have been reduced by 45%. The item of income under Fukien Government in the budget summary is the reduced figure while the item under Nanking Government is the original figure as we did not receive the notice of change until after this summary had been made. You will also notice that we have an item in income from Sabbatical Reserve, the fund that we have accumulated on the field for such purposes, to meet part of the expenses of the Farley and Sutton families. By cutting off several teachers whom we were prepared to engage, we shall still be able to balance the budget with some money left for Contingency. Of course, we do not know how much we may need from Contingency during the next two or three months.

Bishop John Gowdy. Sometime ago, that is before the war started, I talked with Bishop Gowdy of the possibility of his returning to America in the spring for a short visit, at which time he might approach some of his personal friends who are now quite advanced in age for gifts for endowment for the university. He was willing to consider it. He

0411

1937

is not definitely considering going to America right now on account of the war, but he may do it a little later. This explains our Vote MB28.

Substitute for Professor F. P. Beach. We have already reported to you about the death of Professor Beach. We are very sorry to have this loss. He made great contributions to F.C.U. education. We have asked the Mid-Fukien Synod of the Church of Christ in China, ^{for a substitute} and the Executive Committee of the Synod has voted in favor of our request. They are also in sympathy with our desire to have a missionary if possible who is trained for work in Agriculture, as well as one who has been in China before, so as to save time in making adjustments. Although we did not mention officially the candidate, we discussed rather freely both in the Executive Committee of the Synod of the Church of Christ in China, at which I was invited to be present, and in our Board of Managers' meeting, that if the American Board has no ready candidate, and if agreeable to the Board, they might appoint Mr. William Overholt of the Methodist Mission. Mr. Overholt has been in China for two terms of service doing agricultural work in the Yenping Conference in the Northern part of Fukien. He worked at F.C.U. for about three months last spring before he left for furlough. Bishop Gowdy suggested that on account of the need of the Yenping Conference for a general evangelist that Conference would not be able to give support for the return of Mr. Overholt, but suggested that the American Board might consider supporting him.

Mr. Overholt graduated from Ames State College, Iowa, specializing in Animal Husbandry. He did some work in Plant Pathology during his first furlough in America, and has since carried on some agricultural work single-handed in Yenping. He is a married man with three children, and I believe he would be glad to come back to China if there is an opportunity. He is now taking further work in Animal Husbandry at Ames. We believe that he would be a very good man to have, for in the whole of China very few Chinese are trained along this line. We have had a hard time in securing persons for our staff in the College of Rural Reconstruction. Mr. Overholt is quite well acquainted with the climate and soil conditions in this province. He speaks the language, and there is every advantage in having a man who has already developed his love for China and his work here. We wish, therefore, that if it is possible he might be recommended for appointment.

Emergency Measures. We have already written you about the Shaowu property which the American Board has kindly offered to us for emergency use. It seems to be very desirable that we prepare a place in North Fukien for our agricultural extension work. In case Foochow is suddenly invaded by Japanese forces we might also have a place to carry on our work. The Government of Fukien offers every facility to us in case we want to move the necessary things on short notice. They will also keep us informed as to when we should do it. For the time being, we are not thinking of moving anything up there except to make the necessary repairs to some of the buildings, and some small equipment which may be needed for elementary agricultural service. We consider that it is safer to leave our things here even under the most difficult circumstances. We shall send some of the more valuable pieces of equipment to be stored in the Methodist go-down, and shall pack up the rest of the things and put them in some of the strong rooms in our larger buildings, should we have

0412

1937

to leave the place. Our thought is that even if the Japanese should succeed in occupying our place, we would come back eventually and the things kept here would still be available for educational use upon our return. But we do not want to stop F.C.U. education entirely even in case that happens, therefore we secured the authorization of the Board of Managers to carry on work in Shaowu should we not be able to continue our work in Foochow.

We would need additional funds in connection with opening up the Shaowu work. There is no provision for that in our budget. There is some possibility of the Government of Fukien granting us some money for that purpose, but we have not specifically asked them to do so, because we have not made definite plans. It is not likely, however, that the government would give us enough of a grant to cover all of the necessary expenses of repairs and moving. Therefore, we are informing you of our possible additional needs for that purpose, and we hope that our Trustees may have some money reserved should we have to call for the same. We shall, of course, always try to find the necessary money here first, but in case of serious trouble here we might not be able to meet all of our financial obligations.

omit (I am writing to the American Board in Boston about Professor Beach's substitute. I believe Bishop Gowdy will also write to the Methodist Board about Mr. Overholt. If you will take the matter up further with Dr. Fairfield and Mr. Cartwright it would probably facilitate procedure, etc. We would like to have the Overholts return to F.C.U. for the fall semester's work, 1938.)

Present Conditions in Fukien. The conditions in this province are still quiet, but since the fall of Nanking into Japanese hands there is much speculation as to where Japan will strike next. There is a probability that Japan will attack South China, which includes Fukien and Kwantung. Large cities such as Amoy and Foochow would presumably have military operations, for we Chinese will not give up an inch of land without a struggle. It is because of this possibility that the Government of Fukien has asked the more important educational institutions to move from the seacoast to some interior places. Amoy University has recently become a national university, and it has been asked to move to Tingchow on the Western border of Fukien. All of the government educational institutions in Foochow are taking steps to move to interior towns within the next month or so. The government has also expressed the desire to assist privately established schools to move. Our present plan is to stay in Foochow as long as we can and to make the best contribution we can through our Chinese staff and students towards the defense of our land before we leave the place. We consider it a duty and an opportunity for educational institutions to put forth their best efforts to help in the great national cause rather than to flee to some place of presumable safety before other people do.

The Winter Vacation and Spring Semester. We plan to conclude our fall semester's work around January 4. This will be two weeks earlier than originally scheduled. This is due to the special effort of the Government of Fukien to train and organize all the people in this province during the next few months. Besides military training for national defense, the masses of the people will be given citizenship training and other lines of knowledge and technique which will help them to improve their living conditions. Therefore, a large number of instructors are needed. Students

0413

DEC 21
1937

[47]

- 4 -

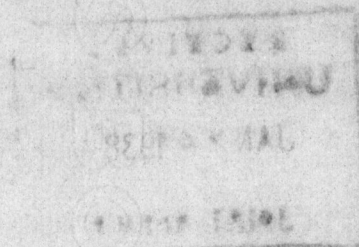
above second year Senior High School grade are thought to be the best for this purpose. The government will select the students above second year Senior High for two weeks of concentrated training after which they will be distributed to practically all the districts in this province to assist in citizenship training. The period for such service will be three months. The girls of high school grade will be trained in a separate camp and will be charged to do work in the districts near their own schools. The first-year high school students, as well as students in the Junior Middle School and below, will be carried on as usual. Both college men and women will participate in this movement. Most of the teachers will also go out with the students to help them in their work. We will, therefore, probably not start our class work for the spring semester until the end of April. Our faculty has been working quite hard to see whether we can adjust our education to our students' needs while they are serving the people. This has been an ideal for us for many years, and we hope that we may take this opportunity to make a worthwhile educational experiment.

Yours sincerely,

W. F. Lin.

CJL:A

Copy to Dr. Fairfield
Bishop Gowdy



0414

1
1
6
2
5
0
0

Rec'd of C. J. Lint
letter of 12/21/37

December 22, 1937

Dr. F. F. Goodsell
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Goodsell:

I have been instructed by our Board of Managers to write to the American Board through you to express our appreciation for the part of the American Board contribution to the work in Christian higher education at Fukien through the person of Professor F. P. Beach. You have already been informed by cable that Professor Beach died in the Foochow Christian Union Hospital on November 25, 1937, at the age of 61. Professor Beach had been Professor of Education and Psychology at this university for the last sixteen years, and he made valuable contributions along his own lines, as well as the general educational standards of the university. His death is a great loss to us, although his influence will go on for many years to come.

The Board of Managers and the university staff wish to express our appreciation of the approval of the American Board for the use of the Shaowu property. We hope to develop agricultural work there, which in turn we hope will revive the church's contribution to the life of a large section of the province. As soon as we have the necessary funds in hand we shall effect some repairs on the buildings which as you know have been occupied by the soldiers for the last five years.

At the last Annual meeting of our Board of Managers held on December 11, it was voted to present a request to the American Board for a substitute for Professor Beach for our teaching staff here. We hope that a new candidate will soon be secured and appointed, so that our work can be continued without much interruption. If it is possible, we should like to have a missionary who is trained in the Agricultural sciences, for as you already know we started work in rural reconstruction a few years ago, and we are in great need of instructors in that field. It is very difficult to secure competent persons for this work in China, and in the meanwhile there is a great demand from all of the churches in this provinces for such leadership which the university must supply. It may be possible that the Board could secure a person with these qualifications and who has had some experience in China already so that he will not have to spend much time in making adjustments and learning about soil and climate conditons here.

We have presented this request to the Fukien Synod of the Church of Christ in China. I understand that the Executive Committee of the Synod has approved our request, and that you have likely already received it. We shall appreciate a favorable consideration to our request by the Board.

Yours sincerely,

CJL:A

04 15

over

[17]
over

December 28, 1937

President C. J. Lin
Fukien Christian University
Foochow, China

Dear Dr. Lin:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 19th. We are glad to have this news of the progress of the work at Fukien Christian University. We are making copies of this material for distribution to the members of the Board of Trustees.

All of us are deeply distressed by the developments in China during recent weeks and are concerned over what may happen during the weeks just ahead. But we do hope that this will find F.C.U. closing its first term under relatively normal conditions and that you will be able to go through with the work of the second term without any serious interruptions.

While we can not yet foresee just what the outcome of the present crisis will be, we do have every confidence that in some way even this great disaster will somehow contribute to the further progress of the Chinese people and the Christian enterprise in China.

We have read with interest the enclosed copies of your letters to Mr. Cressy and to Dr. W. Y. Chen under date of November 18th. Both your letter and the few communications we have received from Mr. Cressy this fall show how difficult it has been for all of us to keep in touch with what is actually happening in the various parts of China. We appreciate the breadth and unselfishness of your viewpoint that we should not at this time stress special appeals for Christian higher education in China alone, or for the relief of Christian groups alone. The needs of China are so vast and so urgent that all of us must submerge our special interests in the greater needs of the nation as a whole. This our China Colleges group here in North America has been trying to do. While we have felt that it is essential to keep the work of Christian higher education going through this crisis because of the indispensable contribution these Colleges are making - and must continue to make - to the leadership of the Chinese people, at the same time we have been taking an active share in the other movements on behalf of the people of China. In particular, we have been cooperating with the groups which are seeking to secure funds for the relief of suffering in China, and many of us have been giving almost as much time to this as to the work of the China Colleges.

We share with you too the hope that one outcome of the present crisis will be a thorough restudy of the whole problem of Christian higher education in

0416

China and the making of adjustments which will increase the effectiveness of that undertaking. It is well for us here in America to remember the significance of the meaning of the Chinese word for "crisis" - a combination of danger and opportunity.

Very sincerely yours,

BAHawide

BAG:MP

1
1
6
2
5
0
0

0417