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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Girling
Academic
Related to faculty and staff
Jane Thomas
Matilda Calder Thurston
Mary Trendley

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Jane Thomas
1931-1946

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7. List all undergraduate and graduate courses which you have taken in your major field.

Dates	Institution	Title of Course
<u>English</u> :-		
1926-1927	Earlham College	- Contemporary Literature
1927-1928	" "	- Novel
1927-1928	" "	- Advanced Composition
1928-1929	" "	- American Literature
1928-1929	" "	- Methods in Teaching English.
<u>French</u> :		
1925-1926	" "	- 17 th & 18 th Century French Literature
1926-1927	" "	- French Composition
1927-1928	" "	- 19 th Century French Literature
1928-1929	" "	- Advanced Composition
1928-1929	" "	- Methods in Teaching French
<u>Social Work</u> .		
Undergraduate	" "	- Introductory Psychology.
1925-1926	" "	- Educational "
1926-1927	" "	- Foods.
1926-1927	" "	- Foods.
Graduate Courses - <u>Sumner College</u>		
1929	School of Social Work.	Economics
"	"	Statistics
"	"	Casebook
"	"	Medicine
"	"	Psychiatry
1930	Primer, School of Social Work	Community Organization
"	Health Work	Casebook
"	"	Personality
"	"	Organization and
"	"	Principles of Law
"	"	Administration
"	"	Medicine
"	"	Heredit
"	"	Racial Characteristics

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8. List undergraduate and graduate courses which you have taken in allied fields which you believe have been helpful to your major field.

Dates	Institution	Title of Course
1925-1926	Earlham College -	Regnier's German
1926-1927	" "	Intermediate "
1928-1929	" "	Methods in Teaching
1928-1929	" "	Physical Education
		Life of Christ.

9. Give names of four or more persons, stating their addresses and positions who can give information about your academic training and your professional experience.

Walter W. Haviland, Principal,
Frederic Kelsch School, 17th and Parkway,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Arthur W. Charles, Dean,
Earlham College, Richmond Indiana.

Miss Catherine D. Handwick, Director
Sumner College School of Social Work,
Boston, Mass.

Miss Jessie Forbes, Secretary (present employer)
Media Community Center,
100 W. Front St - Media, Penna.

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GINLING COLLEGE

Ginling College is a Christian missionary institution. The highest professional standards are desired in the members of its faculty. It is also expected that they have a missionary motive and a Christian purpose.

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

Candidate Blank #2.

PERSONAL AND RELIGIOUS RECORD.

Please return
copy

1. Full Name. *Elizabeth Jane Thomas* Date. *July 3, 1931.*
2. Present Address. *134 Hilldale Road, Lansdowne, Pa.*
3. Permanent Address. *134 " " " "*
4. Date and Place of Birth. *July 4, 1908 - Central Village, U.S.A.*
5. Name in full of father. *Chelbur Kelsey Thomas*
6. Name in full of mother. *Elizabeth Folger Thomas*
7. Address of parents. *134 Hilldale Road, Lansdowne, Pa*
8. Nationality of parents. *Executive Secretary of Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation*
9. Father's occupation. *Freelance.*
10. Church membership of parents. *U*
11. Is your family in sympathy with you desire to serve in China? *Yes*
12. Are you responsible for the payment of any debts? *Yes*
13. Is anyone dependent upon you for support? *No*
14. Have you been married? *No*
15. Are you engaged? *No*
16. Could you happily accept Chinese as colleagues and superiors on the college faculty? *Yes*
17. Of what church are you now a member? *Freelance*
18. When and where did you unite with the church? *At birth (Berthel)*
19. How do you keep vital your religious life? *By regular attendance at the Sunday morning meeting, by Sunday School teaching and by active young people's work. Also by reading religious books and papers, attending lectures on various religious subjects and by talking with various religious leaders individually.*

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10 copies P.B. Sketch of ^{Elizabeth} ~~Emily~~ Jane Thomas, candidate for secretary at
Sundering College, Nausaug, Conn. - [5]

As the oldest child in a minister's family of three children, my life has been one of economization, but always with high educational and cultural standards. There has been brought to us also the deep appreciation of a truly spiritual life.

My father and mother were born and brought up on farms in the middle West and are both graduates of Friend's University at Wichita, Kansas. My father is also a graduate of Yale Divinity School and secured his Ph.D. in Philosophy at Boston University.

We lived in Boston, Massachusetts, where father was pastor of the Friends' Meeting, until he became Executive Secretary of the American Friends' Service Committee in Philadelphia, the headquarters of the Friends' organization in charge of relief work during and after the war. Our home life has become enriched by the many people with international and interracial interests who have passed through it during all the years of my memory, and I shall always feel a need and desire for further working toward international brotherhood. Music has perhaps been the next most significant element in our family life and, for my part, I have studied piano consecutively from the time I entered the New England Conservatory of Music at nine years of age until my graduation from college. I was fortunate enough to receive the Presser Foundation scholarship for study in music during my Junior year.

The four years at Friends' Select School was a great experience to me as I was growing up, for, as well as emphasizing in the school much of our home teaching, my attendance necessitated my commuting to the city and thus developing quite a little self-reliance. Earlham College, with its Friendly interests and ideals, will always be a happy memory. I practically divided my time between the extra-curricular activities of music, athletics, dramatics and Y.W.C.A. work and my studies. I was unable to secure remunerative work of any kind my Freshman year, but I acted as one of the office girls in the dormitory my Sophomore year and as Social Secretary to the Dean of Women my Junior and Senior years. This entailed the planning, preparing and serving of all her teas, receptions, and informal social functions and generally relieving her of the burden of her social responsibility. Along with a very diversified range of subjects of French, English, Home Economics, German, and Bible Study I took the full course of Education, including Practise Teaching for six weeks.

Following graduation I studied for one year at Simmons College School of Social Work and the Pennsylvania School of Social and Health Work and secured my present position at the Media Community Center as assistant Secretary and Family Case- Worker. My duties also include the recreational work of the Community Center which this year has taken the form of a girls' club.

Religion has always been an integral part of my life. I have regularly attended Sunday School and our Meeting for Worship and have been more or less actively identified with various Meeting activities. I taught the Beginners' Sunday School class for two years when I was fourteen and fifteen years old and then again, during this last year, I have had a class of thirteen and fourteen year old boys and girls. I was active in Y.W.C.A. work at College and was a member of the Cabinet during my Senior year. Our family has always belonged to the Orthodox group of Friends and my personal views are in close harmony with that group.

I devote most of my leisure time to reading, music in various forms, or sports such as tennis, swimming and hockey. My friendships have never

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been limited to any one group or age of people, for my interests have al-
been so diversified as to prevent much distinction.

It has lately been my keen desire to spend a year in northern China, although I have long had an especial interest in China. I have wanted to live and work with the Chinese people in an effort to understand their lives and problems and to determine in what ways I might prepare to be of service to them. Ginling College, with the possibility of working with Dr. Wu, has seemed to me to offer a supreme opportunity to become intimately acquainted with the whole life in China and I should be most happy to be associated with the work.

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TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE OF ELIZABETH JANE THOMAS

* * * * *

Place of birth and date: Central Village, Mass.
July 4, 1908

Friends' Select School, Philadelphia, Pa. 1921-1925

Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana - B.A. 1925-1929

Simmons College School of Social Work, Boston, Mass.
September to December 1929

Pennsylvania School of Social & Health Work - Certificate
January to June 1930

Social Secretary to the Dean of Women, Earlham College
1927-1929

Music Counsellor - Camp Wawanock, Me. summer of 1928

Manager and cook - Old Knox Trail Tea Room, Barrington,
Mass. summer of 1929

Manager and helped with cooking - Whittierland Guest Home
Amesbury, Mass. summer of
1930

Assistant secretary and family case worker - Media Commun-
ity Centre, Media, Pa.
1930-1931

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act. - July 5-

- 1) Write to Miss Hodge again
- 2) Write ask Miss Reedberg to attend to correspondence while I am in hospital.

- 3) Write Miss Hodge July 5 -
- 1) Send copies of letter blank to blank.
- 2) Ask if she could see her son.
- 3) Ask if for 1 yr Challis Hill, Amesbury, Mass. July 3, 1931
- 4) Ask if for 1 yr necessary as for
- 5) Ask if Mr. Carter's office could secure her rates.

Miss Rebecca Griest,
 208 South Queen Street,
 Lancaster, Penna.

My dear Miss Griest:-

Thank you very much for your letters. The one with the application blanks came just as I was starting on the motor trip to New England, and I have just now been able to completely fill them out. I was most happy to receive your second letter on my arrival here last evening.

I am changing my plans so as to arrive in Lansdowne about noon-time on Monday, July 6th, and I will be able to go to see Miss Hodge whenever it is convenient for her, if she is interested in my application. I am also writing to Henry Hodgkin to ask to see him as soon as is convenient for him, and shall talk with Adelaide Gundlach as you suggested.

I don't quite understand what you meant when you asked me to give you a statement as to how I was willing to go and why, but I shall do my best to answer it, anyway. I have been very anxious to go to China for some time, but for financial reasons I am not able to go unless I can secure a position that will give me a living. I would expect to pay my travelling expenses. I have known a few Chinese in this country and have studied more or less about the country itself; I also have known several people who have worked and taught in China. Out of these associations has grown a very natural desire to become more intimately acquainted with the customs and life of the people, particularly from the educational point of view, and when I heard of the possibility of a position at Ginling I was more than happy. I have heard of Dr. Wu and should consider it a great privilege to be able to work with her and for her.

If my application is considered at all satisfactory, I shall expect to start intensive work immediately on typing and speed-writing (if that is what seems advisable to do in the short time that is left) and also try to do anything else that you would advise me to in order to prepare myself further for the position.

I judge from your letter that Miss Hodge will let me know what time will be suitable to her for an interview, but if I do not hear from her by Tuesday I will try to get in touch with her.

Thank you very much for your interest and help. If the way does open for me to go to Ginling I shall be more than happy and shall do my best to give Dr. Wu efficient help.

Sincerely yours,
E. Jane Thomas

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Matilda Calder Thurston

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Matilda Calder Thurston

1872-1958

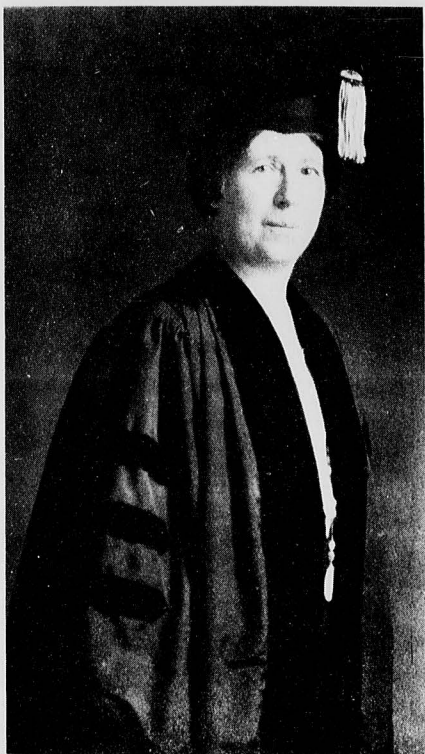
First President of Ginling College

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A tribute given by Mrs. W. S. New, at the
memorial service in the Congregational
Church, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts,
April 28, 1958.

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A TRIBUTE TO
MRS. LAWRENCE THURSTON

Friday, April 18, at 8:15 p. m., when Miss Helen Calder called from her Auburndale home, my mind immediately turned to Mrs. Thurston's state of health. After the message was given: "My sister left us at 7:00 p. m.; she slipped away", as a lightning flash this stanza of a hymn came to me: "The strife is o'er, the battle done, the victory of life is won, the song of triumph has begun." This, I hope, will be the theme of our solemn service today.

Knowing how long our dearly beloved president had suffered from inactivity since her repatriation in 1942, we can fully understand how her enforced isolation from her Chinese students, friends, and contemporaries, caused her feeling of loneliness during these remaining years.

It grieved us to see her disabled like a wounded veteran back from the battlefield. Physically, she was quite different from the time when, active and vigorous in her pioneering days in Nanking, China, she impressed all of her students as a lady general in a long dark grey cape over her lovely purple taffeta dress, very genteel and dignified. We were proud of her New England manner and her refined taste for things elegant. She was versatile and could talk on all subjects, scientific, religious, and philosophical, carried on Chinese conversation very politely, and made no faux pas in the highest circles. Nothing seemed to worry her. She never used pressure nor rushed about the essentials, but liked to take time and do them well. One Bishop's secretary served as our college Board secretary. The Ginling Board used to take three days for trustee meetings.

Mrs. Thurston did not like the suggestion of having it done in one day. She said, "God's work is not done in a hasty way", to which the Bishop's secretary answered, "We have God's other work to do, too." She took it with a smile, and yielded to the change.

My annual visit to her in Auburndale made me realize how comfortably she was situated, with her loyal sister like her ministering angel. A few of her alumnae in Boston and in other areas paid her annual visits. They were inspired by the loving care given by her sister and brother. Such tender devotion until her end commanded our great respect.

The regrets of Ginling College alumnae are a hundred-fold for not being able to give her the joy of reaping the fruits of her labor at our campus home. However, she was encouraged by the spread of Ginling's spirit through the works of her alumnae in the U. S. A., Hongkong, and Taiwan. Eight representatives of Ginling chapters are here today, wishing to console the family who are present. The loss is great, but the family name she stood for and the imprint of your family character she made on the history of Ginling College survive and will shine with glory to God, to her country, and to her people.

It is significant that she should leave us at this time, when every bud on the trees and every bloom in her garden are bearing silent witness to the fact that life springs out of the dead of winter. Let the truth of Easter be as April sunshine to us all who are bereaved. We gather here not to mourn for the departed leader, for her spirit soars high to meet her Maker. In loving memory we offer Thanksgiving to God for a life so nobly lived.

We are thankful for her gifts of special grace to believe in higher values of life, courage to declare and to blaze the trail, and skill to interpret, steadfastness to endure. Grant us wisdom and perseverance to continue likewise a life-long quest of great ideas, in keeping

pace with the great minds of ages. Develop in us the same ability of asking questions and searching after truths.

Again, we thank God for the genius of her leadership who went before the crowd, and for her indomitable courage to stay behind when duty called in times of trouble, for her joyous self-giving in works of art and of beauty.

We remember all these gifts with gratitude. May no forgetfulness of ours make such a noble life ever perish as though it had never been. May we receive the fruits of her sacrifice and carry on to further fulfillment her dearest hopes for the future of Ginling College and life abundant for all mankind.

Chinese have a term for the departed one, calling her Tsoh-koo, meaning she has become an ancient one, or an eternal being. So her past has become our present, and our present her eternity, in the larger perspective of time. She is now our eternal contemporary.

I wish to share with you a few reminiscences so that you can also visualize her in the way her privileged students enjoyed her. As with all great men and women of good works, Mrs. Thurston's life was intertwined with historical events and with impacts of national forces, including war and peace. One could not interpret that life without fitting her into the center of events happening around her in three successive periods.

I. The first period: 1913-1921

As a daughter of her God-fearing New England family of high culture, and as a loyal alumna of Mt. Holyoke College, she could not but carry that tradition along with her to the Far East. We were aware of its superb quality. We do treasure the background of her wide readings of literature. She liked to feed her students with a steady diet, Atlantic Monthly, Harpers, and Saturday Review of Literature.

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The Mt. Holyoke tradition, as President Gettell gave it in his Convocation address last September, is "to be ahead of its times. . . . It is the distillation of enduring values, tested by time, the continuance of that which is proven good, the rejection of that which is not good, and the constant re-examination, retesting and reassessment of its values."

Matilda Calder followed in the tradition of the "two great Marys", as they were called — crusaders for women, all ahead of their times. Mary Lyon was a pioneer in proving that intelligence has no gender. Mary Woolley broke the barriers and established the competence of women to be leaders of society. Matilda Calder believed in her mission of breaking the national and racial barriers, improving that Eastern and Western women could work together on common grounds of Christian ethics. Chinese girls at the same age as American girls are capable of achieving academic competence. Like the other two great Mt. Holyoke predecessors, she also fought against mediocrity and crusaded for international goodwill.

In 1913 she was elected the first president of the Union College for Women in the Yangtze valley, the first of its kind. The urgent need for teachers of science and humanities in 15 Christian high schools and in many other government schools necessitated the founding of a liberal college for women, even in a most unfavorable time and place in the midst of wrecks of wars and havocs of revolutions. As the faculty expressed it, "Ginling was founded by faith. She will always grow, flourish, and bloom and bear fruit through faith."

Eight Christian Missions promised to support the college with a budget of U.S. \$9000 and an official residence of one hundred empty rooms without windows or doors. Changing the stables into a library, ancestral halls into an auditorium, a haystack barn into a music chamber, and servants' quarters into a dormitory was

nothing short of a miracle, as was changing the most hideous devastated backyard of snake pits and centipede nests into the most heavenly rose garden and pavilion for the outdoor gymnasium.

Ginling College started in 1915. She scouted for her students along the Yangtze Valley. In her own letter she described her ambitious expectations of a goodly number of freshman students. She would be gratified to receive 20 of them. "Fifteen is really the largest number within my expectation", she said. "If we fall short of ten, I shall be surprised but not disappointed. If only they would come with serious purpose and enthusiasm for study." At the end of two years came eight students and six faculty. I was fortunate to be one of the eight. She built in us a vision. Our college motto was "Abundant Life," (John 10:10). We made royal purple and white our college colors. Our class adopted the Pioneer as our class pin, a pick-axe and shovel on a shield. From Henry Van Dyke's poem we selected the line, "Cleave the woods, thou shalt find me; raise the rock, thou shalt see me."

So the first class of 1919 launched with her into the unknown sea, through war clouds, threats of foreign invasions, student strikes, the constant fear of signing away of national sovereignty to our eastern invaders. In the midst of these turbulent waters, Mrs. Thurston piloted the ship safely toward the production of the first generation of graduates. From whence cometh her strength; her oft repeated verse, "They shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

Five were graduated in 1919, the first women ever to receive the degree of B. A. in China. These graduates have served as medical doctors, an ordained minister, a dean of women and a college president who later succeeded our first president.

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II. The second period was characterized by her planning for a permanent college campus, 1921-1928

For curriculum and faculty — the academic improvements — she drew faculty from Eastern women's colleges and Midwestern universities. No longer did she need to teach so many courses as in the early years. She taught Astronomy, Advanced Mathematics, Synoptic Gospels, Life of Jesus, conducted a choir, sang soprano in a cantata, besides her presidential duty, without a secretary or a treasurer. She also had to speak in the neighboring high schools and to accept many social engagements as guest of honor in high ranking officers' homes. Not the least demanding were her church board meetings. She also had to practise with her Chinese tutor her chapel talks in Chinese.

What great satisfaction she found in the completion of her first generation of four classes with degrees recognized and accredited by the Regents of the State of New York! With that status achieved, 20 of her 43 graduates could continue their studies in the U. S. accredited universities, and 19 attained advanced degrees.

Next in importance to this academic achievement for her first college generation was the building of a permanent Ginling campus. With the encouragement of her pioneering students, she boldly laid plans for housing 400 students and an extensive campus for future expansion.

Again it was like a mustard seed sown in a battlefield. The removal and leveling of more than a thousand graves was indeed a remarkable feat. The first building campaign brought only \$5000, hardly enough to pay the architect's fees. At the least, buildings would require three million! But in the ensuing years, with her prayer and personal efforts combined with the mission interests, her campaign for building funds was successful. She worked insistently with the architect for the best of Chinese architectural beauty combined with Western engineering.

III. The third period of significance was from 1928-1936, when she remained at Ginling as President Emeritus.

The high point of her life was to see the inauguration of one of her first graduates as her successor in order to fulfill the government requirement of native leadership.

On January 13, 1928, the chairman of the College Board, who happened to be also her own first class graduate, took the legacy of the college seal from President Thurston to Dr. Yi-fang Wu, who was the second president. Mrs. Thurston graciously stepped aside and encouraged her to take the initiative. The relationship worked out beautifully.

The spiritual influence of her leadership remained strong. President Thurston found leading chapel was one of her chief joys. She said, "The minutes spent in the chapel seemed like a spiritual oasis in a desert of things mundane. The attitude of students was one of earnest and honest seeking to know what God would reveal of Himself."

It was most regrettable that upon her last return to China in 1939 she was confined by the Japanese occupation and lost her freedom to move about, which impaired so much her physical health.

In conclusion, I want to quote an alumna who received so much from the college. In a letter, she paid this tribute to Mrs. Thurston: "I love the beauty of Ginling and felt a sense of the Presence of God so real and vivid as never before. My courses in Religion, Astronomy, and Philosophy all helped to clear up the misleading conceptions. I became fully convinced that the laws of nature reveal the infinite intelligence, wonder and beauty of God, the Creator of the Universe." She gave thanks to God for guiding her steps to Ginling, and after graduation she was trying to give her best by practising the abundant life she had received from her beloved Ginling.

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It was a most touching tribute of gratitude to what Ginling had given her. What Ginling provides for girls such as she stems from the first solid foundation laid down by Mrs. Thurston. Over a thousand Ginling alumnae would echo our indebtedness to our late president.

Matilda Calder Thurston is gone. Long may she live in the hearts of her Ginling daughters, and the cause which she served so faithfully will be ours to perpetuate.

Let us beseech the Almighty to keep us all united in spirit:

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,
Eternal Power, be our support,
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us;
That with all our hearts and minds and souls and strength
We may seek Thy face and be brought by
Thine infinite mercy to Thy holy presence

Mrs. Way-sung New (Yuh Tsung Zee) was in Ginling's first class, graduating in 1919. She was class president for all four of her college years. Mrs. New was the first Chinese chairman of the Ginling Board of Directors (1926-1930) in Nanking; she also served two terms as president of the Ginling Alumnae Association in China. She was the first president of the new Ginling Association in America. For the past three years she has been assistant dean of students and counselor at Western College, Oxford, Ohio.

Biographical Outline of Mrs. Thurston's Life

Mrs. Lawrence Thurston (née Matilda Calder) was born in Hartford, Connecticut, May 16, 1875. Attended Mt. Holyoke College, B.S. 1896; Litt. D. 1925. After teaching in high schools in the United States, she taught in Central Turkey College for Girls, Marash, 1900 to 1902 under the American Board. Married the Rev. Lawrence Thurston in 1902 and went with him to Peking to study the Chinese language and to look for a suitable location for the Yale-in-China Mission; returned to America in 1903 because of the illness of her husband who died in 1904; served as traveling secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions, 1904 to 1906; helped in hospital and taught in boys' school of Yale Mission in Changsha, 1906 to 1911; was appointed to Nanking by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in the U. S. A. in 1913, and in the same year was elected first President of Ginling College. She continued in this position till 1928; when she resigned in favor of Dr. Wu Yi-fang; served as adviser, teacher and supervisor of building construction at Ginling, 1929 to 1936, and was treasurer of various activities for women and girls on the Ginling campus from 1939 to 1942; was repatriated on the Gripsholm in 1942. From 1942 until her death on April 18, 1958, Mrs. Thurston lived with her sister, Miss Helen Calder, in Auburndale, Mass.

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for CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN ASIA
continuing and extending
United Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, New York

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1928

Report of the Committee appointed to consider and make recommendation concerning Mrs. Thurston's future relation to the College.

It is with the de pest feeling that your committee has undertaken the task appointed. Needless to say, there is not the least hesitation or doubt in the minds of the members questioned on this subject, regarding the desire and need for Mrs. Thurston to continue in a position of intimate relationship with this college, which she has served so devotedly and with such magnificent results since it was founded. The function of this committee is not in the slightest degree to question whether there is a place in the institution for Mrs. Thurston but merely to discover /to seek in what way her service can best be used.

After thorough investigation and consideration of this question among the alumnae and faculty, as well as other friends of the college, the conclusion reached is that Mrs. Thurston be invited to resume responsibilities for the following tasks in connection with the college, all of which constitute a pressing need for which there seems to be no other means of providing at the present time:

1. Teaching one or more courses in the department of Religion, as may be decided by the curriculum committee in conference with the other teachers in that department.

2. Teaching one or more courses in Astronomy.

3. The promotion of adequate publicity for the college abroad and maintaining contacts with foreign friends in China, with a view of helping to solve the problem of financial support which will be a growing question in the next few years.

4. Maintaining helpful and friendly contacts with the Foreign Mission Boards abroad, and other friends of the college.

5. Western adviser to the president.

We realize that the last the last three points mentioned are not clearly defined, but we feel that they constitute a real field of opportunity and need, and that Mrs. Thurston and others will know how to develop concrete plans and details for the accomplishment of the objects which we have stated all to inadequately.

Signed by members of the Committee.

Wu Ming-ying
Yang Ging-hsieh
Ellen V.T.Koo

The Board of Control approved the report and added a sixth item

6. Member of the Building Committee.

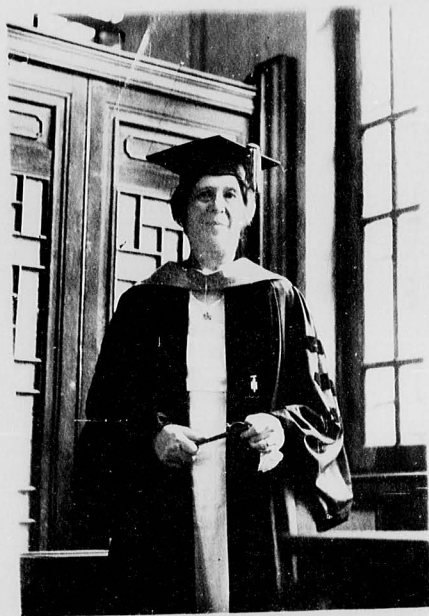
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Happy New Year
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FIRST PRESIDENT OF GINLING COLLEGE HONORED IN CONNECTION WITH TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY (North China Daily News, November 9, 1935)

The sixtieth birthday of Mrs. Lawrence Thurston, first President of Ginling College, was celebrated on November 2 in connection with the Twentieth Anniversary of the founding of the College. This came as a complete surprise to Mrs. Thurston and was planned and carried out by the alumnae of the College.

Mrs. Thurston is a graduate of Mt. Holyoke College in the class of 1896, from which institution she received the honorary degree of Litt.D. in 1925. After graduation she taught first in the High School in Middletown, Connecticut. Later she went to the Central Turkey College for Women in Marash, where she taught for two years. In 1902 she married and came to China with her husband, a graduate of Yale University, to establish the work of Yale-in-China in Changsha. After the death of her husband she was a Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, working in the interest of foreign missions among the college students in the United States. In 1906 she returned to Changsha and taught in the Yale Collegiate School. In 1913 she was elected first President of Ginling College, two years before the College was opened. She served Ginling in that capacity through the days of preparation, the pioneer years of small beginnings and the period of expansion when the permanent campus was developed. In 1928, Dr. Yi-fang Wu, a member of the first graduating class, was called back to take the presidency, and Mrs. Thurston has been Adviser and also part-time Professor. She has continued to give her best to the College which she was so instrumental in establishing and much of whose success is due to her planning and administration.

On Saturday noon the Alumnae gave a luncheon at the College which many of Mrs. Thurston's friends attended together with the faculty and alumnae. The Social Hall was made festive with the red silk and gold banners of congratulation and the banners of the classes which have finished college during the twenty years of Ginling history. There were twelve tables of alumnae and guests. Miss Chen, President of the Alumnae Association was toastmistress, and toasts were given to Mrs. Thurston as missionary, teacher, friend and co-worker. Miss Anna Moffet, of the Nanking Presbyterian Mission, of which Mrs. Thurston is the senior active member, gave the first toast. She told of the early years of Mrs. Thurston's life in China and as a missionary in Turkey, and spoke of her coming to China with her husband to found the work of Yale-in-China. She described the devotion and energy which Mrs. Thurston has given to the work of the Presbyterian Mission in addition to her duties as President and Adviser in an educational institution, and expressed the appreciation and the feeling of honor which the Presbyterian Mission has in having one of their number in this position of leadership in the education of Chinese women.

The second toast was given by Dr. Liu Gien-tsui, of the class of 1919, and of the Concord Hospital in Shanghai. She was one of the first nine students who with the faculty of eight members spent the first year together in the old Ginling, laying the foundations for this College which has come to have such a strong place of leadership in the Christian education of women in China. She paid tribute

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to Mrs. Thurston as an administrator and teacher through those difficult years of organization and beginnings, and to her vision through the years of expansion when she, with other women working for the education of women in China, dreamed of a greater Ginling and was instrumental in making those dreams come true. The third toast was made by Mrs. Hwang, who helped Miss Lyon in building up the Christian Girls' School, and one of Mrs. Thurston's first friends in Nanking. She spoke with much appreciation of the friendship and service of Mrs. Thurston. She told about the difficult days Mrs. Thurston had in looking for a house for the College and the doubtful attitude of many people, including herself, toward higher education for girls. But Mrs. Thurston was steadfast in her endeavor and was successful in developing this splendid college for women. As a friend she extended hearty greetings to Mrs. Thurston that "her blessedness be as vast as the East Sea and her longevity as high as the South Mountain." Miss Eva Spicer, representing the faculty, brought the last toast, speaking as one who has worked for and with Mrs. Thurston over a period of years. Miss Spicer recalled the toast of one of the students at Mrs. Thurston's fiftieth birthday celebration. This student had spoken of the soundness of Mrs. Thurston's convictions and the steadfastness of her position. Miss Spicer said that in addition to this she would like to add that Mrs. Thurston's eyes were searching the heavens. She has high ideals and aspirations, and while her feet are set firmly on the earth, she is looking up and above for what she can find there. Miss Spicer spoke of the beautiful Ginling buildings as a monument to the foundation she laid, but said that while these are complete Mrs. Thurston will still continue to help by her upward and onward look.

At the conclusion of the toasts, the children of the members of the class of 1925 came to Mrs. Thurston bringing greetings, flowers and a gift. A watch, appropriately inscribed was presented in loving appreciation by the Alumnae Association in honor of her birthday. At the same time, the President of the Alumnae Association made announcement of the gift by the Alumnae Association in honor of Mrs. Thurston of the Thurston Scholarship of \$2,000. This is to be used to help worthy students. No gift could better commemorate the birthday of Mrs. Thurston, for she has devoted her whole life unselfishly to the cause of the Christian education of women.

The most spectacular event of the celebration of Mrs. Thurston's birthday came in the evening. At the conclusion of the Founders' Day Banquet, faculty, alumnae, students and guests were invited to the auditorium. A short concert was presented by the Alumnae. Vocal and piano numbers were presented by Miss Chang Kwei-chi of the class of 1932, Miss Lan Chien-bih of the class of 1934, and Miss Liu Dzo-gia of the class of 1925. Then the students gave an original pageant "Birthday Greetings" in honor of Mrs. Thurston. The whole performance was produced with old Chinese costumes, Chinese music and dances, and was colorful and impressive. Gifts were brought in honor of Mrs. Thurston, represented in the pageant by the Goddess of Heaven, by the God of Longevity, the Fairies of the Hundred Flowers, the Fairy of the Winds, the Goddess in the Moon, the Fairies of the Snow Flakes, and Ma Mu. At the conclusion of the program Mrs. Thurston was presented by the students with armfuls of flowers and a beautifully embroidered portrait of the God of Longevity.

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A Tribute to Mrs. Lawrence Thurston
The First President of Ginling College
By Mrs. W. S. New
Delivered at Wellesley Hills, Mass.
Congregational Church, April 28, 1958

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Friday, April 18, at 8:15 pm. when Miss Helen Calder called from her Auburndale home, my mind immediately turned to Mrs. Thurston's state of health. After the message was given: "My sister left us at 7⁰⁰ pm.; she slept away", as a lightning flash this stanza of a hymn came to me: "The strife is ^{over}, the battle is done, the victory of life is won, the song of triumph has begun." This, I hope, will be the theme of our solemn service today.

Knowing how long our dearly beloved president had suffered from inactivity since her repatriation in 1943, we can fully understand ^{how} her enforced isolation from her Chinese students, friends, and contemporaries, which caused her feeling of loneliness during these remaining years.

It grieved us to see her disabled like a wounded veteran back from the battlefield. Physically, she was quite different from the time, when active and vigorous in her pioneering days in Nanking, China, she impressed all of her students as a lady general in a long dark grey cape over her lovely purple taffeta dress, very genteel and dignified. We were proud of her New England manner and her refined taste for things elegant. She was versatile and could talk on all subjects, scientific, religious, and philosophical, carried on Chinese conversation very politely, and made no faux pas in the highest circles. Nothing seemed to worry her. She never used pressure nor rushed about the essentials, but liked to take time and do them well. One Bishop's secretary served as our college Board secretary. The Board used to take three days for trustee meetings. Mrs. Thurston did not like the suggestion of having it done in one day. She said, "God's work is not done in a hasty way", to which the Bishop's secretary answered, "We have God's other work to do, too." She took it with a smile, and yielded to the change.

My annual visit to her in Auburndale made me realize how comfortably she was situated, with her loyal sister like her ministering angel. A few of her alumnae in Boston and in other areas paid her annual visits. They were inspired by the loving care given by her sister and brother. Such tender devotion until her end commanded our great respect.

The regrets of Ginling College alumnae are ^{as} hundredfold for not being able to give her the joy of reaping the fruits of her labor at our campus home. However, she was encouraged by the spread of Ginling's spirit through the works of her alumnae in the U. S. A., Hongkong, and Taiwan. Eight representatives of Ginling chapters are here today, wishing to console the family who are present. The loss is great, but the family name she stood for and the imprint of your family character she made on the history of Ginling College survive and will shine with glory to God, to her country, and to her people.

presented a baffling task.
was indeed a remarkable feat.

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It is significant that she should leave us at this time, when every bud on the trees and every bloom in her garden ^{are} bearing silent witness to the fact that life springs out of the dead of winter. Let the truth of Easter be as April sunshine to us all who are bereaved. We gather here not to mourn for the departed leader, for her spirit soars high to meet her Maker. In loving memory we offer Thanksgiving to God for a life so nobly lived.

We are thankful for her gifts of special grace to believe in higher values of life, courage to declare, and to blaze the trail, and skill to interpret, steadfastness to endure. Grant us wisdom and perseverance to continue likewise a life-long quest of great ideas, in keeping pace with the great minds of ages. Develop in us the same ability of asking questions and searching after truths.

Again, we thank God for the genius of her leadership who went before the crowd, and for her indomitable courage to stay behind when duty called in times of trouble, for her joyous self-giving in works of art and of beauty.

We remember all these gifts with gratitude. May no forgetfulness of ours make such a noble life ever perish as though it had never been. May we receive the fruits of her sacrifice and carry on to further fulfillment her dearest hopes for the future of Ginling College and life abundant for all mankind.

Chinese have a term for the departed one, calling her Tsoh-koo, meaning she has become an ancient one, or an eternal being. So her past has become our present, and our present her eternity, in the larger perspective of time. She is now our eternal contemporary.

I wish to share with you a few reminiscences so that you can also visualize her in the way her privileged students enjoyed her. As with all great men and women of good works, Mrs. Thurston's life was intertwined with historical events and with impacts of national forces, including war and peace. One could not interpret that life without fitting her into the center of events happening around her in three successive periods.

I. The first period: 1913-1921

As a daughter of her God-fearing New England family of high culture, and ^{as} a loyal alumna of Mt. Holyoke College, she could not ~~help~~ but carry that tradition along with her to the Far East. We were aware of its superb quality. We do treasure the background of her wide readings of literature. She liked to feed her students with a steady diet, Atlantic Monthly, Harpers, and Saturday Review of Literature.

The Mt. Holyoke tradition, as President Gettell gave it in his Convocation address last September, is "to be ahead of its times."¹ "It is the distillation of enduring values, tested by time, the continuance of that which is proven good, the rejection of that which is not good, and the constant re-examination, retesting and reassessment of its values."

Matilda Calder ^{in the tradition of the} Following ^{the} two great Marysas they were called crusaders for women all ahead of their times. Mary Lyon was a pioneer in proving that intelligence has no gender. Mary Woolley broke the barriers and established the competence of women to be leaders of society. Matilda Calder believed in her mission of breaking the national and racial

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barriers, in proving that Eastern and Western women could work together on common grounds of Christian Ethics. Chinese girls at the same age as American girls are capable of achieving academic competence. Like the other two great Mt. Holyoke predecessors, she also fought against mediocrity and crusaded for international goodwill.

In 1913 she was elected the first president of the Union College for Women in the Yangtse valley, the first of its kind. The urgent need for teachers of science and humanities in 15 Christian high schools and in many other government schools necessitated the founding of a liberal college for women, even in a most unfavorable time and place in the midst of wrecks of wars and havocs of revolutions. As the faculty expressed it, "Ginling was founded by faith. She will always grow, flourish, and bloom and bear fruit through faith."

Eight Christian Missions promised to support the college with a budget of U. S. \$9000 and an official residence of one hundred empty rooms without windows ~~nor~~ doors. Changing the stables into a library, ancestral halls into an auditorium, a haystack barn into a music chamber, and servants' quarters into a dormitory ~~were~~ ^{was} nothing short of a miracle, as was changing the most hideous devastated backyard ~~with~~ ^{was} snake pits and centipede nests into the most heavenly rose garden and pavilion for the outdoor gymnasium.

Ginling College started in 1915. She scouted for her students along the Yangtse Valley. In her own letter she described her ambitious expectations of a goodly number of freshman students. She would be gratified to receive 20 of them. "Fifteen is really the largest number within my expectation", she said. "If we fall short of ten, I shall be surprised but not disappointed. If only they would come with serious purpose and enthusiasm for study." At the end of two years came eight students and six faculty. I was fortunate to be one of the eight. She built in us a vision. Our college motto was "Abundant Life," (John 10-10). We made royal purple and white our college colors. Our class adopted The Pioneer as our class pin, a pick-axe and shovel on a shield. From Henry Van Dyke's poem we selected the line, "Cleave the woods, Thou shalt find me; Raise the Rock, Thou shalt see me."

So the first class of 1919 laundæd with her into the unknown sea, through war clouds, threats of foreign invasions, student strikes, the constant fear of signing away of national sovereignty to our eastern invaders. In the midst of these turbulent waters, Mrs. Thurston piloted the ship safely toward the production of the first generation of graduates. From whence cometh her strength: her oft repeated verse, "They shall mount ^{on wings} like eagles; They shall run and not be weary; They shall walk and not faint."

Five of them were graduated in 1919, the first women ever to receive the degree of B.A. in China. These graduates have served as medical doctors, ^{an} ordained minister, Dean of Women and college president later succeeded our first president.

II. The second period of her life was characterized by her planning for a permanent college campus. 1921-1928

For curriculum and faculty, the academic improvement, she drew faculty from Eastern women's colleges and midwestern universities. No longer did she need to teach so many courses as in the early years. She taught Astronomy, Advanced Mathematics,

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Synoptic Gospels, Life of Jesus, conducted a choir, sang soprano in a cantata, besides her presidential duty, without a secretary or a treasurer. She also had to speak in the neighboring high schools and to accept many social engagements as guest of honor in high ranking officers' homes. Not the least demanding were her church board meetings. She also had to practise with her Chinese tutor her chapel talks in Chinese.

What great satisfaction she found in the completion of her first generation of four classes with degrees recognized and accredited by the Regents of ^{the State of} New York City. With that status achieved, 20 of her 43 graduates could continue their studies in the U. S. accredited universities, and 19 attained advanced degrees.

Next in importance to this academic achievement for her first college generation was the building of a permanent Ginling campus. With the encouragement of her pioneering students, she boldly laid plans for housing 400 students and an extensive campus for future expansion.

Again it was like a mustard seed sown in a battlefield. The removal and leveling of more than a thousand graves was indeed a baffling feat. The first building campaign brought only \$5000, hardly enough to pay the architect's fees. At least, ^{building} would require three million! But in the ensuing years, with her prayer and personal efforts combined with the mission interests, her campaign for building funds was successful. She worked insistently with the architect for the best of Chinese architectural beauty combined with Western engineering.

III. The third period of significance was from 1928-1936, when she remained at Ginling as President Emeritus.

The high point of her life was to see the inauguration of one of her first graduates as her successor in order to fulfill the government requirement of native leadership.

On January 13, 1928, the chairman of ^{the} College Board ^{who} happened to be also her own first class graduate, took the legacy of the college seal from President Thurston to Dr. Yi-fang Wu, who was the second president ^{for twenty years}. Mrs. Thurston graciously stepped aside and encouraged her to take the initiative. The relationship worked out beautifully.

The spiritual influence of her leadership remained strong. President Thurston found leading chapel was one of her chief joys. She said, "The minutes spent in the chapel seemed like a spiritual oasis in a desert of things mundane. The attitude of students was one of earnest and honest seeking to know what God would reveal of Himself."

It was most regrettable that upon her last return to China in 1939 she was confined by the Japanese occupation and lost her freedom to move about, which impaired so much of her physical health.

In conclusion, I want to quote an alumna who received so much from the college. In a letter, she paid this tribute to Mrs. Thurston: "I love the beauty of Ginling and felt a sense of the Presence of God so real and vivid as never before. My

courses in Religion, Astronomy, and Philosophy all helped to clear up the misleading conceptions. I became fully convinced that the laws of nature reveal the infinite intelligence, wonder and beauty of God, the Creator of the Universe." She gave thanks to God for guiding her steps to Ginling, and after graduation she was trying to give her best by practicing the abundant life she had received from her beloved Ginling. It was a most touching tribute of gratitude to what Ginling had given her. What Ginling provides for girls such as she stems from the first solid foundation laid down by Mrs. Thurston. Over a thousand of Ginling alumnae would echo our indebtedness to our late president.

Matilda Calder Thurston is gone. Long may she live in the hearts of her Ginling daughters, and the cause which she served so faithfully will be ours to perpetuate.

Let us beseech the Almighty to keep us all united in spirit:

"Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,

Eternal Power, be our support,

Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance

Eternal goodness, deliver us from evil

Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us;

That with all our hearts and minds and souls and strength

We may seek thy face and be brought by

Thine infinite mercy to thy holy presence."

Amen.

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Footnote:

Mrs. Way-sung New (Yuh Tsung Zee)

First class of 1919: Class President 1915-1919

Y. W. C. A. President 1917-1918

Student Government President 1917-1918

Chairman of Glee Club 1915-1918

Chairman of Board of Directors 1926-1930

President of Ginling Alumnae Association two terms

First President of Ginling Association in U.S.A. 1951-1953

Assistant Dean of Students and Counselor 1956-1958, Western College, Oxford, Ohio

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MARY B. TREVOLLEY

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New York City

GINLING COLLEGE

Nanking, China.

Candidate Blank NO. 1

- 1. Name *Treudley, Mary Bessie* born *Dec. 7, 1885. Union City, Ind.*
- 2. Present address
- 3. Permanent address } *Wood Call - 1501 Locust St - St Louis - Mo.*
- 4. Preparation (High School, College, Special Courses, etc.)

Dates	School	Courses	Degrees
1898-1902	<i>Rayen High School Youngstown, O.</i>	<i>Classical</i>	
1902-1906	<i>Ohio University</i>	<i>Languages & Mathematics</i>	<i>A. B.</i>
1909-1910	<i>Univ. of Chicago</i>	<i>Latin & Greek</i>	<i>A. M.</i>
1914-1916	<i>Clark Univ.</i>	<i>International Relations & Sociology</i>	<i>Ph. D.</i>

Plus various courses at *Chicago, Columbia* & a few scattered lectures at the *London School of Economics.*

5. Experience

Dates	Institution	Kind of work
1906-1909, 1910-1911.	<i>High school teaching.</i>	<i>Latin chiefly.</i>
1911-1913.	<i>Vincennes University.</i>	<i>Latin & history.</i>
1916-1921.	<i>Hiram College.</i>	<i>Sociology.</i>

6. College Work

Underscore once any work you are prepared for and twice that for which you have special preparation or preference. (Roman numerals refer to years.)

- ADMINISTRATION (a) Library (b) Registrar (c) Secretary (d) Treasurer;
- ART (a) Drawing (b) History of Art; ASTRONOMY; BIOLOGY (I) (II) (III); CHEMISTRY (I) (II) (III); EDUCATION (a) History (b) Principles and Problems (c) Secondary;
- ENGLISH (a) Language--Rhetoric and Composition (b) Literature (c) Oral English;
- HISTORY (a) English (b) Mediaeval (c) Modern; HYGIENE; LANGUAGES (a) Latin (b) French (c) German; MATHEMATICS (a) College Algebra (b) Trigonometry (c) Analytical Geometry; MUSIC (a) Piano (b) Organ (c) Voice (d) Theory; PHILOSOPHY;
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION; PHYSICS; PHYSIOLOGY; PSYCHOLOGY; RELIGION (a) Comparative Religion (b) Christianity--Preparation, Growth, Teachings (c) Psychology of Religion (d) Religious Education; SOCIOLOGY.

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Name Trendley, W. B.

Life Sketch

Write at sufficient length to make the document an introduction to you, covering the following points: parentage and ancestry; early home life; school life - special interests in study and in extra curriculum lines; language ability; musical ability; favorite recreation; church life - what you get and what you give in it; motives for life service; attitude toward hardship and danger as possible incidents in the day's work; fundamental religious convictions.

My father's father was a German, a printer by trade, who died when father was two. - My grandmother came of Mayflower stock migrated to northern Ohio. - She married for her second husband a farmer in Warren, O. - whose two interests were the church and a college education for all of his own sons + his foster sons who would take it. Our church affiliation + much that is best in my father's life was due to him. My mother's father started life as a printer's devil, graduated thru Rochester Theological Seminary, into the ministry, + varied his life by serving as president of Indiana University + editor of the Examiner.

My father has always been in school, superintendent of public schools in the first half of his life, college professor in the second half. - A liberal himself, the atmosphere of our home has always been distinctly religious. - I can hardly remember the time when both he and my mother were not holding important positions in the local church. And our children grew naturally and with no sense of compulsion to care for the finer things of life which alone attracted Mother + Father.

My own life has been, I'm afraid, ordinary in the extreme. A good high school education; a rather unfortunate college experience which left me quite unworked up; three years of high school teaching valuable chiefly for the friendships formed; a year in Chicago studying Latin + Greek; another three years' try at teaching in which I discovered for the first time the why of an education; a year at home keeping house after my mother's death; two years in a small university studying, writing, + arguing the problems of the universe with a group of congenial friends; five years in Hiram where I seem to have found my work and my special ability; a summer in the International Institute in Cleveland; four months in New York hunting for something I couldn't find; and seven months on the other side soaking in impressions of all sorts of things. And finishing up trying to help edit a missionary magazine.

My special interest in study the why + whether of society - which is quite broad enough for intra- + extra-curriculum



DR
 EDUDLEY JOHNSON,
 EDITOR
 PBELL,
 CIRCULATION MANAGER

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ST. LOUIS, MO., U. S. A.

Language ability fair. - I used to think it was pretty good until I put it to the test last summer.

Musical ability. - absolutely non-existent.

Favorite recreation. - Hiking, I suppose, as a stud-hy.

Church life. - I'm afraid most of my getting & giving has been thru the Y. W. C. A. - tho I had a wonderfully interesting experience my year at home filling my mother's place as president of the local missionary society.

Motives for life service. - Putting all I have into a construction program for putting Christ into daily human life.

Attitude toward hardship & danger. - I'm afraid I am not a very good soldier. -

Fundamental religious convictions. - That the world needs Christ today and that we can't afford to lose much time in letting him be the dominant force in our civilization.