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Corres.

Thomas, Eunice 1934-1945

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[September 7, 1934]

PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY

Pleasant Hill, New Jersey

1934

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
223 Lake View Drive
Collingswood, New Jersey

Dear Miss Thomas:

I was glad to have your letter of August 9th forwarded to me again. I tried to inquire where you might be in the summer. I certainly appreciate your point of view about our proposition to you. Since you have a settled position for the coming year we can take the matter up in a more leisurely way. I want to assure you that we want you as well as the salary attached to you, but we want you first because we really need teachers of English language and literature. With your former preparation and experience you are also in a position to help a great deal in our educational work in general. We only wish that we had our own finances so that we would be able to invite you by ourselves, but as you well know, the mission board appropriation to us has been cut from fifty percent to one-hundred percent in most cases, and we are not able to do many things we would like to do. I shall take the matter up with our board in New York and later with the American Board in Boston, and I hope that by your letter of August 9 to me you have approved of your coming out if we could make some arrangement for your finances.

Your idea of studying a semester or a year before you go to China again is a good one and I also hope that there may be an opportunity for you to study more Mandarin when you are in China. It will be most helpful for your work in the University when you have a better knowledge of the language of the students.

I am leaving her for the East on September 15. I am hoping to stop a couple of places before I arrive in New York around September 25. We are expecting to quarter our family at the Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Connecticut for the rest of the academic year, altho I will be in and out most of the time during the winter season. I shall surely go to Boston for some time to see the American Board people. Please give me your direct address, and write me whatever you have in your mind in connection with your going out to China, to our New York office, care of Mr. B.A. Garside, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Mrs. Lin and the children are getting along very well. My wife joins me in sending you our best regards.

Yours very sincerely,

CJL

1233

PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
Pleasant Hill, Tennessee

UNDER AUSPICES OF
AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION
NEW YORK CITY

Oct. 13, 1934.

Dear Mrs. Lin:

Your letter of September sixth shows the sympathetic understanding of the other person which has characterized your work, as I have known it. I hope that your mission to the U. S. A. will be highly successful in every way, and that the change of climate and occupation will be of benefit to you and Mrs. Lin, although I am sure you will be very, very busy in your task here.

I am taking it for granted that your family is by this time comfortably settled in Hartford. I know how pleasant it is there, in circumstances and companionship.

You asked for my address, which is on the letter head of this sheet, and for the expression of my ideas about returning to China. I understand perfectly that it is impossible for you to finance my return at present, and that it may continue so to be. I think you will find, as I have, in a year of deputations work, in this country, that those who are interested to give to work abroad are far less able to give than formerly.

OCT 13 1934 ⁵²⁷
However, I give you my ~~heart~~ ^{wishes}
for success in securing financial aid here,
which I realize heavily that F.C.U. needs and
deserves.

I have been teaching here since August
28th, and find the institution doing a very good
piece of work among the mountain people, whose
background and habits of life and thought require
just as careful study and tactful dealing as
those of the Chinese students, whom I first began
to work among them. Whether I shall be a fit
one to have any contribution to make, remains
to be seen, of course. Meanwhile, I am very thank-
ful to take part in so fine an enterprise as the
one here, even for a year or two. The climate of
this Cumberland Plateau, 2000 ft. above sea level,
is wonderful, and I am thankful to breathe
its clear air. Also, I find it an enormous re-
lief to use English in all my contacts. A third
satisfaction in being here is that I am within
easy call of my large, and beloved family, of
which I am the youngest member, and to whom
I have much greater obligation than when I first
started to China, in 1918.

The things that appeal to me about
F.C.U. are: 1) I have said before, the inspiration of
working with such fine people as you have gathered
about you. 2) the strong affection for, and faith in,
the people of Fanchuan which the years have given me.

PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
Pleasant Hill, Tennessee

OCT 13
1934

UNDER AUSPICES OF
AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION
NEW YORK CITY

3) the sincere belief that coeducation, as you are initiating it, has much to accomplish in China.

4) the growing conviction that I am of more help to older students, at my present age, than to younger ones.

5) what has developed into a great fascination for teaching English.

I welcome your insistence upon a better knowledge of Mandarin, and to that end, am sure I need a half-year in Peking, quite as much as I need a semester or year of study of new methods of teaching college English. I need a more intelligent approach to the study of Mandarin than Kuliang classes or private instruction has so far given me.

You are under no slightest obligation to ask me to F. C. U., even when you have the money in sight for an English teacher, and I am keeping an open mind in regard to the work here, realizing that it may be the best use of my time for the next few years.

This letter is only a friendly "Fang-gong," such as I have always enjoyed with you.

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I shall certainly not expect you to answer it.
I am believing that in your sacrificial
task you have, and will continue to have, the
divine guidance needed.

Sincerely your friend,
Emilee T. Thomas.

OCT 13 1934

1237

223 LAKE VIEW DRIVE
COLLINGSWOOD
NEW JERSEY

517
over
August 9th.
1934

Dear Mr. Lin:

On returning from
the last summer conference on
my schedule I find your letter
of June 20th.

It is quite true that
my heart is still in China, and
I would enjoy very much an op-
portunity to teach English at
F.C. U., and work out some of
the problems of co-education, and
co-operation in the service of China
with the splendid staff you have.

But I cannot consider

1238

AUG 9

1934

(27)

Financing my own way back
to the field, altho' I am not crit-
ical of others who are doing so.
From this end, it does not seem
ethical to me to use the con-
stituency given me by the
American Board, to further my
own purposes. From the other end,
unless sent out regularly by
either the American Board or
the F. C. U. Trustees, I should not
know what my status on the
field was, and whether it was my
services or my salary that was
welcome.

This is putting things

223 LAKE VIEW DRIVE
COLLINGSWOOD
NEW JERSEY

AUG 9
1934

[37
over

very frankly, and in so doing
I am relying on the understand-
ing you have a genius for giving
us missionary friends of yours.

I feel highly honored by the
suggestion that I would be wel-
come as a teacher at F. C. U., and
assure you that I should
regard it a high privilege
to work there. It cannot be
news to you that I have the
highest respect for the spirit
and standards of the insti-
tution. Properly to line up with

1240

AUG 9 1934 (47)

these standards I should need
a year's preparation, a semester
of study ^{in this country} of modern methods of
English teaching, and a semester
of study in Peking to set in
order my fragmentary knowledge
of Mandarin and lay the found-
ation of further study by myself.
When I was still cherishing
hopes of return to China, I
thought I could finance the
study in U. S. A. myself.

But after the door to
China definitely closed, I turned
my face toward some useful
work in this country, and have

223 LAKE VIEW DRIVE
COLLINGSWOOD
NEW JERSEY

AUG 9
1934

[5]
over

received appointment under
the American Missionary Asso-
ciation to work in Pleasant
Hill Academy, Pleasant Hill,
Tennessee. Classes begin there
August 28th, so I shall be going
soon.

The school is for
mountaineers, and I am told
that the work with them is
very worthwhile. We shall see.

Meanwhile accept
my good wishes for a very
satisfactory year for you and
your family in this country.

1242

647
I was so glad to get your
letter of April 16th, with
its enclosed snapshot of
your happy quartette.

Please give my special
greetings to Mrs. Lin, and
remember me as

Sincerely your friend,
Emmie T. Thomas.

AUG 9 1934

1243

223 LAKE VIEW DRIVE
COLLINGSWOOD
NEW JERSEY

[17]
over
Dec. 30, 1934.

Dear Mr. Lin:

I am coming over to
New York to-morrow, and shall
be there until Jan. 8th, doing
some ~~teaching~~ speaking for the school
with which I am now connected
in Tennessee.

If you are in N. Y.
during the week, can't we ar-
range to meet somewhere - per-
haps morning hours would be
best for both of us.

I can be reached

1244

through my sister Helen L. Thomas⁵²⁷
at Apt 52, 40 West 118th St.
altho' I shall not be staying there

Hoping to see you -

Very cordially -

Emilee T. Thomas

12/30/34

University 4 - 5810

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

[17
over
Jan. 17, 1935.

Dear Mrs. Lin:

Helen Smith and I had such a good time with your husband last week in New York, and would have had a better one if you had completed the quartette.

On returning here, three days ago, I find Christmas greetings from you which had not been forwarded, since I was on the road almost constantly. It is an attractive picture of F. C. H., and I appreciate having it, as well as your kind remembrance of me.

1246

I hope that you ⁽²⁷⁾ are
having a pleasant year in
America, altho' I am sure it
is a very busy one for you.
I sincerely wish that it might
be possible to entertain you
in my home, 223 Lakeview Drive,
Collingswood, N. J. I would
like so much to have you
and my family know each other.
But you have been in New England
and I have been in the South,
and I have not known how to
arrange such a get-together.

The work here is
very interesting. Our school
is exclusively for the mount.

ainers, a strong type of people.³⁷
I like it, but feel still a little
strange, and homesick for my
friends and students in China.
Perhaps time might wear off
the strangeness here, but if ^{there comes} an
opportunity, such as your hus-
band suggests, for my return to
Foochow, I shall be most happy
to do so.

Meanwhile, my best wishes
to you & your family. I shall
not yet give up the hope of
our meeting somewhere in U.S.A.

Very sincerely yours
JAN 17 1935 Eunice T. Thomas.

December 20, 1934

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
Pleasant Hill Academy
Pleasant Hill, Tennessee

Dear Miss Thomas:

I have been delayed in replying to your letter of October 13th. I was busily travelling between Boston and New York and other places, and since the middle part of November I have been travelling through the middle west as far as Des Moines, Iowa, and just returned yesterday.

I was very glad to hear from you about your thoughts of going back to China to teach English. I am taking the matter up with the Board Secretaries in Boston, and have been trying to get in touch with some of your friends in Philadelphia. It is my hope that before the Spring is over I shall be able to know more definitely what the Board in Boston will do for us. We certainly look forward with great pleasure to have you come back to cooperate with us in the work at the University.

I saw Helen Smith a couple of times before I left for the middle west. I am afraid I shall not be able to see her again before the New Year. I shall write you again as soon as I can get in touch with certain persons whom I want to see.

My family is quite well settled at Hartford. If you should come back to the East please let us know so that we may have you visit us for some time.

Mrs. Lin wishes to send you her best regards.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

CJL:HV

1249

February 6, 1935

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
Pleasant Hill Academy
Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

My dear Miss Thomas:

You have undoubtedly received a copy of Miss Wilson's letter to me dated January 16th. I think the field is quite clear now. There will be no question but that they will be willing to have you come to us if we can secure the support, and I think with your number of friends, and with whatever I would be able to do to help, we shall be able to raise the necessary funds for that purpose.

I have heard from Mrs. Newman saying that she will be glad to talk over the matter with me. She is planning to come to New York in the early part of March. If not, I am going down to Philadelphia the second week of March, and I have written to her again asking for an appointment during that period. In her letter to me Mrs. Newman says:- "I am very much in sympathy with the plan of Eunice Thomas' return to China and feel confident that the work at Fukien University would be much to her liking, but we, here in Pennsylvania, will have to be guided by the attitude of the American Board regarding the matter."

I had a couple of good talks both with Miss Wilson and Mr. Belcher when I was in Boston in the middle part of January. They are in favor of our continued plan and as soon as we can secure people who will back us financially, they will undoubtedly give us official consent.

Kindly let me know if there is any way I can be following up the matter more closely.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

C.J.L:HV

1250

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

Feb. 10, 1935.

Dear Mr. Lin:

Your letter of Feb. 6th is at hand. Mrs. Wilson sent me a copy of her letter to you dated Jan. 16th. I suppose the point of the Foreign Council is well taken that the issue of my returning to Shen Shau would certainly arise, if I were under appointment of the Executive Committee of our church in Foochow, as I would necessarily be if the American Board sent me out. I have visions of the long discussion that would be provoked on the matter, and little hope that I would be released by that

FEB 10 1935
Committee, for a new task, at F. C. U. ⁽²⁾
anywhere else.

However, if I do not return
under the Board, how can Mrs. New-
man and my Pennsylvania friends, or
others, be of any help in raising funds
for my return? They are honor bound
to stand by the Board in its need
as I am not to exploit the con-
stituency the Board has given me,
for my own personal interests.

I am glad you are going
to see Mrs. Newman. She sees things
clearly from more than one angle. I
will write her fully about how
greatly the work you offer at F. C. U.
appeals to me, and see if she

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

FEB 10

1935

[3]
over

has any wisdom in the matter.

I do wish the American Board could see the advisability of putting a third person in F. C. H., and let me be that person. That would straighten out the tangle nicely. For I feel sure Pennsylvania would then assume my support there. In view of their having two families, rating at least three full-time workers, at Union High, and two doctors and two nurses in the Union Hospital, it doesn't seem as if this move would be out of keeping with their policy to stand by Union enterprises. But with Goodsell and

1253

FEB 10 1935 147
Fairfield away, I don't know to whom
an appeal can be made.

They are not supposed to send
people out designated, in fairness to
the Exec. Com. on the field, but Lydia
Houston went back with the distinct
understanding that she would go no-
where else but Ding Lok, and Miss
Floyd was labeled Ing Hok.

However they may remain ada-
mant to the request to add at
any point when they are subtract-
ing at so many others.

Helen writes that Mrs. Kellogg
is studying Domestic Science at
Columbia this year. That's great,
for all concerned.

What would be your attitude
toward my doing my work in English

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EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

FEB 10
1935

at the University of California? I am
not sure yet that I want to do so,
but it has a good department, and
by taking up residence with a close
friend in Berkeley, who invites me to do
so, my tuition for a term would be \$25.
That's a state university for you.

I read of your coming
goings in the papers - last week's Chris-
tian Century had a favorable comment -
and wish you all success in the
heavy work you are carrying.

Very cordially yours,
Eunice T. Thomas.

1255

March 12, 1935

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
Pleasant Hill Academy
Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

Dear Miss Thomas:

I had a very good conference with Mrs. Newman yesterday afternoon at her home in Germantown. She thought that your place is in China and will do everything possible for you to return to us at Fukien.

The enclosed copy of my letter to Miss Wilson and Mr. Belcher will show what she is trying to do next. I went over with her the reasons and plans of your return, and she seemed to agree to most of them. She doubted, however, that the women alone would be able to raise much more in addition to what they have already given to the Board, although she would try to see how far that could be done. But she also suggested that she might put your support up to all the Congregational people in the State of Pennsylvania. As soon as she learns the definite amount of money that will be required to send you back to China, she will start the work among the ladies there.

Mrs. Newman impressed me as being a very fine, as well as able lady. I believe she will be able to do a great deal for us. She said she would not be able to know definitely the results of her efforts until the last part of May. I told her that we will have to depend on her entirely for our efforts to get you back. She told me that you wrote her you were prepared to finance your own study for the summer in case support for your work in China could be assured. I urged her if possible that your support should be taken over by the Pennsylvania women, or the Church entirely.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

CJL:HV
Enc.

1256

April 24, 1935

Miss Eunice Thomas
Pleasant Hill Academy
Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

Dear Miss Thomas:

I had a very pleasant visit with the Philadelphia Women's meeting yesterday. There were about 70 women representing about 10 Congregational and Christian Churches in and around Philadelphia. Almost everyone of them told me that she new you, so I took the opportunity of speaking about you and our work. The women seemed to like my talk as well as the motion pictures I showed. Mrs. Newman was very gracious in expressing her pleasure of my talk there. She promised again that she would do her best to make possible your return to us this fall. I will enclose a copy of my letter to Mrs. Newman herewith for your reference. I hope that in your meeting with the State gathering you will be able to make definite assurance of your support in Foochow. I have been much encouraged by the meeting of yesterday.

I am going to Chicago again tomorrow evening and will not be back until May 8th. We are planning to leave here for China around July 5th, by way of Europe. We are trying to book our passage on the "S. S. Maine" sailing from Genoa, August 3rd, and arriving in Hongkong, September 5th. We do hope that we shall see you again before we leave to make some more detailed plans about your return to us.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

CJL:HV

Enc. Letter to Mrs. B.J. Newman, same date.

1257

April 1, 1935

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
Pleasant Hill Academy
Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

My dear Miss Thomas:

Your good letter of March 28th has just reached me.

I have heard from Mrs. Newman after she had the necessary information from Dr. Eddy. I am going to Boston next Friday, April 5th, when I shall speak at the same dinner party with Dr. Brewer Eddy. I shall also spend some time at the American Board's office. I think the Board people quite naturally will want to have the Pennsylvania women do what they can for the increased financial support. They are necessarily in difficult condition, but I hope that they will help us in some way as to make your return to China possible.

I am glad that you are planning definitely about your preparation during the summer and probably next fall for your work at Fukien. I think summer school at Columbia University will be very good. I have an idea that in case you should get sufficient orientation during the summer, you might like to go over to China even in the early part of next fall, if we could make arrangements before the Spring semester closes with the Pennsylvania women. In any case, it will be good for us to have you plan on the basis of your return to China either next fall or next spring. I have the belief that something will come out to carry out our plan.

Mrs. Newman has invited me to come to Philadelphia to speak to her women there on April 23rd. At that time I can talk over the problem with her further, and will then try to see whether the women can care for even a part of your expenses for the first year. If they are willing to do that much, I think your return to China will be quite assured. I certainly appreciate the able leadership of Mrs. Newman, and I have great confidence in her.

Mrs. Lin and the children have been spending spring vacation in and around New York with her friends. I am expecting to take them back to Hartford tomorrow. I am sure she will join me in sending you our best regards.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

CJL:HV

1258

[1]
over

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

Mar. 28, 1935.

Dear Mr. Lin:

Mrs. Newman writes me that Bruce Eddy "dashed her hopes" in regard to sending me back to China as Pennsylvania's representative, by telling her that it will be absolutely out of the question, unless Pennsylvania can raise my entire support over and above their full, regular apportionment. She does not see how that is possible in view of the financial conditions still prevalent in the rather weak Congregational Churches of that State. I made a complete tour of the churches

last year, and know that they^[2]
are having a hard time.

You can see how Mrs. Newman's hands are tied, as President of one Branch of the Board, so that it would be absolutely impossible for her to do anything the Board would not approve. She is a woman of great vision & ability, and has been my loyal friend & colleague for many years. The Board approves, so Miss Wilson and Brewster Eddy say, my return to China, very heartily, but cannot finance my going, thro' Pennsylvania or otherwise.

Mrs. Newman says the decision as to whether Pennsylvania could take me on as an extra project

is not here, and she will present ^[37] it to the meeting of the State churches in May, but I can see she has no real hope that it can be done. I have been asked to make the address on the Hawaiian Day at that Conference, and will put "everything I have" into it, but naturally, I can make no personal appeal in my own interest.

I do wish 14 Beacon St. could fit together the 3 sides of the triangle, your wanting me, & my wanting to go, & Pa.'s wanting me again for their missionary, without the bungling of red tape which keeps them obligated to many people & tasks that don't fit.

MAR 28
1935

I'm looking over courses I

[47]
might take in preparation for
teaching at T. C. U., it begins to
appear that the best use of my
time might be to attend the
summer session of Columbia,
for professional or more technical
courses, and then go on to
Univ. of California in Berkeley for
Content Courses. What would
you think of that plan?

I thought at first this would
not be feasible, as the terms usually
overlap due to the early opening in
California, but this year the fall
semester opens late, for the first
time - Aug 26th - so dates fit. The
closing of the semester at U. of C. at
Christmas would permit my coming

MAR 28 1935

MAR 28
1935

[5]
over

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

out to Fuzhou, in time for the
spring semester, if that seemed
desirable to you. If not, I could
put in a year at U. of C. to good
advantage.

I keep on planning as
if I were sure of ways & means,
which I am far from being. But
if it is right for me to go, it
will be worked out, won't it?

Spring has begun to
come to this high plateau, (as
high as Kuling) just this week,
and it is very beautiful.

I hope you are not work-

1263

ing two hard to get much this
one, by the way.

My kindest regards to you and
Mrs. Ling.

Very sincerely yours,

Emice T. Thomas

MAR 28 1935

1264

Home address 223 Lake View Drive
Home Phone Collingswood 732. Collingswood, N.J.

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

May 10, 35

Dear Mr. Lin:

We are in the thick of Commencement Activities here, but I want to send you a line, assuring you that I am keeping the "Green Light" turned on for my return to China.

I have resigned from my position, and have refused all Conference work this summer, keeping the way open for study at Columbia and University of California. Of course, I shall not feel justified in undertaking the expense of this

study, if plans for ~~next~~ ⁽²²⁾ China
are not definite. Do you think
we can reach a decision by
June 15th or earlier?

I have a letter from Roderick
in which he says I will be
especially needed for work in
English Composition. That gives
added reason for careful prepa-
ration because that is my
weak point in the English field.
Grammar or Rhetoric, and Literature
I handle with greater satisfaction,
at least to myself.

I get home by midnight
May 15th. After that time, I expect
MAY 10 1935

[3]

MAY 10

1935

EUNICE T. THOMAS
PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY
PLEASANT HILL, TENNESSEE

to be at home for several weeks,
helping my sister break up the
home that we have loved for so
many years. I could run over

to New York to meet you for a
conference at almost any time
you suggest (except May 22-3-4
the Perm. State Conf.) Or if

you have time to run over to Phila-
delphia, I could easily meet you
there & take you out to my home
which would be a great pleasure.

Address me from now on
at home -

With kind regards to you
and yours -
Eunice T. Thomas.

1267

47
Naturally there are many things
I want to confer with you about,
especially courses of study in
preparation for my work. I
don't want to waste any time
or effort.

E. T. T.

MAY 10
1935

1268

over

17
over

223 LAKE VIEW DRIVE
COLLINGSWOOD
NEW JERSEY

May 20, '35.

Dear Mr. Lin:

Owing to the Saturday closing of the Post Office, I did not get your letter of the 17th until this morning, too late to come to New York.

To-morrow I take the noon bus for ^{the ride to} Everett, Pa. to the State Conference of the Congregational-Christian Church. I speak at the Women's session on Wed. but plan to make as many contacts as possible during the 3 day meeting.

Dr. Bremer Eddy is the Board Secy in attendance at the meeting, and you know he is death on any extra-affection-ment project. However —

I'll return home either Thurs. night or Fri. morning in time to spend Fri. night in N.Y.

1269

[27]

and be ready to meet you any-
where you find convenient, and
at the hour you set for Saturday
morning, May 25th. Please

drop me a line at 401 West 118th
St., New York City, Apartment 52,
stating hour & place of appointment.

If not possible to meet
me on Saturday, please address
me here, in time to reach me
before I would start for New
York. I shall not make the
trip over, if you cannot see me.

Don't decide too quickly
about next fall. I have a great
opportunity for study in Berkeley
which would be of advantage
to F. C. U. in the long run. Be-
sides, it would give you time to
adjust finances, since I would
not go on salary till arrival.

But of course I will do what
you think best. 5/20/35

Cordially, Emile Thomas.

May 17, 1935

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
223 Lake View Drive
Collingswood, N. J.

Dear Miss Thomas:

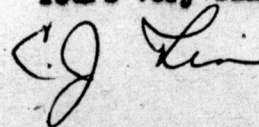
Many thanks for your good letter of May 10th. We are counting on you rather definitely to work at Fukien next fall, although the financial part has yet to be arranged. I am in touch with Mrs. Newman and I hope that the women's meeting at Philadelphia, next week, will make definite promise of contributions toward your support. I am asking Mrs. Newman for at least transferring your present year's support at Pleasant Hill to your work at Fukien, plus the sum of about U.S.\$300 for your travelling expenses to China. If the women cannot do more, we will undertake to provide the rest of your salary for the next academic year according to the prevailing salary paid to a single missionary lady in Foochow.

I make this offer to Mrs. Newman not because we have already some money in hand for the purpose, as I told her in my letter that we are facing a deficit of about U.S.\$7,000 to the end of June, 1935, and our next year's budget, although approved by our Board of Trustees yesterday, lacks around \$29,000 Chinese currency on the income side, but we need you so urgently that we will try to shift our budget somewhat in order to do our part so as to encourage the Philadelphia women for the undertaking. I hope that your presence in their meeting next week will so inspire them as to have them at least do the minimum as I suggested.

I should like very much to see you probably after your meeting in Philadelphia. If, however, it is convenient for you to come up to New York either on Monday or Tuesday, May 20th or 21st, we shall have a chance to talk a number of things over. I shall likely be in New York also on Saturday morning, May 25th. Kindly let me know what is most convenient for you to do.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,



CJL:HV

1271

May 23, 1935

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
401 West 118th Street
Apartment 52
New York, N. Y.

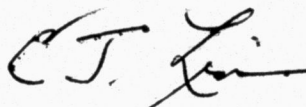
My dear Miss Thomas:

I have your letter of May 20th.

I shall see you at your New York address on Saturday,
May 25th, around 10 o'clock in the morning. We can then
talk a number of things over.

I hope you have had a fine meeting
with the State Conference of the Congregational-Christian
Churches. I shall look forward to learn a few things about
the conference from you when we meet.

Yours very sincerely,



CJL:HV

1272

(1)
Over

over

June 6, 1935

Miss Eunice Thomas
223 Lake View Drive
Collingswood, N. J.

Dear Miss Thomas:

Confirming our conversation in New York City, on May 25th, I am writing to extend to you formal invitation to join our staff at Fukien Christian University, Foochow, China, and to appoint you as a lecturer in our Department of English Language and Literature. We shall be responsible for the same financial obligations as the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions does toward its missionary lady in Foochow with regard to the salary while you are there, and the length of the term of service. We shall also arrange to have suitable living quarters for you; the definite place to be arranged mutually between us when you arrive on the campus.

I think you can arrange for your passage back to China through one of the freighters, as I told you last time. It will be comfortable and the expenses will be very reasonable. While we like to save as much money as possible for travelling expenses, we want you to be comfortable on the trip, and we shall be responsible for your expenses between San Francisco and Foochow.

I was also pleased to know your plan of study for the summer and next fall. I agree with your idea that you will take summer school work at Columbia University, New York City, and then take a full semester's work in the University of California. It was certainly fine to know that you would be able to finance your studies yourself, and our financial obligations will begin when you are ready to leave for China, about next Christmas time.

You already know about our work at Fukien. You will probably be expected to take care of the freshman and sophomore English, both as to their study of English literature and composition. The methods of teaching and the reorganization of the courses will depend a great deal upon yourself after you have completed your studies in this country. We are quite sure that with your former training and experience of teaching, both in America and in China, our Department of English will take a new life upon your arrival. Mr. Frederick Scott and Mr. Malcolm F. Farley will be glad to cooperate with you in anyway in making this department effective. I shall write them to get into direct touch with you before you leave for China.

1273

Miss Eunice Thomas

- 2 -

June 6, 1933

Our American office at 150 Fifth Avenue, will be glad to assist you in anyway in planning for your return to China next Christmas, with regard to arrangements of boats, passports, etc. You have met Mr. B. A. Garfield, our Executive Secretary, who will also take care of the financial and when the time comes for the University to advance your money for travelling purposes.

With regard to your medical examination, I hope you will carry out what you told us about your plan to have a thorough medical examination while you are in California. Would you also send an official report from the doctor to our office in New York? As a matter of record, would you also kindly fill out the application blank and return the same to the office here?

I was glad that you could come up to have a visit together with us last time. M-s. Lin was so pleased to have seen you again. We shall probably not leave New York for England until July 17th, and we hope that we may see you again before we meet on the Fukien campus a few months later.

We shall look forward with the greatest pleasure to your fellowship in our common cause for Christian higher education at Fukien.

Yours very sincerely,

E. J. Lin

CJL:HV

Enc. Application blank
CC to China

1274

June 12, 1935

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
223 Lake View Drive
Collingswood, N. J.

Dear Miss Thomas:

Your letter of June 10th. together with your blank of personal information reached me here duly. We are very glad our terms of appointment are satisfactory to you, and that you are in full sympathy with the arrangements we have made for your work at Fukien. I am sure our office appreciates the information you furnished. Should they desire further details they will write you later. You can send in your doctor's certificate and your photograph when they are ready.

Regarding the shipping of your freight to Foochow, you can either do it through the American Board office, in Boston, or through the Methodist Board, at 150 Fifth Avenue, and our Mr. C. A. Evans, here, will be glad to help you in anyway. All the mission boards having work in China cooperate in our China Colleges Boards, and they will do whatever service is needed by anyone of our staff members as they would do for their representative missionaries. You can acquire your clergy certificates from the American Board, if it is convenient, or you can also write to our office here and secure the same privilege.

I shall look forward to seeing you more when you are in New York in the early part of July. I can always be reached at 150 Fifth Avenue. If there is anyway that our office here can be of service to you while you are in New York, kindly let us know.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

CJL:HV

1275

June 22, 1935

Dr. Charles Truesblood
526 Chestnut Street
Headville, Pa.

Dear Doctor Truesblood:

We are asking Miss Eunice Thomas to return to China next spring, but the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions is not yet able to support her in her work in Foochow. Miss Thomas told me that she has been in your Church, and both you and Mrs. Truesblood are interested in her personally. I just wonder if your Church will be willing to take a part in her support.

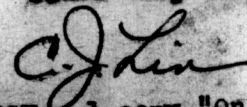
Fukien Christian University, Foochow, China, has asked Miss Thomas to join in its work in training new leaders for China, and as you know, Miss Thomas is very well qualified for that work. She is much beloved by her former students and her friends in Foochow. She is also anxious to return. We hope that you will help to make possible her Christian service in our country.

If you think of some persons, or groups of persons in your community who will be interested in helping such a cause, kindly let us know. We shall be glad to send them literature about our work.

President William P. Tolley of the Allegheny College is a good personal friend of mine, and knows about our University work in Foochow. Mrs. Herbert Dennis of Headville also knows us. We are quite sure that you will cooperate what you can in making people in your community interested in such a Christian movement as we are engaged in at Fukien.

Under separate cover I am sending you a colored picture of our campus, and a couple of leaflets about our work. We shall appreciate to hear from you sometime.

Yours very sincerely,



CJL:HV

Under separate cover- 1 colored picture FCU 1 copy "On the Min River"
1 copy "Rural Service at Fukien"

1276

223 Lake View^[17] Apt,
Collingswood, N. J.
June 6, 1935.

Dear Mr. Lin:

I am delighted
to know that one third
of my support for the
next seven years has been
found, and find myself somewhat
embarrassed not to be able to help
you find the other two thirds.

Have you had
any contacts with Allegheny
College, Meadville, Pa. - ^{with} western part
of the state? It is a Methodist
school, but several of the faculty
members attend the Congregational

to get in touch with them. [3]

However, the College is a small one, and may have little to offer. Also I may say frankly that Mr. Truedlood, tho' a great talker, did not impress me deeply. However, why not put out a "feeler" thro' him to Allegheny College? Mrs. Herbert Dennis lives in Meadville with her children. Do you remember Mrs. Herbert Dennis student Y. M. C. A. Secy in Fochow who died of Cholera in the summer of 1919?

I went to a large women's banquet last Friday in Lansford, Pa in what we call our "millionaire church," and had a warm

reception. The pastor and his wife⁽⁴⁷⁾
are good friends of mine and may
visit me before long in Foochow.
I am keeping out every line I
know, but cannot expect imme-
diate returns. Sorry.

Best wishes to you & Mrs. Lee.
It was so nice to see you and
get plans definitely made. I am
looking forward gladly to return-
ing to Foochow.

Cordially,

Emile J. Thomas.

6/6/35

FUKIEN

FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

June 6, 1935

Miss Eunice Thomas
223 Lake View Drive
Collingswood, N. J.

Dear Miss Thomas:

Confirming our conversation in New York City on May 25th, I am writing to extend to you formal invitation to join our staff at Fukien Christian University, Foochow, China and to appoint you as a lecturer in our Department of English Language and Literature. We shall be responsible for the same financial obligations as the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions does toward its missionary lady in Foochow with regard to the salary while you are there, and the length of the term of service. We shall also arrange to have suitable living quarters for you; the definite place to be arranged mutually between us when you arrive on the campus.

I think you can arrange for your passage back to China through one of the freighters, as I told you last time. It will be comfortable and the expenses will be very reasonable. While we like to save as much money as possible for travelling expenses, we want you to be comfortable on the trip, and we shall be responsible for your expenses between San Francisco and Foochow.

I was also pleased to know your plan of study for the summer and next fall. I agree with your idea that you will take summer school work at Columbia University, New York City, and then take a full semester's work in the University of California. It was certainly fine to know that you would be able to finance your studies yourself, and our financial obligations will begin when you are ready to leave for China, about next Christmas time.

You already know about our work at Fukien. You will probably be expected to take care of the freshman and sophomore English, both as to their study of English literature and composition. The methods of teaching and the reorganization of the courses will depend a great deal upon yourself after you have completed your studies in this country. We are quite sure that your former training and experience of teaching, both in America and in China, our Department of English will take a new life upon your arrival. Mr. Roderick Scott and Mr. Malcolm F. Farley will be glad to cooperate with you in any way in making this department effective. I shall write them to get into direct touch with you before you leave for China.

Our American office at 150 Fifth Avenue, will be glad to assist you in any way in planning for your return to China next Christmas, with regard to arrangements of boats, passports, etc. You have met Mr. B. A. Garside, our Executive Secretary, who will also take care of the financial end when the time comes for the University to advance you money for travelling purposes.

With regard to your medical examination, I hope you will carry out what you told me about your plan to have a thorough medical examination while you are in California. Would you also send an official report from the doctor to our office in New York? As a matter of record, would you also kindly

1281

6/6/35

[2]

fill out the application blank and return the same to the office here?

I was glad that you could come up to have a visit together with us last time. Mrs. Lin was so pleased to have seen you again. We shall probably not leave New York for England until July 17th, and we hope that we may see you again before we meet on the Fukien campus a few months later.

We shall look forward with the greatest pleasure to your fellowship in our common cause for Christian higher education at Fukien.

Yours very sincerely,

C. J. Lin

CJL:HV

1282

FUKIEN
DR. ANNE H. THOMAS
MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
SIXTEENTH & WALNUT STREETS
PHILADELPHIA

July 17, 1935

Fu Kien Christian University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

ack-7/16/35

Dear Sirs:

I have seen Miss Eunice Thomas several times at my office recently and find her generally in very satisfactory condition.

She has recovered remarkably well from her accident in China in 1925 and understands thoroughly how to watch her own health.

From my examination I find no reason why she should not be able to carry on her future work in China.

She tells me that you are familiar with her past condition and general health therefore I am not reporting in detail but shall be glad to do so should you desire it.

Very sincerely yours,

Anne H. Thomas
Anne H. Thomas, M. D.

1283

223 Lake View Drive
Collingwood, N. J.

Dr. B. A. Farside:
Dear Mr. Farside:

FUKIEN

Cek 8/23/35

Enclosed please find Pres. Lin's letter of June 6th which I promised to send to you. Please return to me, at your convenience, at 1800 Monterey Ave, Berkeley, Calif.

received
I hope my physician, Dr. Anne Thomas who gave me a thorough medical examination in June, has sent you the report of it which she promised to do. In case she hasn't done so, let me know, please, & I will remind her.

I will try to have a picture taken in California, (but I'd prefer fingerprints, please) and send you before I leave the country.

It was pleasant to see you last week and I am grateful to you for giving me time in that conference -

When arrangements for my sailing can be made, kindly let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Ennice T. Thomas

FUKIEN

Fukien

August 27, 1935

ack - 11/13/35

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
1800 Monterey Avenue
Berkeley, California

My dear Miss Thomas:

Thank you for your letter of last week, in which you enclosed the letter President Lin wrote you on June 6. We have made copies of this letter and are returning it herewith.

We received from your physician, Dr. Anne Thomas, a brief statement to the effect that she has found your general physical condition to be very satisfactory, and that she considers you qualified to return to your missionary work in China.

We have not undertaken as yet to complete the final arrangements for your sailing, pending the outcome of our discussion with the American Board. If the American Board agrees to reappoint you as one of their missionaries under a special arrangement where you are assigned to Fukien Christian University, and Fukien Trustees reimburse the American Board for their expenditures on your behalf, then the American Board would probably handle both your out-going travel arrangements and your regular salary and allowances, in the same way as they do with their regular missionary personnel. I have been in correspondence with both Dr. Fairfield and Miss Wilson in regard to this, and we are now seeking to arrange a meeting of the Fukien Executive Committee at which a formal request can be made to the American Board along the lines I have just indicated.

I trust that you have had a very pleasant trip to the West Coast, and that you will enjoy your weeks in California.

Very cordially yours,

BA Garside

BAG:BB

1285

FUKIEN

November 30, 1935

Miss Eunice Thomas
1800 Monterey Avenue
Berkeley, California

My dear Miss Thomas:

Thank you for your good letter of November 23rd and also for the photograph which arrived a day or two ago. We are happy to learn that you have been spending such a pleasant and profitable period of study in Berkeley. You certainly seem to have been using your time there to excellent advantage.

I understand that the American Board has now completed its arrangements for taking you back on the status of one of their regular missionaries, the only difference being that they will send our Fukien office periodical statements as to the amounts expended on your behalf for us to make reimbursements. Mr. Talcott has already made two payments on account of his pledge for your support, so we have funds in hand to take care of your outgoing expenses and the beginning of your salary in China.

We are glad to note that you are planning to sail on December 27th. This should get you to Foochow in ample time to begin your work for the spring semester. We trust that you will have a pleasant voyage, a joyous return to China, and a long period of productive service on the campus of Fukien Christian University.

Very cordially yours,

BA. Jarside

BAG:MP

1286

July 20, 1939

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
2285 Cedar Street
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Miss Thomas:

We were very glad to receive your letter of July 15 and to know what your definite plans are about returning to China. I am afraid we have no suggestions to offer since we have no more news from Foochow than you have received from Dr. Stowe. I would think that your best information would come from Miss Asher if you can see her when she arrives from San Francisco. As you say in your letter, it will probably be impossible to make any plans until you reach China.

We have had no recent word from the Worleys or the Wiants - the last having been from Honolulu. Whether or not they have been able to get in Foochow is uncertain.

I do not know that much can be said about the activities of the China Colleges on the Pacific coast except that things have not gone as well as expected in that region. A change is being made in the leadership for next year. Mr. Arthur Rugh of Peking is coming to America and is going to take over the interest of the Colleges in the Western part of the country. It is our hope that things will improve under this new arrangement.

With best wishes for a safe and satisfactory trip on your return to China, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Parker
Assistant Secretary

JIP:D

1287

August 9, 1939

Miss Eunice Thomas
2235 Cedar Street
Berkeley, California

Dear Miss Thomas:

We have received this morning a letter from the American Board of Commissioners in which they tell of receiving a cablegram from Foochow signed "Smiths". This cablegram read, "Advise Thomas delay". You will probably know more about what this means than we do here, and no doubt the American Board has advised you of the message.

Bishop Gowdy was in the office yesterday and mentioned that Dr. and Mrs. Stowe were planning to sail August 19th, and that there was some indication that you might be planning to go with them at that time. I hope you had good opportunity to visit with Miss Asher, and that your information is now as complete as is possible under the circumstances.

We will be glad to know what your plans are when you have them finally made.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph I. Parker

JIP:es

1288

1800 MONTEREY AVENUE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

FUKIEN

Nov. 23, 1935

Wk 11/30

Dear Mr. Farside:

I have been very slow in answering your letter of Aug. 27th, but there didn't seem to be anything particular to say in your direction.

I feel appreciative of the reappointment to the American Board, which seems a happy arrangement all around. And I am very glad indeed that I was permitted this period of definite preparation for my work at F. C. U. This semester has been quite a new experience for me in my life as a

1289

NOV 23 1935
graduate student after (2)
rather stiff "nose-to-grindstone"
work at Columbia, and looking
over facilities here, I decided
to do the thing recommended
all along by the friend with
whom I am living. That is, to
browse thro' the whole English
Department here, using the audit-
ing privileges granted to grad-
uate students here on a generous
scale, including almost every-
thing except seminars and a few
highly-specialized, small-group
courses.

As a result of this plan
I have visited classes of 17.

NOV 23
1985

(37)

1800 MONTEREY AVENUE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

different professors, following quite closely the 6 or 8 whose lines of procedure appeal to me. In my reading, I have not only taken up what these men outlined, but dived into their own writings to get their point of view more thoroughly.

The whole process has been most rewarding. Instead of working for my professors, on endless papers, I have worked for my own purposes. Instead of getting more credits toward the Doctorate I see no real chance to get, I have been putting together material

NOV 23 1935

(4)

that I sincerely believe may
serve my Chinese students.

On the side I have been
reveling in the "cultural opportunities of a college tour," and
had generally what South Jersey
calls "a grand time," all to the
good in setting me up for
what is sure to be a strenuous
one.

However, I am keen to get
back into the fray, & welcome
Earle Smith's suggestion that
I take the Pres. Coolidge, Dec 27th
from San Francisco. I feel a bit
embarrassed that tourist tickets
on that boat are \$30 (?) more than

NOV 23 (5)

1935

1800 MONTEREY AVENUE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

on some others, since we are all
economizing to the limit. But a
freighter from L. A. at the same time
would eat up the difference in
price getting me + baggage down
the coast, and use up the time
I need in Shanghai to bring fitted
to new glasses.

I am mailing you today
the photograph I promised to
send your office. Dr. Ward sent
a very detailed Phys. Exam Blank
which I had filled out by a
physician he recommended here,
so I think I'm up to date with

1293

1294
[67]
Fulfillment ^{NOV 23 1935} requirement

I hope that the work you
are doing is feeling the results
of the "return to prosperity", financial
+ other, which we hear so much
of, perhaps more in California
than elsewhere.

Very sincerely yours,
Emile T. Thomas.



over
ack 7/20/39 2285 Cedar Street ⁵¹⁷
Berkeley - Calif.
July 15, 1939

Dear Mr. Parker:

There has been
so much uncertainty about
what was possible for me that
I have hesitated to write you.
Now I can only inform you
of the plans I hope to be able
to carry out.

I have a sailing
on the Pres. Pierce from San
Francisco, Aug. 11th, secured
them 14 Beacon St., Boston.
A conference with Mr. Stone,
who came here for a few weeks

with his family, gives me ^[2] the
hope that I can get in to Shaoan
by the route he used to get out,
i.e. via Wenchow. For him it
was a 3-day bus trip to that
port. In case of its closing
he thinks other "detours" may
be possible, but they cannot
be planned from this side the
Pacific. In other words the
only feasible thing seems to be
to proceed to Shanghai, and
plan the rest of the way from
there. I hope to be able to do
that. F.C.U. seems to be
carrying on very successfully
in Shaoan, and I do not
believe even the bombing that
becomes increasingly possible

there, will ⁷⁻¹⁵⁻³⁹ ~~admit~~ ⁵³⁷ their spirit
or stop their progress, seriously
conditioned though it may be.

I think you probably
know that Eva Asher came
out from Foochow, ^{to Hong Kong} on June 14th
on the last boat leaving that
port which has been closed to
since. She arrives in S. F. Aug 3
on the Pierce & I shall see her
during the days in port before
she goes on to L.A.

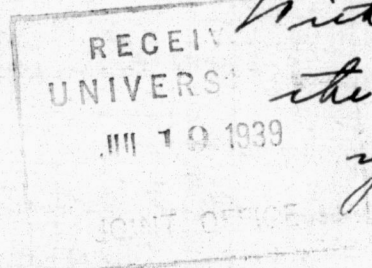
I have been wondering
how the Wiauto & Worleys fared
on their return trip. There are
indeed difficult days to know
what is right to do.

My year in this country
has given me splendidly re-

new strength, which I want^[47]
to invest in service to China
at the first possible opportunity.
If you have any light on the
situation, general or particular,
that would help me, please
turn it on.

Why I have heard nothing
of the activities of the China
Colleges Committee since a
lively luncheon Feb. 22, is some-
thing you may understand better
than I. An occasional
speck here & there is all that
has been asked of me.

With best wishes to all
the hard-working friends
you are associated with,
Sincerely yours
Cecil J. Thomas

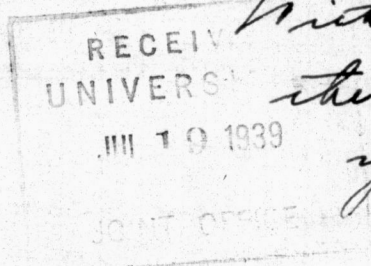


new strength, which I want^[4]
to invest in service to China
at the first possible opportunity.
If you have any light on the
situation, general or particular,
that would help me, please
turn it on.

Why I have heard nothing
of the activities of the China
College Committee since a
lively luncheon Feb. 22, is some-
thing you may understand better
than I. An occasional
speech here & there is all that
has been asked of me.

With best wishes to all
the hard-working friends
you are associated with,

Sincerely yours
Eunice I. Thomas



Berkeley - Calif.
2285 Cedar St. July 31st ¹⁹³⁹

Dear Mr. Parker: Ack. 8-3-39

I am in receipt
of your letters of July 21 + 26.
C.J.'s cable does not at all
surprise me. He is holding the
fort with difficulty and will
naturally welcome any aid that
can reach him. Knowing C.J., +
having kept in close touch with
the work in Shavon + its shortage
of workers, I would never expect
any other word from him (than that
all absentees should return as planned).
The next question,
which C.J. cannot answer from
his isolated post, is whether I can
get to that post with the relief

that "one-pricey teacher" is ^[2] all too ready to give. I don't see any immediate possibility for a return trip, tho' I am seeking it earnestly. Naturally,

since Everett Seave was able to get out, by an indirect route, his success excited my hope that I could get in with him the same way; but it is now closed.

Letters from Mr. Sutton in Fochow on the F. C. U. campus, my own family there, & others, have come amazingly fast, and one from Clara Hummer in Shanghai even faster. They all tell the same story of ports

closed tight to foreign ⁷⁻³¹⁻³⁹ shipping ⁵³⁷
both passengers & cargo, and the
coast between ports mined. Under
such conditions, both Stone &
McClure see a present entrance
out of the range of possibility.
Stone is in touch with Foochow
by amateur radio via Manila
& will report to me any chance
he sees for his own return. The
office at 14 Beacon St., Boston gave
me a chance to telegraph them
if I wanted to hold the Aug. 11th
Pres. Pierce sailing, but I didn't
use it, since no one thought it
wise for me to try to push on.
Shanghai is no secure foothold
at present, and a very expensive one.

In the ^{last} lively correspondence I have been carrying on for weeks in several directions. I am not quite sure how much I have reported to you of facts that have influenced my decision ^{to follow} ^{last} advice to wait until Sept 8th before attempting to leave here.

Eva Asher arrives in St. on Aug 3rd & I shall meet her boat & bring her to spend the night with me. I suppose you know that she goes on to H.A. on the Pierce. Sutton says one F.C.U. gas plant was machine gunned the day Eva left.

My sister, Mrs. "Red" Smith of Ang Tai died July 21 in the Union Hospital, Foochow. She was coming home on overland through this fall. Yours, in hopes of a way, opening soon, to Dr. C. Thomas

WEP
1

Ack. 9/6/39

2285 Cedar Street
Berkeley - Calif.
Aug. 30 - 1939
(17)

Dear Mr. Parker:

I have taken it for granted that in the correspondence from 14 Beacon St., Boston, you have been informed of the various postponements of my return to China, and the reasons therefor. The fog of a series of disappointments has settled sufficiently to enable me to see that the consensus of opinion regarding my case has doubtless led me in the right direction, and I can begin to plan a constructive course of procedure during the time just ahead. Being ready to step off at brief notice, just as soon as it is possible, I can make use of the days here. Passive waiting is not on my program. I plan to take some work at the Pacific School of Religion, which is getting to be a very live place, follow up my own line of work at U. C., as I did last term, and do one or two things for an even better physical set-up. Things of this sort make me feel I am working toward China, and Japan's moves toward conciliation of Britain & U. S. A. lead me to hope that I may soon get going, without the prospect of spending all my time

money & strength getting thro' the ^{<2>} blockade. I suppose you know that after giving up one sailing and fearing that no more could be made this fall toward China, Mr. & Mrs. Stone suddenly made arrangements for their daughters and secured passage on the Empress of Asia, Sept. 2nd. If they can get thru, their able service will be a great aid to F. C. U. This term which is unusually late in beginning (Sept. 28) on account of summer sessions. Conditions encourage me to hope Shaorn may escape bombing as well as occupation. If so, the work there will have fruitful development.

Very sincerely yours,
Ernie T. Thomas.

P.S. I met Miss Asher on Aug. 3 and was with her for 2 of the 3 days she spent in port, "lapping up" every item of her report.



September 6, 1939

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
2285 Cedar St.
Berkeley, Calif.

My dear Miss Thomas:

Mr. Parker is this week finishing up his vacation, so I will acknowledge your letter of August 30 addressed to him.

Since you wrote, the development of the European crisis has made all the more difficult the problem of travel throughout the world. While travel on the Pacific has not been affected as much as that through other areas, there will undoubtedly be some further delays and difficulties. Whether this will necessitate further postponement in your return to China, we cannot definitely foretell. Certainly F.C.U. is anxious to have you return, and is in urgent need of your services. The two major questions we must face are first, how it will be possible for you to get to Foochow or Shaowu, and second, what are the possibilities of your carrying on work under relatively safe conditions if you can reach there.

We are glad to note that while you are waiting you are planning to take some interesting work at the Pacific School of Religion. I hope that you will find it very profitable and pleasant.

Today Dr. Wynn Fairfield has been in New York City, and we have been discussing with him the new developments of the problems of travel for our missionaries returning to China. I have just come back from a meeting of the International Missionary Council where this same topic was discussed. Miss Asher plans to reach New York City tomorrow.

These are difficult days for all of us, but the only thing to do seems to be to carry on and keep as cool as possible.

With all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:VN

1306

March 8, 1940

Miss Eunice T. Thomas
Fukien Christian University
Shaowu, CHINA

Dear Miss Thomas:

We are indeed grateful for your letter of February 17th giving your experiences and sidelights in Shanghai.

Yes, I received your letter mailed from San Francisco, for which we were grateful. Surely we are glad that you are able to write in such an optimistic vein after the experiences you encountered. Somehow or other extremes seem to be the fashion this year and we have had our share around New York. Politicians and totalitarians are falling in line with similar extreme actions. The question is, where will it land us all? Possibly, and who can tell, the millennium may be at hand.

Yesterday morning Dr. John H. Finley failed to respond to the call of day and they found him lifeless, his heart having given out while he was asleep. He and Mrs. Finley have been most devoted and choice friends of China, and we shall miss him greatly.

I am mailing this letter down to Shaowu with the hope that eventually it will catch up with you, as I want you to know how much we appreciate these personal touches, and will appreciate any other sketches of campus life which you may have time to send us.

Most gratefully yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

1307

POER
7

[1]
fele over

AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES

New York - California - Orient - Round the World 11.00 A.M.
Jan. 12th

on board the dock
in San Francisco

Dear Mr. Evans:

Mac and I
are really off! The Cleveland
came into S.F. last Friday
the first ship to enter port
after it was opened, and did
not leave the dock here, so
Mac is the one who came
by train to the boat not I.

The sun is
shining after a downpour
that has lasted days, and
we are taking that as a
good omen for the beginning
of our "unusual" trip.

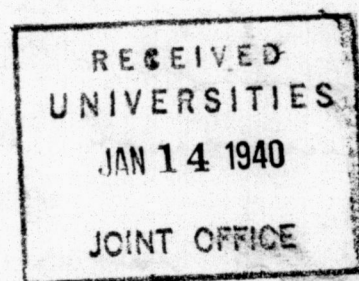
Thank you
so much for favors past and
assuring you that will and
many more in the future,
Sincerely yours
Eunice T. Thomas

1308

<27

This note has been scribbled on the dock using a tobacco case as desk. I send it by a nice lad leaving the dock after assurance that "no more mail can leave the dock!" The way these American "servants" (??) & officers love to list the things passengers can't do is a headache.

Again
E. J. Thomas



1309

Elm House
382 Ave. Joffre
Shanghai

Feb 17/20

ack 3/8/20

Dear Mrs. Evans:

Since you gave me so much assistance in starting this trip, you may be interested in its continuance to this point where we have been stuck for two weeks.

On the dock in San Francisco on Jan. 12th, I scribbled you a note which told you, if you could read it, that Mr. McClure and I were really sailing that noon. Our voyage on the Cleveland was "unusual," the roughness of Capt. Nelson's 27 yrs. experience, he said we had a day's relief in Honolulu, where Mrs. Bissonnette & her daughter Margaret, French friends, gave us a warm welcome. Mrs.'s cabinmate, Mr. Henry Little of the Presbyterian Board seemed to be glad to be included in their hospitality.

The rough seas delayed the Empress of Russia also, so that the

Blame the shortage of paper for this kind of stationery.
If you can't decipher readability, give up the attempt to do so.

2-17-40 [2]

20 Shanghai passengers from the Cleveland were transferred to her in the Yokohama harbor by tender on the morning of Jan. 29th. This was an improvement, on several counts, over the previous plan of sending us on by the Shanghai Maru. Mr. Downes came down from Tokyo, day after day, in an effort to meet us.

After only one stop in Japan, to coal in Nagasaki, the Russia landed us in Shanghai on the afternoon of Feb. 3rd. Shanghai was bitterly cold, wearing an "unusual" coat of snow, and we could have borne a little heat during the hours in the Customs shed. The process of examination is quite strict but the Chinese examiners are not too eager to collect for overseas friends, so are content with charging for radios, stores, new typewriters, etc. Mac had sent an airmail letter from Japan for the baggage man from this hotel to meet our boat, & that helped.

Here our letters of welcome from Foashan & Shaowu had many orders for us to fill. We tore around like mad in the 3 days before the Chinese New Year

2-17-40 [3]

Feb. 8th this year, to get books, drugs, + groceries and secure permits for taking them down the coast. Since then we have waited for a boat. Advice is unanimously in favor of our entering Foochow via Ninghsia. That road, tho' as badly torn up, is less mountainous than the one from Santos. Missing homes are at more convenient intervals, and travel over it far less expensive. Fukien Travel Bureau has a monopoly of the Santos route + charges \$18 per 100 lb. of baggage + other things in proportion.

Our first hope of a Shaw freighter is for Feb. 20th + may be deferred several days beyond that. Foochow seems almost to recede as we approach it, + Sharon becomes a mirage. F.C.U. began classes yesterday. Alas! But we have telegraphed them of our "unusual delay". On my previous trip I arrived in Foochow in 23 days from San Francisco, 3 of them spent in Shanghai.

Mac is accomplishing much business in the days here, and I am

2-17-40 [4]

getting the feel of present day China in contact with many friends here.

Exchange last week was around \$3.50 + this week around \$4.50. One feels like a drunken sailor in the cash he has to use to get necessities, of which there seems to be a good supply here. Sugar at .62 a lb., coffee at \$4.00, Cheese at \$3.25, Baking Powder at \$3.50 indicate the present prices, due to change any moment.

It is not encouraging to hear that mails are being very much delayed. That is the chief reason I am sending letters back on the Taft leaving here tomorrow. It is trying to make up for many delay by a non-stop, 13-day (?) trip to San Francisco. One explanation of mail hold-ups is that British censors open everything in Hong Kong. But what happens here? No one knows. At any rate, don't expect to hear or be heard from thru the mails in anything like regular time, these days. Mac will cable news of our arrival in Foochow.

Our best wishes to all friends in
China Colleges -

Sincerely yours - Eunice T. Thomas

1062

#490 Kuliang
Aug. 4-1948

file

Dear Mr. Evans:

Your friendly letter of Mar. 8th, written the day after Dr. John H. Finley passed on, calls for an answer in similar vein, which I will tuck into a family letter, for remailing in N.Y.C. Your letter, tho' delayed in reaching me until May 13th, made the trip to Shaoan in what is now about average time. Don't let that discourage anyone from writing. No communication loses value or flavor in transit.

The five Americans in Shaoan, Storro and I, all thought it wise to come out this summer for a change of scene & diet & air & society. Although our institution has a better refuge home than most, we do live literally "in the midst" of our F.C.U. community and its problems are so close as often to seem large.

Although I had been in Shaoan only four months, and

those pleasant ones, I had one nice⁽²⁾
to see off for her first furlough in
U. S. A. and another one with whom
to spend a few weeks in this mt.
resort, where a group of 75-80, mostly
British & American missionaries, can
get away from heat and sirens. You'd
be surprised how it raises morale
to have a chance both to pray & to
play with colleagues who have been
driven by war into all sorts of loca-
tions and problems. And the Foochow
vegetables and fruits do taste good,
brought up the mt. fresh every morn-
ing. We still eat, tho' war prices
soar. Eggs are 15¢ a piece, a 10-oz.
bottle of milk is 25¢, soup meat
\$1.00 a lb., kerosene \$7.50 a gallon, etc.

F. C. U. moves along through
difficulties galore, under C. J.'s able
and courageous leadership. With-
out present prospect of return to
Foochow, more investment in the
set-up at Shaoan, so as to give
this generation of students a fair
chance, is indicated. To have the

8-4-40
things you want is riches: to be³⁷
able to do without them is power.
But it doesn't spell power to me
when our students suffer from
the famine of foreign textbooks. I
have been combing the private libra-
ries of my friends in Foochow, and
commandeering books usable in
my fall courses. The students
are showing a fine spirit, and de-
serve the best we can give them.

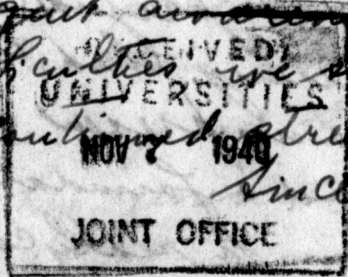
The return of the Scotts,
Kellogg & Eva Asher, with the addi-
tion of the Rogers & Lions Burr, will
give F. C. U. a big boost. The trip in-
can't be easy under present cir-
cumstances, but the opportunity for
solid, substantial work, and the
sincere welcome at the end of the
trail make all the effort worth
while. Of course I'm prejudiced,
but I can't help feeling that there
are few places in our present world
where there is as good a foundation
or as much freedom for really con-

8-4-40 in (47)
structure work that pays, as in
free China today; and I believe it
matters to the whole world what is
done here. In that faith, I am de-
voutly thankful for the small part
given me at ~~Shanghai~~ in a great task.
Education in China has always been
a good investment, as present returns
prove, but the war situation has
immensely vitalized it and made
it significant. A new understanding
of our part as Christian missionaries
is being given our Chinese fellow-
workers, and it has quickened a new
response. Waves on the surface
~~are~~ rolling high, at times, but the
current beneath is steady & strong.

Your part at the home
base is anything but easy these
days, and without a very intelli-
gent awareness of its special dif-
ficulties we still pray for your
continued strength and success.

Sincerely yours,

Ernie T. Thomas



Fukien Christian University

Shaowu, Fukien

March 30, 1940

After delays that got to be monotonous, it is good to have accomplished at last my return to F. C. U. To be here is worth the two months' travel from San Francisco that it cost to get here. My arrival on the Shaowu campus on March 11th followed so speedy a trip from Foochow that it surprised everyone, even myself. The flood on the Min fed by heavy rains did not delay our sturdy river launch from arrival at Yenping within 26 hours, and above Yenping the road in good repair made possible a bus ride to Shaowu in 9 hours. Shaowu is on the recently constructed road from Yenping to Chungking, a fact significant in many ways. We are on Standard or Chungking Time. The atmosphere of Free China is the one we breathe, and it is better for the lungs than the coastal climate now has to offer.

F. C. U. is a going concern in its new location. The leaders who had the vision to see its possibilities are making good use of them with results at once apparent to the newest arrival. The property so carefully acquired by the Shaowu mission, and so beautifully situated among the picturesque mountains of northern Fukien, has been not only efficiently adapted to new uses but materially increased. The purchase of new land has expanded both campus and fields under cultivation. A new gate in a new wall opens the way to the old campus past a new library, and behind the old main building a new dormitory is going up. The library which bears the name of a former president, Bishop Gowdy, has a fine big reading room, well-lighted day and night, where students have facilities for study beyond comparison with those any dormitory can provide.

After seeing the crowded and inadequate quarters of other schools in exile, one must realize how fortunate F. C. U. is here. And one does well to remember that our good fortune is no accident, but rests on the foundation of years of mission work here, and the good judgment of the University administration. To leaders past and present we owe a great debt of gratitude.

(2)

Shaowu is in the heart of a richly productive district. In the present rice situation many institutions find food supply the greatest problem, but we have enough and to spare, so that we entertain many visitors who come here buying rice. It is to be hoped that the rice census now being taken will locate the supply and distribute it more evenly for the relief of present suffering.

F. C. U. is entering new fields, literally and figuratively. If state secrets could be shared you'd be interested in substitutes that are being discovered for essential commodities now put out of reach by soaring war-time prices or crawling war-time delivery. For example, kerosene is now an object of major interest, second only to rice. Our laboratories are working overtime, with results. Necessity is mothering many inventions, large and small. Under good direction, the Shaowu bamboo stool has gone through a quick evolution into a comfortable chair, with tilted seat, back, and arms as well as legs. Ingenuity has achieved a lamp chimney made in the Physics workshop of narrow slices of glass fitted together vertically and held by tin binders at top and bottom. I was glad to get one of these when my Sears Roebuck pressure lantern arrived with its glass chimney broken.

To many of our number this pioneer experience is an absolutely new one, and it is a pleasant surprise to find that a pioneer has as many satisfactions as hardships. On March 12th, the anniversary of Sun Yat Sen's death, now observed as Arbor Day in China, our students came in after the weary work of planting 10,000 seedling trees from our nurseries, with more to say of the forests to come than of dirty hands and aching backs, which have ceased to be a novelty here.

The second Easter in this new setting was abundantly kept. On Holy Thursday evening the solemn beauty of our Communion service was in no way disturbed by its rustic arrangements. The spirit of the Sunrise Service of the Student Christian Association on Easter morning was not spoiled by being driven indoors by rain. The breakfast we shared following it was punctuated by dashes into wet grass after colored eggs. The local church service was illuminated for many of us by the special Easter music of our University choir. Records from

the Messiah played on a phonograph in the chapel in semi-darkness of early evening brought a memorable day to a fitting close.

"Crisis" needs two Chinese characters to represent it; one means danger, and one means opportunity. In the crisis F.C.U. is passing through, the second character is written large. We are really beginning to know more of the province for which we are named, having crossed it to settle in the north west corner. Our students come from a much larger area of the country than before, bringing new elements into our community. Staying on the campus through the vacation periods has been translated from necessity into privilege. Students cannot go away without a wider experience of college life than was theirs in pre-war days, and the college program has to go around the full circle of student needs as never before.

If this letter sounds like an idyl of country life, it has struck a false note. In the difficulties grappled with here is to be found, rather, the material for an epic. This chapter of our history is being carved deep in the very heart of F.C.U. and the members of its faculty-student-staff-worker family in a way that will make them different, and we believe richer for having lived it. We like to believe also that the sojourn will have lasting benefit for the people of Shaowu, for our work is not being done along hap-hazard, temporary lines, but rather with the definite plan of conserving the results for all concerned.

Sincerely yours, glad to "climb on the band-wagon,"

Eunice T. Thomas



stenciled
7-8-42
JP
(17)

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS WRITTEN BY
Eunice T. Thomas
from

Fukien Christian University, Shaowu, China

Yesterday I went to the Catholic Mission here, where Sister
Feb. 7, 1942

Herbertine does dentists work. It was a great relief to have
Miss Walker's typewriter cleaned and repaired by our mechanic
my teeth cleaned and a much needed filling put in.....
is now doing good duty for me. There is no use wondering now
I could tell you tales of what we have to pay daily for bare
where the next ribbon is coming from. That way lies despair,
necessities (sometimes unobtainable at any price) that would
for supplies of all sorts are disappearing. However, it seems
shock you greatly, or burn the paper. But the thing that is
amazing that ersatz can be discovered or invented when the cri-
being done here is worthy any cost, spiritual or material. All
sis is actually reached. My wardrobe, accumulated A.F. (after th
of us are upborne by that fact in a way that minimizes diffi-
fire) is a marvel to behold. I must admit it is warmer than the
culties. I wouldn't miss being here now with the way things
one I had B.F.

are moving, for I love it.
Refugee life puts a high premium on any degree of privacy.
Tonight Mabel L.....ing us all there for supper - great
Today is the last day of our vacation (so-called). The stu-
excitement for us, and great courage on her part. Now she will
dents, lonesome and anxious about their families in Shanghai,
even salt the food for the crowd is a great problem. Salt is cut
HongKong, Manila, Singapore, Amoy, etc., from which we are utterly
ing as agents of the Government's supply which buys in quantity
cut off, use us in their holidays even more than in the term.
for the faculty members. This is absolutely the only way the
Our homes are their club rooms, our stale magazines are their
administration sees to make the teachers' salaries stretch to
circulating library, and our games are their chief recreation.
living requirements.....

Fortunately, we had some heavenly weather for a week, and all-
to have no assurance that my private word gets through. So
day hikes were many. That gave a bit of time for me to study,
religion is the thing in which our souls should be possessed,
and line up next term's courses without the plans that were
was completely out of that preservative at times. But deep in
lost.

My faith does hold.
The government is arranging loans for students cut off from
Feb. 12, 1942
all family support, but you can imagine the red tape connected
with such an arrangement. For some students it is not enough
in nature... We have been having five distinguished
to be assured of their own support, but they must leave school
University. After many chapters of difficulty, they are planning
to support others. way. Arts courses will be un-
for our direction and on our campus. Law, Engineering, Commerce
Curiously enough, the first students to be commandeered for war
to get library and labs will be great, but the thing we are

service are the Western Language majors, who are ordered to Kunming to act as interpreters in the new international aviation training.

been through so much and are unwavering in their Christian and academic purposes. I shall have more to say of these people later. Affiliation which preserves the identity of my teeth cleaned and a much needed filling put in..... I could tell you tales of what we have to pay daily for bare necessities (sometimes unobtainable at any price) that would shock you greatly, or burn the paper. But the thing that is being done here is worthy any cost, spiritual or material. All of us are upborne by that fact in a way that minimizes difficulties. I wouldn't miss being here now with the way things are moving, for anything. I love it.

Tonight Mabel Leger is having us all there for supper - great excitement for us, and great courage on her part. How she will even salt the food for the crowd is a great problem. Sam is acting as agent of the Consumers' Supply which buys in quantity for the faculty members. This is absolutely the only way the Administration sees to make the teachers' salaries stretch to cover living requirements.....

We have no assurance that any private word gets through. So patience is the thing in which our souls should be possessed. I run completely out of that preservative at times. But deep inside my faith does hold.

May 15, 1942

(F.C.U. has at last been given official University standing by the National Government, and celebrations have been many and varied in nature...) We have been having five distinguished guests for ten days. They are from Hangchow College and Soochow University. After many chapters of difficulty, they are planning to carry on here in a very limited way. Arts courses will be under our direction and on our campus. Law, Engineering, Commerce will be under theirs on the opposite side of the city. The strai on our library and labs will be great, but the thing we are

2-7-42

[37]

-3-

holding to the front of our minds is the inspiration it will be to us to work side by side with such fine people, who have been through so much and are unwavering in their Christian and academic purposes. I shall have more to say of these people later. Affiliation which preserves the identity of three institutions is a hard matter to plan, but I have faith that it can be effected. It is important not to condition the future of any part, which will continue later as a whole. Limited numbers and no overlapping courses are essential. We all feel ourselves uplifted by intercourse with these superior men....Great hearts can overcome great difficulties, and small minds can create them.

1323

942

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS WRITTEN BY
EUNICE T. THOMAS
from
Fukien Christian University, Shaowu, China

February 7, 1942

Miss Walker's typewriter cleaned and repaired by our mechanic is now doing good duty for me. There is no use wondering now where the next ribbon is coming from. That way lies despair, for supplies of all sorts are disappearing. However, it seems amazing that ersatz can be discovered or invented when the crisis is actually reached. My wardrobe, accumulated A.F. (after the fire) is a marvel to behold. I must admit it is warmer than the one I had B.F.

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Today is the last day of our vacation (so-called). The students, lonesome and anxious about their families in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Manila, Singapore, Amoy, etc., from which we are utterly cut off, use us in their holidays even more than in the term. Our homes are their club rooms, our stale magazines are their circulating library, and our games are their chief recreation. Fortunately, we had some heavenly weather for a week, and all-day hikes were many. That gave a bit of time for me to study, and line up next term's courses without the plans that were lost.

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The Government is arranging loans for students cut off from all family support, but you can imagine the red tape connected with such an arrangement. For some students it is not enough to be assured of their own support, but they must leave school to support others.

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Curiously enough, the first students to be commandeered for war service are the Western Language majors, who are ordered to Kunming to act as interpreters in the new international aviation training.

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1324

1942May 15, 1942

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1325

[13]

Grand Hotel - Bombay
July 11, 1944

Dear folks:

Leaving Shaowu on June 14th, ten of us - Scotts, Legers, Bishops, Asher, Burr, Smith, Thomas - had a very speedy trip by truck and train to Kweilin, west of the disputed line, where we arrived on June 19th. From there Bishops and Smith were to proceed by train as far as possible, then by truck, to Chungking or Cheng Tu whither anyone "more than 2 yrs. from furlough" had been invited by telegrams from our two Mission headquarters.

The other seven of our party were flown to Kunming. There Leona Burr accepted the invitation, offered to others as well, to teach English at Hwa Chung, of which Yale-in-China is one of 3 united institutions. It has a healthy, as well as scenic, location, 6000+ ft. above sea level, and we hope her decision to remain, minus typewriter, books, notes, adequate clothing, etc., will prove as wise as it was gallant. We had all been reduced to 33 lbs. of baggage and to one idea, that of getting home, so even the most alluring way station did not stop us. The remaining six, Scotts, Legers, Asher & Thomas were flown to Calcutta, and then sped on by American Express, by train, to Bombay in a desperate effort to catch a boat, of which there was a persistent rumor.

Suffice it to say that our hopes - no one has plans - have not materialized, and we are here for an indefinite period. In case you have received word of our cable to the Board from Calcutta: "Scotts, Legers, Asher, Thomas homeward. Burr Hwa Chung," you will be wondering about our delay. This is an attempt to inform you, which may or may not be successful. Our patience during the uncertainty is encouraged by the favorable circumstances which have so far attended our progress in your direction. And for the hope set before us of reunion with you all, we can endure a good deal. We have not been in danger, but it seemed best to make a change of residence for a while. Agnes and Roderick have both had malaria here, but with these exceptions, our sextette has kept fit for travel.

To reduce expenses while we wait we six are moving into the "Abbott House," an American Board residence now empty, and making there what shift we can. McClure has gone on. Miss Tapley is still here.

In Calcutta I got in touch with Hazel Atwood, who will work in our Madura Hospital for a while and she gave me this pen from your hand, which delights mine. We have no idea of which coast we shall reach, but know it will be on the land that holds you, a land that is dear to us for that reason and many others, tho' at times it seems remote.

There is much to be said, but doubtless it can wait, as we must. Don't let my prospective arrival interfere with your plans unnecessarily. For the first time in facing home, I have none.

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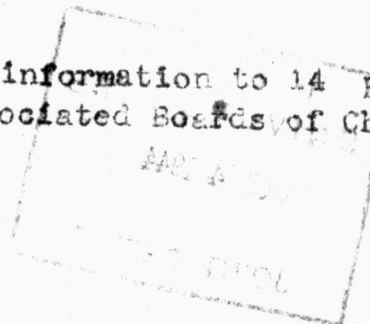
With love to all of you in immeasurable quantity,

Eunice Thomas

P.S. Only 1) Miss Wiley left in Shaowu, planning to go to Foochow with the Hsuehs, and 2) Mr. March planning to go to Kweiyang with Hangchow University.

Rather sudden departure from Shaowu gave us little news of Foochow folks' plans.

If you receive this - pass on information to 14 Beacon Street and 150 Fifth Avenue and Associated Boards of China Colleges.



1327

BALLOU

REC'D 10/11

ANS'D

10/21/44
Dear Dr. Ballou

Haddon Hall,
Pomona College
Claremont, Cal.

Oct. 9, 1944

[17]

^{Letter from Mrs. Emma Shown to E.H.P.} This brief
note is to inform you of
my arrival in California
by Troop ship "A 113" landing
in San Diego on Oct. 6th.
The other members of the F.C.U.
party landed with me were
Mr. & Mrs. Leger, Mr. & Mrs. Scott
& Eva Asher. Merlin & Emilee
Bishop, who started with us
from Sharon on June 14, left
us at Kivik and went on
to Chung King, where the U.E.
Mission put them at once
to work, and Leona Burr ac-

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cepted an invitation received⁵²⁷
in Kunning to teach a year
at Hwa Chung now at Hsi
Chow on the Burma Road.
She hopes to return to F.C.U.
within a year. The rest
of us could not bear the
thought of any way-station
to U.S.A., where we hope to use
our time for a build-up tow-
ard return to F.C.U.

I am staying with
my life long friend, Florence
Rumelle, while I rest a bit,
visit with many friends from
China, and plan for a trip East
to my three sisters now living
together at 622 W. 113 St. N.Y.C.
I have written Wynne Fairfield
to day of my progress thus far.

The expense account of ^{my} ~~the~~ travel (so prolonged!) will be handed in to Harold Belcher when I reach my final destination. I have three Express checks, given in Blichenstaff's order in Bombay, to get to the East Coast, which I hope to reach by train. MacClure has a friend in the Santa Fe R.R. and hopes to get tourist reservations for me thro' him, within a reasonable time. Meanwhile life seems full of privilege here. ^{John}

Since you came to the Associated Boards work I have not written you my high hopes for your success in this new field.

We were all so glad ^{at} to
hear of your return to the
U.S.A. safely accomplished.

With best wishes and
anticipation of seeing
you in New York ere long,

Emilee T. Thomas

G. Russell



October 21, 1944

Dear Miss Thomas:

Your letter of the 9th deserved a more immediate answer. Unfortunately it came just before a meeting of our Planning Committee, which absorbed my attention for some time, and then I had to leave town for a few days. A prompter acknowledgment would have been a fairer gauge of the pleasure it gave myself and those with whom I shared its news.

In the meantime Miss Asher has dropped in for a brief visit. I thought she was looking remarkably well for one who had come out of wartime Fukien. It evidently does not necessarily take long for a woman to catch up with whatever it is that makes one a proper part of the American scene. I wish she might have had somewhat more favorable reports regarding the Scotts and the Ledgers. Roderick must look rather shrunken from what she told me as compared with his appearance when we crossed the Pacific together in 1940. Neither Sam nor Mabel were ever the sort who could shrink very much to advantage.

It was also a pleasure to have a glimpse of Mr. and Mrs. McClure when they were in town. I am not sure that my wife or I had seen them since we traveled to America together in 1930. It looks as if my acquaintance with people in our Foochow Mission is likely to increase much faster here in New York than it ever had a chance to in North China.

Please be sure to let us know when your plans have matured enough to indicate the time of your trip east. Your letter is quite indefinite on that point, and it may even be that you will have started before this reaches you. We shall be delighted to see you whenever you arrive.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Eunice Thomas
c/o F. A. Runnells
137 College Ave.
Claremont, California

EHB/mec

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June 19, 1945

Miss Eunice Thomas
Mountain Rest
Lithia, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Thomas:

We have just had a letter from T. H. Cheng announcing his arrival in Washington.

He says the State Department is already making arrangements for his visiting tours and asks what suggestions or advice we have to give. At the moment we don't have many, nor does Everett Stowe. We think of Harvard as a place where he would find many specialists in his own line and where contacts with Harvard-Yenching people would be helpful. His own studies at Michigan would naturally make him want to spend some time there. Stowe thinks he might be useful visiting several young people's conferences, as a demonstration of the capacities and attainments, intellectually, of Chinese trained in our schools.

Have you any concrete suggestions or advice to give him? We do not know just how soon he will be coming to New York, but evidently not for several days. He asks us to address him

c/o Mrs. Ruth Guy
Division of Cultural Cooperation
Far Eastern Branch
Grant Building
17th and F Streets
Washington, D.C.

He, and we also, will appreciate any ideas you may have which will help him in making his plans.

Very sincerely yours,

EBB:mec

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File

[7]
over

March 2, 1945

Miss Eunice Thomas
622 West 113th Street
New York 25, N. Y.

Dear Miss Thomas:

At a recent meeting of the Ad Interim Committee of the Planning Committee it was decided to hold a meeting to discuss the whole matter of women's education in China in the future as it affects the deliberations of the Planning Committee.

We are anxious to have a full representation of those interested in this important matter, and cordially invite you to be present.

The agenda for this meeting will consist in part of brief statements on the problems in women's education in the Christian Colleges in post-war China that require the special attention of the Planning Committee. We would like therefore to have presented the point of view of the three different types of women's colleges; namely, the separate college for women, such as Hwa Nan and Ginling; the woman's college which is a part of a university, for instance, Yenching Woman's College and Cheeloo; and the coeducational institution, such as Fukien or Nanking.

I know of no one better than yourself to give us a statement on coeducation in the universities in China. Your experience in Fukien and the conclusions that you have drawn from that experience, will be of great value as this meeting considers the whole problem of women's education. May we count upon you to make such a statement for us? It does not need to be long, not more than ten minutes, as we hope to have a good general discussion after the statements have been presented.

This will be a dinner meeting and is being called for Thursday, March 15th, at 5:45 p.m., in the Park Room of the Parkside Hotel, 18 Gramercy Park South, New York, N. Y.

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Miss Eunice Thomas

-2-

March 2, 1945

Kindly let Mrs. W. Plumer Mills, at the office of the China Colleges, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y., know whether or not you can attend, and if it will be possible for you to make the presentation that I have requested.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Pitney Van Dusen

Miss Eunice Thomas
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.

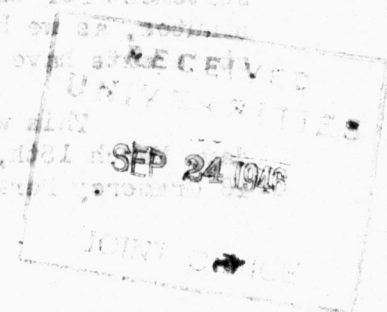
I am writing you to ask if you can attend the meeting of the China Colleges, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y., on March 10, 1945, at 1:30 P. M. The meeting is being held in the room on the 11th floor of the building. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the problem of women's education in China.

I am sure that you will find the meeting very interesting and profitable. I hope you will be able to attend and make a presentation on the problem of women's education in China.

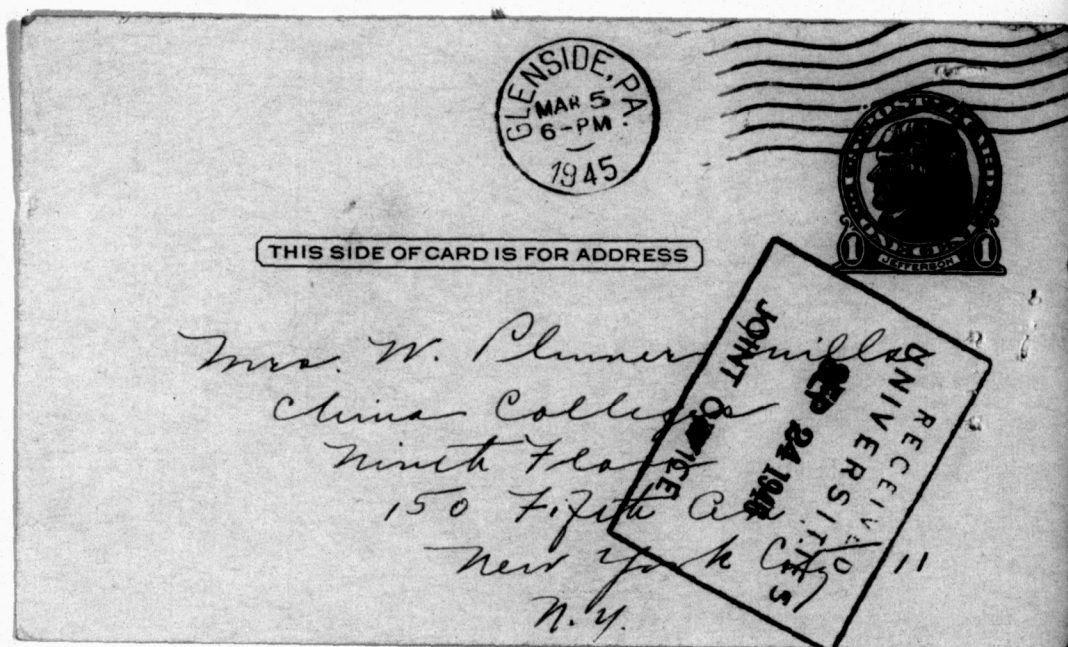
The agenda for this meeting will include a report on the work of the China Colleges, a discussion of the problem of women's education in China, and a presentation by you. I am sure that your presentation will be very helpful to the group.

I know you are very busy, but I hope you will be able to attend. If you cannot attend, please let me know as soon as possible. I will be glad to discuss the problem of women's education in China with you at any time.

Very truly yours,
Henry Pitney Van Dusen



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File

707 Church Road
Girard Hills - Pa.
Mar. 5-1945

Dear Mrs. Mills:

(17)
over

By the request
of Mr. Van Dusen, in a letter
of Mar. 2nd, which reached
me here today, I am answer-
ing the letter to you.

The invitation
to attend a meeting of the
Planning Committee, for
Mar. 15th at the Parkville
Hotel, is one I am very
glad to accept. I'll try to
organize my ideas on women's
education in post-war China
from the point of view of a
co-ed Unit. into a brief
statement for that meeting.

I shall be return-
ing, not later than Dec. 12, 1945
Ap't 83, 622 W. 113 St. N.Y. 25.

Yours - Eunice T. Thomas

BALLOU

REC'D

6/22

ANS'D

6/24

Dear Mr. Ballou:

Mt. Rest, Lithia, Mass.

June 21, 1945

Ernie Thomas

I was glad indeed to get news of T. H. Cheng, and to know that he is really in this country. I am writing him by this same mail, hoping to get in touch with him when he is in N. Y. I shall be taking work at the summer session of T. C. Columbia July 2 - Aug 10. Tso Hsin certainly has earned a year off, if ever anyone did.

Before I could give any advice on good investment of his time here, I'd want to know whether he is

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6-23-45
am.

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committed to going ⁽²⁾back to
F.C.U. as Dean, or whether he
has been freed from admin-
istration duties to go back
with concentration of effort
on his beloved Biology. I never
saw a man mature more
definitely than he, when he
left "Pure Science", and generously
devoted himself to the larger
interests of F.C.U. His genuine
concern for the best things drew
him into a higher regard for
spiritual things, and into taking
a stronger Christian position
himself, than before he became
Dean. This is all to the good
whatever work he carries on
from this point. I'd agree, in the main,

with Everett's suggestions ^{(37) over} except that I wouldn't think
so thin the Y.P. Conf. type, es-
pecially. The news has been that
in China.

In general, I hope he'll
be given a chance to see the
work of smaller colleges, with
a purpose & method comparable
to F.C.U.'s. He tends, by his own
inclination, & under gov't pres-
sure, to see the need of numbers
& big set-up, more than many
others of our faculty do. I hope
his visit to U.S.A. won't increase
that tendency, to F.C.U.'s loss.

Also, I hope that there
will be provided, somehow, the
Christian contacts that, unless
I am mistaken, were entirely

lacking in his years here ⁽⁴⁾ which
led to a Ph.D. at the age of 23,
along a narrow-gauge track.
His spirit is capable of en-
largement that contact with
strongly intellectual & liberal
Christians here can give.

These are the only sugges-
tions I have to offer, & I realize they
are too general & indefinite to be
of much help to you.

10 of us "wish" - Scotts,
Helins, Walter Smiths, Rindens, Laura
Ward & I - met in New Haven with
Harold Matthews & Ned Boyton for
a fine conference on Fiskin - June 13.
I do hope we can all get started
back next year. C. J. seems to write
as if an earlier return were possible.

Cordially yours -

Ernest T. Thomas

P.S. Ordinarily I recommend to visiting friends
a trip to St. John's College, Annapolis, where
my nephew Scott Buchanan, is at work. The work
there is unique. But the present may not be a good
time to visit, since the Navy is commandeering St. John's
Campus.