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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Ginling
Corres.
Chen Mei-yü 1938
Chen pin-ling 1935-1940
Chen Ping-dji 1935
Chen Shiang-chiu 1948
Chen Shih-dzung 1945-1947

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Mei-yü Chen
1938

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[Sept. 6 - Oct. 13, 1938]

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letter from Mei-yü Chen, Ginling College, B.A. 1920, Columbia University, M.A. 1928, Dean of Women at Central University and teacher in the Department of Health of Central University. Central University is the government university located in Nanking, China. Letter written in China, September 6--October 13, 1938.

The dormitory of the Central University was to be closed on the 19th of August. . . . It was about a quarter of six, a few minutes after I got back to my room, when the siren sounded again. All the servants who were leaving the dormitory in an hour or so, came to take leave and beg me to go with them to the basement of the dental school nearby. I bade them to go there, but said that I preferred to stay in my room this time. A student called Miss Chang was correcting the papers of the mass education class. She also said that she would not go this time. I added, "It would not be our turn yet, for the very expensive buildings and military headquarters and other strategic places have not been touched yet. I'll just close my door and windows to avoid stray bullets and shrapnel." I made two glasses of tea, one for Miss Chang and the other for myself and sat down in my room to read the recent report from the F.O.R. When it was too dark to read, I went to the room next to mine to wash my hands. All of a sudden, I was lifted up and thrown forward and hit the wall on the side of my face. On looking up, I saw nothing but red burning sticks about two inches long, shooting in the garden in front of the washroom. My first impulse was to run for the back gate which was at the end of the long covered pathway and through seven Chinese courtyards. I called for Miss Chang to follow me but thought there was not time to go into the reading room and wait for her. When I got to the back gate it was locked and I began to scream. Kao Ma, an amah, . . . rushed out and told me to go to the students' wash room and hide under the heavy wash tables. As we had barely entered the wash room, the whole door with its frame fell on us and hit me on my arm; the plaster from the ceiling hit our heads; the dust blinded our eyes. Strange to say I had no sense of pain. I tried to convince myself that it was not the "San Francisco" film that I had seen sometime ago, that it was reality that houses were falling on us. The bottom of the table was only about half a meter from the floor. We rolled in upon the shattered glass and plaster. The sound of machine guns, the firing of the anti-aircraft guns from the neighboring places, estimated altogether about 200 times, the explosion of heavy bombs and the sight of the red shooting lights, seemed like the roaring of the spirits of death all around me, made me feel that my end had come. There came such a longing to communicate with mother and with some friends especially about how I was caught in this place and what conferences I had had with the President. How I blamed him for not listening to me to close the girls dormitory early, because we were the only students that live behind the auditorium and in the campus, and our building was very insecurely built. Then I thought, with all the experiences we had had with the Japanese, their bombing the Eastern library, the commercial press in 1932, the bombing of Nankai University in Tientsin last July, how could the President and myself think that our turn had not come yet. I knew the answer, in Nanking there are more important organizations from the standpoint of war. I blamed myself very painfully that I had not pulled out Miss Chang, for at that time all the other houses had fallen and I was afraid Miss Chang did not have as strong a table for refuge. . . . After a while, finding myself unhurt in the midst of the severe fighting, my hope for life revived and I began to pray, "May the years beyond today be remembered as a free gift and a trust to do good and I must not forget." When the planes left us, Kao Ma tried to go to the front side of the compound and I went to the back garden, for that time there were not any doors to lock me in. Kao Ma could not proceed very far with the fallen beams and all, but she reported that all the houses but my rooms and the reading room stood erect. I knew she was trying to comfort me that Miss Chang had not been killed, for she could not see anything and it was impossible that the reading room should stand erect among the runins. The sound of the

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9/6-10/13
1938

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My experience of August 19th was enough for me, but in comparison with the experiences of others who lost their arms and legs or had to bury their own people with their own hands, my story is very ordinary. The August 19th bombing was not so bad in comparison with the bombing on the 26th of the same month when about 100 bombs were loosened on the densely populated section of the city, when the middle school of Central University and some other schools were bombed and burned. The most dreadful one occurred on the 22nd of September when enemies' planes sent down about 200 bombs on this city. The ones dropped around the Central Hospital and the National Health Administration were about 1600 pounds in weight. A rough estimate was that about 1000 civilians in the city were killed. The dreadful bombing of the refugee trains at South Station of Shanghai, and at Sungkiang and at Pukow stations in each place killed about 300, women and children mostly, and wounded many more. . . .

The Central University is going to move to Chungking for the time being with a reduced program. I am very happy to say that our department of health education will go on as usual with a smaller staff.

My younger brother is in the Red Cross work in Shanghai. Every one is eager to do something for the freedom of the nation. For we know what it will mean if we lose it. The Koreans, Manchurians, Formosans are being forced to fight for Japan and especially as the first attackers. Since the mutiny at Tung chow, the Japanese have the policy of killing all the family members and the two guaranters in case the forced soldier turns against Japan.

There is a great crowd of unemployed in Shaohsing, my home town. The workers in the tea business, in the silk industry, in the antimony factory and in the wine business have lost their work because of the difficulty in transportation, very little export from the city. The educational work and the medical men are busier than in normal times, for there are refugees from Ningpo, Hangchow and Shanghai. Shaohsing is only comparatively a safe place, for the Japanese planes fly over us nearly every other day and we often had to sit with out light at night. So far there were only three bombs dropped outside of the city.

S. S. Kiang An, October 13.

I could hardly keep my tears back when I got back to my beloved Nanking, to see all the nice shops closed as if it were New Year's Day, yet without gay pleasure seekers on the street. The dug-outs lined the two sides of the streets; nearly every family owns one now. Our boat Kiang An docked four times yesterday; she fled three

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9/6-10/13
1938

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It is difficult to leave my aged mother now, but she wanted me to leave. She herself feels like going out and doing something more vital than sewing for the soldiers.

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

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Chen Pin-ling

1935-1940

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Chen Pin-ling 77
Ginling A.B. 1935

Received at
the Ginling Office,
N.Y., in the
handwriting of Chen
Pin-ling accompanied
by a cover note to Miss
Wasserman.

My interest in social work originated early in childhood, when I watched my family giving away clothing and food to the poor people at winter time, as it was a common practice in Foochow for the big families to render such voluntary charity service. The idea was a good one, but it had no system at all, and the method was unscientific, as a result the really poor ones did not necessarily get the benefit. That was the key note from which I arrived at the idea of studying scientific social work.

As a middle school girl, I began to participate in various social activities, such as the Y.W.C.A., the Student Self Government, and the All Students Union of the Fukien Province. In 1928, Fukien went through an extraordinary condition, being under the Kuo Min Tang's Revolutionary Regime. To conduct the function of the Students' Self Government became especially difficult. As a chairman of the Association, I was not only closely watched by the school authorities, but was also constantly called upon by the government authorities to answer certain inquiries. Any move that I made would affect the well-being of the whole school. But luckily I had managed to pass through the critical moment safely.

While in Ginling College, my interests and activities widened. I took the initiative to organize several societies, such as the Christian Students' Movement and the College Community Center; through the latter organization we learned to help the poor. At the start money was raised by a series of dramatic performances rendered by the College students. With the fund a building containing baths, clinics, workshops, etc. was erected. There, services were rendered to the country folks to improve their welfare. Besides, we paid friendly visits to their homes every week. These formed my basic interest in social work.

After my graduation, I worked as a social worker in the University Hospital, Nanking. The work was confined to medical cases chiefly. At this time I joined the New Life Movement and the Movement for Women Suffrage. This

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gave me an opportunity of contacting a wider range of people. Realizing the need of further training, I spent a year of study in the Social Service Department of the Peking Union Medical College Hospital, under the direction of Miss Ida Pruitt. At the end of the period, I was appointed by Miss Pruitt to collect data on the family conditions of Shanghai factory workers for Dr. Karl August Wittfogel, who was at that time visiting professor of Sociology from Columbia University to China. The results of the investigation have been published under the title of "New Light on Chinese Society" by the Institute of Pacific Relations.

In the fall of 1937, I was invited by the Lester Chinese Hospital to start the Social Service Department and especially to devise means to meet the emergency condition of war. Thus for the last two years I have been serving my people during the crisis and have witnessed much suffering from extreme adversities, but owing to my limited knowledge and experience I could contribute but little. Lester Hospital has a long history of existence. It plays a very important part in the community of Shanghai and so far has the largest number of charity cases.

So far, my field of work has been mainly Medical Cases. As social service in China is still in the very early stage of development and hospitals are the first to realize its need and importance, it is natural for a candidate social worker to begin at the hospital. Owing to the lack of financial resources and cooperative agencies, a medical case worker in Shanghai has to be a "Jack of all trades". The outbreak of hostilities in Shanghai has also added many unusual responsibilities to a medical social worker, such as the refugees, the unwanted orphans, the wounded soldiers, the disabilities, etc. The treatment and rehabilitation of these are no simple problems. I therefore became involved in a series of activities which might be considered as outside of my field, such as the planning of the education for disabilities, the Refugee Camp Committees, the Emergency

1935

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Enquiry Office for report of accidental deaths and searching of their family members. Realizing my numerous responsibilities and my limited knowledge, I believe a period of further study in the United States will enable me to serve my people more efficiently, especially in view of the fact that there is no place in China which will give a better social service training than the Social Service Department of Peking Union Medical College, where I had my training already.

One thing I maintain very strongly is honesty and sincerity towards life. Using this principle, I gain the confidence of my superior as well as that of the oppressed and the vicious ones to whom I render my service. I would rather be hurt than to hurt people, even when I am betrayed I wish to mutter little for I think such act as mockeries and revilings would only embitter one's own heart. Thus I have been able to tolerate prejudiced people and antagonistic forces of a new environment in which I have to face.

I think I am able to endure hardship. Although I belong to a family which could be called distinguished in my native city, I always confine myself to strict economy and simplicity, making myself a friend of the poor. Even now with my limited income I am partly financing an orphan who is now a nursing student. I have no physical defects of any sort. I can stand physical strain, such as long walks and long exposure to hot or cold climate.

I think I am well versed in the English language to write and to speak. I am quite used to the American way of living and thinking, as I have associated with a number of American friends here in China. At present there are a few American friends whom I know residing in America.

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Chen Pin-ling
Guling A.B.
1935

Received at
the Guling office,
N.Y. in Mr. Chou's
handwriting, accompanied
by covering note to
Miss Wosman.

Report of Social Service Department (October, 1939)

For the month of October, 1939, there were 59 new cases handled,

among which there were:

Surgical	25
Medical	16
Obstetrical	1
Tuberculosis	13
Suicide	4

Classification by sex there were:

men	22
women	24
children	13
F	7
M	6

Special Children Cases Mentioned

1. A female child of 3 years old was thrown in the clinic with a note in the child's pocket stating that the parents were too poor to keep her. Believing that the S.S. will take care of her, the parents dumped her there. Physical examinations showed that she was perfectly healthy. We kept her in the emergency ward for two days, a home was found for her. The adoptive father formerly worked in the railway station, now he is managing a farm of 4 mow in the western district living comfortably. Has nobody in the home besides the couple.

2. A beggar girl of age 11 was sent in by the police suffering from paralysis of one half of the body. After three months' treatment she had recovered. On discharge, she was sent to the Children's Home at Ningpo Road. Now she is still coming twice a week for massage.

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1935

Follow-up Work

1. Special follow-up work has been made for Dr. Farquharson Carcinoma of breasts, tracing back to those cases who had been treated here 10 years ago. Owing to the high charge for the deep X-ray and radium treatment of such cases in the Radium Institute, we have not been able to send our patients there to receive the proper treatment. Among our patients there were at most one per cent of them who were able to pay the rate which was sometimes as high as \$500-\$1300. Two months ago an arrangement was made with the Institute to reduce the charges and at the same time with the financial help from one of our sisters, we have been able to give one of poor patients a chance to secure treatment.

2. A special study has been made on the Suicide cases with Mrs. Cater. Special follow up has been made to their homes after discharge to see if they could adjust properly.

In making visits, the following conditions have often been encountered, which illustrate the environment from which our patients come from.

A dark narrow muddy slippery alley way leading to a group of obscure houses, judging from the appearance and the stillness of the atmosphere, it seems the house is empty. Worker finds the right number and feels the way in, not a soul can be found. Worker feels his way up stairs, there a dark narrow ladder which leads to second floor, still nobody can be found. Worker then pushes upon a bedroom door and instantly reveals a horrible picture: a group of opium smokers crowded together in a dark limited space stealthily conducting the vices. Some lying down smoking, some cooking the raw opium, some weighing the stuff, all operating in perfect silence. Worker retreats from this room and proceeds to another room the same picture is found. Three out of four of our patients' homes visited, the same horrible scene occurs. Therefore, a home visit is not as simple as people think nowadays, as it often exposes one to danger without his knowing it.

0827

1935

Blood Donor Service

There were 6 new donors registered in the month, making the total of 28 donors. 8 Blood transfusions were performed in this month.

Clothing and Relief Fund

Formerly the S.S. had been able to obtain clothes from the Clothing Committee of the International Red Cross. Now the Committee is disorganized and our patients are urgently in need of clothes as the weather is getting cold. We hope somebody will donate us some padded garments as well as underwear of all sizes.

As the Refugee Relief association is trying to reduce the number of refugees by combining the camps, starting from November all camps have refused to take in people except through special permission. Therefore it makes it more difficult for us to dispose of the cases. In case permission could be obtained, they would be given only lodging and no food or clothing, besides, they accept no idlers - every one must possess a small capital ready to start a business - is the term required prior to entrance. Therefore we are obliged to use our relief fund more and more this way.

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CHEN PIN-LING

A. B. Ginling College, 1935

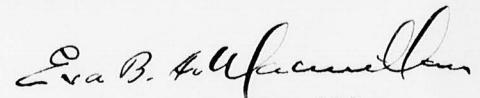
A summary of notes
on Miss Chen's history
recorded in the Ginling
office.

After graduation from Ginling, Miss Chen Pin-ling worked under Miss Mossman as a junior member of the Department of Sociology at her alma mater, then went to the P.U.M.C. and began study in medical social service under Miss Pruitt. She interrupted this course to co-operate with Dr. Karl August Wittfogel of the Institute of Pacific Relations, who came to China in order to conduct an investigation into the circumstances of workers. A large part of this work with Dr. Wittfogel was done in Shanghai.

After the beginning of the Sino-Japanese conflict, Miss Chen attached herself to St. Luke's hospital in Shanghai as a social worker and built up a splendid reputation as an effective link between the curative processes of the hospital and the rehabilitation of patients into society after convalescence. It is said that the heads of the medical service in Shanghai during the first year of the war considered Miss Chen's technique almost miraculous in its successful clearance of convalescents from the wards. She is said to be quiet to the point of shyness, but thoroughly forceful in her work.

Miss Chen is now connected with the Lester Hospital in Shanghai and is making application to do graduate work in Sociology in the United States.

This summary, made in November, 1939, in New York, has been superseded by a somewhat different narrative statement contained in a three-page document (unsigned) subsequently received in this office in Miss Chen's own handwriting and forwarded to Miss Mossman.



Mrs. T. D. Macmillan,
Secretary,
Board of Founders of
Ginling College

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THE LESTER CHINESE HOSPITAL

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TEL. Nos.:

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(PRIVATE EXCHANGE TO ALL DEPARTMENTS)

July 11th 1939

Miss Mereb Mossman,
c/o Mrs. Eva Macmillan,
Suite 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Miss Mossman,

I am writing to you at the request of Miss P. L. Chen, the Social Service Worker in this hospital. I understand that application is being made for a Scholarship to enable Miss Chen to pursue her studies in the United States, but my purpose in writing is solely to place before you a record of the work Miss Chen has done, within the past two years, in this hospital.

Up to the time that war broke out in Shanghai, in August 1937, we had had no Social Service Department, though for some years I had striven to persuade the Hospital Committee of the wisdom of the extra expense. Shortly before the the fighting, a group of people connected with the Community Church had decided to appoint and support a Worker, to work in loose connection with the Industrial Welfare Department of the Shanghai Municipal Council. Miss Chen was the appointee, and her work brought her at once into close touch with two large hospitals in or near the central area. The over-running of Hongkew forced one of the two hospitals to evacuate to temporary quarters away to the west of Shanghai, leaving this institution to carry a very heavy burden (on one occasion we had over 600 bomb casualties in an afternoon and evening). Miss Chen at once threw her whole energies into the immense problems that arose. The finding of relatives of the injured, dying and dead, the interviewing of endless streams of distracted seekers of lost friends, the temporary or permanent 'placing' of babies and little children left on our hands, the struggle to find quar-

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JUL 11
1939

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ters elsewhere for convalescents or light cases whose homes had mostly been destroyed, so that our well equipped hospital might be used to fullest advantage for the steady flow of serious cases, all these activities had to be organised, and Miss Chen from the beginning evinced a marked ability to deal calmly and collectedly with such problems. She thus became a definite member of our staff, and head of a small but officially recognised Social Service Department.

As abnormal conditions have continued and become almost a normality, the Worker has been able to develop her work to include other activities normally belonging to her department. Interviews with patients and friends, enquiry into social and financial status, follow-up work, etc. there are among the matters that have claimed attention, and while the peculiar conditions prevailing have precluded several other forms of service Miss Chen has had her time very fully occupied.

Of a very pleasant disposition, and with a good educational background, able to get on well with all types and classes of people, Miss Chen has been a very welcome addition to our staff. We are ~~not looking~~ looking forward with misgiving to any prospect of change, but feeling as we do that Miss Chen is well worthy of development, I wish to record our real satisfaction with her work, her conduct, and her sympathetic understanding of the poor and needy. She is a Christian.

I shall be glad to answer any further enquiries concerning Miss Chen at any time.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

J Lee Paterson

Superintendent.

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Chen P. H. [1]
Lester Chinese Hospital
Shanghai, China
July 15, 1939

Dear Miss Moorman;

Five months ago, I sent you a letter about my future plan, and asked you to help me to look for an opportunity for study in the State. I am afraid that the letter may be lost due to the wrong address. Miss Santini gave me your correct address and advised me to write you again. Dr. Paterson our Superintendent is going to write to you about my work in the hospital too. It would help to have a clear picture about me & my work during these past two years. I am also sending you the Report of Lester Hospital & my own report of social service work separately. I am sure that you would be very glad to know what your student had done during these years. If she has any success, it belongs to you not herself.

The problem of labor and children have always been interesting to me. While in P. U. M. C. I spent several months with Dr. & Mrs. Willfoegel for research work among factory workers. May be you had already known the book of "New Light on Chinese Society" which was written by Dr. Willfoegel - It is the result of our research. I am very keen with this kind of research work. In this hospital I am the only social worker. I must meet all the problems among patients, doctors and nurses. I established blood donor's service too. In the nursing school of the hospital I open the course of Sociology. Although I am not especially engaged in taking care of children, but such problem have always come up. During these years I handled a great number of unwanted and ill treated children and babies.

0032

JUL 15 1939 (2)

Shanghai is over populated, it becomes worse and worse since the Sino-Japanese hostility broke-up. You can imagine the difficulty of social worker and doctors during this unusual time.

The social workers are urgently need to China now and then. I feel that I need more knowledge and experience, so I am looking for the chance to have more training abroad. Is there any possibility for me to get scholar-ship of Sociology Dept. in Chicago University or in other places in the state, ^{this year or the coming year.} I shall appreciate an answer at your earliest convenience, so that I may know how to plan the next step.

Best wishes to you

yours student
Chen Ping-hung

0033

Lester Chinese Hospital
Shanghai, China
November 7th. 1939

Dear Mr. Morrison;

As soon as I received your letter, I wrote a letter of application to Miss Arline Johnson. Now I am going to write a full letter of application to Dr. Bogardus and a letter to Dr. Lung. The address of Dr. Willfugel and Miss Pruitt as following:

① Please forward

Dr. Karl August Willfugel
c/o Institute of Pacific Relations
129 East 52nd Street, New York.

② Please forward

Miss Ida Pruitt
124 West Cleveland Ave.,
Philadelphia

I understand that Miss Pruitt is now the chairman of the committee of China Industrial Cooperation in Hongkong. She would come back to China very soon, so I send you this letter with air mail.

I do not know how to show my thankfulness to what you have done for me. I thank you with my whole heart.

yours student
Chen Pui-ling

0034

GINLING COLLEGE

28 November 1939

CHEN PIN-LING

Ginling 1935. After graduation from Ginling worked under Miss Mossman as a junior member of the Department of Sociology at her alma mater, then went to the P.U.M.C. and began study in medical social service under Miss Pruitt. Interrupted this course to cooperate with Dr. Karl August Wittfogel of the Institute of Pacific Relations, who came to China in order to conduct an investigation into the circumstances of workers. A large part of this work with Dr. Wittfogel was done in Shanghai.

After the beginning of the Sino-Japanese conflict, Miss Chen attached herself to St. Luke's hospital as a social worker and built up a splendid reputation as an effective link between the curative processes of the hospital and the rehabilitation of patients into society after convalescences. It is said that the heads of the medical service in Shanghai during the first year of the war considered Miss Chen's technique almost miraculous in its successful clearance of convalescents from the wards. She is said to be quiet to the point of shyness, but thoroughly forceful in her work.

Miss Chen is now connected with the Lester Chinese Hospital in Shanghai and is making application to do graduate work in Sociology in the United States.

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0035

THE WOMAN'S COLLEGE
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
GREENSBORO, N. C.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

December 4, 1939

Mrs. T. D. McMillan,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. McMillan:

I have your letter asking me concerning recommendations for Miss Chen Pin-Ling. I wrote to the University of Southern California in Los Angeles in September, asking them about the possibility of a scholarship next year for Miss Chen; But I had a letter from Dr. Bogardus, saying that he had referred my letter to Arlien Johnson, who is a new dean of their school. I know Miss Johnson personally, so I thought I might write her soon if I do not hear from her concerning the possibility of Miss Chen's going there. Dr. Bogardus wrote a fairly hopeful letter. This past week I had a letter from Dean Abbott at the University of Chicago, saying that Miss Chen had applied there and asking me for my *available recommendation*. I wrote Miss Abbott immediately. I know that the University of Chicago gives fairly limited scholarships. I have a very fine letter of recommendation which the superintendent of the Lester Chinese Hospital in Shanghai has just sent me. If you have specific suggestions concerning places of application for Miss Chen, if you will let me know I shall be glad to send a letter of recommendation to them at once with copies of other letters I have concerning her. *Would you like copies of that letter?*

There is a second person who would like to come next year for graduate work in America and who is equipped and ready for graduate study. That is Miss Lin Yu-Wen. She has had excellent experience and training, and is at the present time working at the University of Nanking in the research division of agricultural economics. She has had both a varied experience and an unusually fine mind, and is ready at the present moment to continue in graduate work. Two years ago she applied at the New York School of Social Work for their oriental scholarship. She would like to apply again for ~~their~~ *course*. If there is no chance there, I think we should definitely attempt to place her in some graduate school of social work, so that next year she may continue with her training. Would you make suggestions as to places of application where you think there is a definite possibility of scholarship or fellowship for Miss ~~Wen~~? She works very hard, and I recommend her as a desirable person for the job.

Very sincerely,

Merib S. Dressman

MEM:ec

P.S. My apologies for the tardiness. I had to go to Philadelphia with one of our students who had a nervous breakdown - a few days out of the office upsets one's routine - The secretary also did a jam job of typing.

M. S. M.

0036

THE WOMAN'S COLLEGE
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
GREENSBORO, N. C.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

March 1, 1940

Mrs. T. D. McMillan
Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Mrs. McMillan:

Your letter just arrived, telling me the possibility of a scholarship for Miss Chen Pin-Ling at Smith next year. You did not say what department Miss Bryson is head of, so I presume it is either sociology or social work. I do not know any Miss Bryson in the Smith School of Social Work, so I thought she might possibly be in the sociology department.

I believe that Miss Chen would be able to hold to standards of work which Smith would demand. As you know, she was not a brilliant student, but she did good consistent work, and I believe has grown a great deal in her jobs. I think that she has the capacity for doing graduate study and that she could work with other persons in the graduate field. I would be glad to give you any information which you thought would be specifically useful. I am enclosing a letter from her which is self-explanatory. I would be glad to have this back in my files.

In China I would not have said that I thought Miss Chen was anywhere near as able as some of our other students. It was almost in the face of opposition from me that she went ahead and equipped herself for social work training. Now I feel very strongly that she has proved herself on the job to be an efficient and effective worker. The recommendations which all of her employers have given make me feel that she has proved her ability for this reason. I am of the belief that Miss Chen has a definite contribution to make in the field of social work in China.

Most sincerely,

Mereb E. Mossman

Mereb E. Mossman

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To Miss Thurston Mossman

2 March 1940

Dear Miss Mossman:

Miss Prentice of the Committee on Scholarships for the New York School of Social Work has just called me. She has had a session with her Committee, making a careful check of materials filed with current applications. She reports that Miss Chen's application is considered incomplete because of lack of an endorsement from Dr. Patterson of the Lester Institute in Shanghai and of Miss Chen's transcript of college grades. In regard to the last named, Miss Prentice tells me that they have on file your assurance that you would do what you could to secure the grades. Have you taken steps to this end, what step, when? We have just received a letter from Mrs. Thurston in Nanking, in which she mentions that both copies of students' records were taken from Nanking to Chengtu. As the mails go at present, of course we are in much prompter touch with Chengtu than we are with Nanking, but nothing very immediate can be done about this record unless we cable. For certain years student records of Ginling candidates for the A. B. were sent to Albany, where in rare instances we have been able to secure transcripts from that office. I have not this morning checked up the facts, and do not know whether there is any chance that Miss Chen's grades could be secured in this way. We are very reluctant, of course, to make such a request of the Regents.

In relation to the letter from Dr. Patterson, I am also unaware of what efforts have been made, but I told Miss Prentice I would carry through on another suggestion, which was to get a letter of recommendation from Dr. Bernard E. Read of the Lester Institute. He is in New York at present and I was able to talk with Mrs. Read yesterday. Dr. Read was away from the city for the day but Mrs. Read also knows Miss Chen and feels pretty sure that Dr. Read's letter of recommendation can be full enough and enthusiastic enough to be helpful. I am asking him to write directly to the New York School of Social Work and to give me a copy of the letter. I will do nothing about the transcript of grades until I hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

EBM:ds

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TELEPHONES: 30010
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TELEGRAMS: MEDSEARCH

院究研學醫德氏雷

Henry Lester Institute of Medical Research

DIVISION OF
PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
PROFESSOR BERNARD E. READ

7 Clinton St,
Pleasantville,
New York.

1320 AVENUE ROAD
SHANGHAI, CHINA.

Chen Pen-hing [1]
March 14/40.

Dear Eva

Herewith copy of the letter I sent to
Miss Prentiss. The Lester Hospital
& Lester Institute are two separate
organisations, like the Rockefeller Institute
and the Rockefeller Center.

I don't know why Paterson has not
written - I believe he has left on furlough.
But I know Miss Chen & her work which
extends to the research floor of the Lester Hospital
which is under the Institute. Everything during
the war is so disorganised it is difficult to meet
the stereotypes requirements of Fellowship Committees.
Miss Chen is a good person & has some will.
The Hospital is \$6000 behind in income and they
have had to cut out everything they can including
half their British staff.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard E. Read

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TELEPHONES: 30010
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TELEGRAMS: MEDSEARCH

院究研學醫德氏雷
Henry Lester Institute of Medical Research

DIVISION OF
PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
PROFESSOR BERNARD E. READ

7 Clinton Street
Pharmville, N.Y.

1320 AVENUE ROAD
SHANGHAI, CHINA.

March 4, 1940.

Miss Emma Denton
Secretary, Committee on Fellowships
New York School of Social Work.

Dear Miss Denton -

It is now about 3 years since
Miss Chen Pen-ling took up her duties as
social service worker at the Lester Chinese
Hospital, in which she has rendered
continuous service. I am not a member of
the staff of the Hospital but as Acting
Director of the Lester Institute 1937-1938
I sat on the Hospital Committee which
appointed Miss Chen and I can add that
the clinical members of my staff have spoken
highly of her work.

I personally have been fully informed of
Miss Chen's work and have done my best to
promote it in a situation which for budgetary

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TELEPHONES: 30010
30017
TELEGRAMS: MEDSEARCH

院究研學醫德氏雷
Henry Lester Institute of Medical Research

DIVISION OF
PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
PROFESSOR BERNARD E. READ

MAR 4 1940
1020 AVENUE ROAD
SHANGHAI, CHINA.

Reasons made things difficult to carry out.

Since August 13, 1937 Shanghai has been
the scene of unrelenting and courage of everyone
who has stuck by their job. In this situation
I must then do excellent work, giving her a
unique experience venturing to the limit in
doing her part to care for over 2 million refugees,
one hundred of refugees sick and wounded,
homeless children and babies etc etc etc.
She is deserving of the highest praise one
could say more.

Very truly yours,

Bernard E. Read

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GINLING COLLEGE
Chengtu, China

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Name ..Chen Pin-ling.....Address..Lest. er. Chinese Hospital.. Shanghai
has satisfactorily completed...4.....years' work in Ginling College
leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, during the period...1930-1934
.....including satisfactory courses as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Courses</u>	<u>Cat.No.</u>	<u>Weeks A</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Fr.A</u> <u>Week</u>	<u>Mi.A</u> <u>Fr.</u>	<u>Cr.</u> <u>hrs.</u>	<u>Grade</u>
1930- 1931	Chemistry	21-22	36	8	50	8	D - C
	Chinese	11-12	36	4	50	8	C - B
	English	14	18	4	50	4	C
	English	11-12	36	4	50	8	C - C
	Math.	13-14	36	2	50	4	B - B
	Music	11-12	36	2	50	1	B - P
	Phys. Educ.	19	36	4	50	1	C - D
Pol. Science	10	18	2	50	1	C	
1931- 1932	English	21-22	36	4	50	8	D - D
	History	11-12	36	4	50	8	C - C
	Hygiene	11-12	36	2	50	4	D - C
	Phys. Educ.		36	4	50	1	C - B
	Psychology	21	18	4	50	4	C
	Sociology	31-32	36	4	50	8	C - C
	Philosophy	24	18	4	50	4	D
1932- 1933	Chinese	21-22	36	2	50	4	B - B
	Chinese	43	18	4	50	4	B
	Economics	21-22	36	4	50	8	B - B
	English	35	18	2	50	2	C
	Philosophy	41-42	36	2	50	4	B - B
	Sociology	43-44	36	4	50	8	D - C
	Phys. Educ.		36	2	50	1	B - C
	Chinese	32	18	4	50	4	C
Geography	24	18	2	50	2	C	
1933-34	Economics	43-42	36	3-4	50	7	D - B
	Economics	45	18	3	50	3	C
	Hygiene	21	18	4	50	4	A
	Sociology	39	18	8	50	4	C
	Sociology (thesis)	55	36		50	3	C - C
	Sociology	142	18	3	50	3	C
	Phys. Educ.		36	2	50	1	C - C

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Cat. No.</u>	<u>Weeks & Year</u>	<u>Pr. A Week</u>	<u>Min. A Pr.</u>	<u>Cr. hrs.</u>	<u>Grade</u>
1933-1934	Euthenics	22	18	2	50	2	C
	Agric. Econ.	157	18	3	50	3	D
	Sociology	157	18	3	50	3	C
	Sociology	50	18	1	50	1	C
	Sociology	159	18	3	50	3	C
<p>She received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in June 1934.</p> <p>Description of Sociology Courses</p> <p>Sociology 31 Introduction to Sociology Sociology 32 Social Pathology Sociology 43 The Family Sociology 44 Social Aspects of Child Welfare Sociology 39 Case Work Sociology 142 Chinese Social Problems Sociology 157 Social Psychology Sociology 159 Population Problems</p>							

Acting Dean Registrar *Walter M. Chester*

President *Walter M. Chester*

Date *Dec. 26, 1938*

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American Committee for Chinese Industrial Co-operatives

Headquarters, 57 WILLIAM ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. Telephone BOWling Green 9-8166 Room 912

March 5, 1940

Professor Gladys Bryson
Smith College
Northampton, Mass.

My dear Dr. Bryson:

Miss Chen Pin-ling was a graduate student in my department at the Peking University Medical College Hospital, taking our course in hospital social service. As the social agencies in Peking are not as highly specialized as those in America, our students and workers had, of themselves, to do a broader job than medical and social workers in America. Therefore, part of her training was to study family system of the factory workers of the Yangtze Valley, under the direction of Mrs. K. A. Wittfogel. During this year of study, Miss Chen proved herself a very good and careful student with initiative and ability.

In October 1938 I went to Shanghai. At that time Miss Chen was social worker for the Lester Memorial Hospital in Shanghai. It was very gratifying to hear of the good reports from all sides of the work she had done in that hospital in the less than a year she had been there. With very few social agencies, she had managed to build up a very workable system for taking care of the patients. While still in Peking, I had heard of her work in this hospital during the war around Shanghai. In a report of the war hospital, her name was the only one mentioned besides that of the director-general of all of the relief work. I mention these things to show that Miss Chen has initiative, ability, and determination. I feel very strongly that she will be a leader in whatever line she takes up, and since she has taken up social work, she should be one of the leaders of social work in China.

But in order to develop as she should develop, she needs further training. And that can be had in this country only. She is at the exact stage in her career when the further training in this country will do her most good. She has had four or five years of varied, practical experience since she graduated from Ginling

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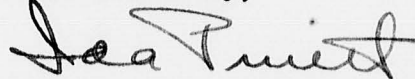
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Professor Gladys Bryson
Northampton, Mass.
March 5, 1940

College. She has shown that she can take advantage of varied experience, and also this experience will give her a background for taking fuller advantage of the opportunity in this country.

If she can be given a chance to study at Smith College, she will, I feel certain, get more from it than almost any student I know.

Yours sincerely,



Ida Pruitt, Chairman
Hongkong Promotion Committee
Chinese Industrial Co-operatives

(Former Chief of Medical, Social
Services, Peking University Med-
ical College Hospital, 1921-1939.)

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SMITH COLLEGE
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION AND BIBLICAL LITERATURE

March 5, 1940

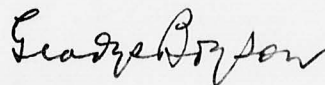
Mrs. T. D. Macmillan
Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue, New York City

My dear Mrs. Macmillan:

Your letter of March 4 with its enclosures relative to Chen Pin-ling has just come. As I look at those documents, it seems to me that she would do better to apply to a college or university in which actual social work, philosophy, and techniques, are taught in the course of the regular college program. You realize that at Smith the program of the School for Social Work is carried in the summer with the student then being placed on a field work job for the winter term. The complete course involves three summers and two winters, and the fellowships of my Committee are not applicable to work in the School for Social Work. All that we could do for Miss Chen in Smith College proper would be background courses in sociology and economics, and I doubt whether that is what she really wants and needs at this point. Have you thought of the possibility of Bryn Mawr for her, particularly in the School of Social Economy and Social Work? I think that that would be far more to the point for Miss Chen than the work with us would be.

I think matters are straight with respect to Miss Chou and the understanding concerning a fellowship in creative writing here. She, herself, seems to understand the situation and was very prompt in returning to my office her formal application. Did I understand from your letter the other day that she is not engaged to return to Yenching any more than Miss Wang and Miss Fong?

Yours very sincerely



Gladys Bryson
Chairman

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NEW JERSEY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
NEW BRUNSWICK NEW JERSEY

March 6, 1940

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan
Assoc. Boards for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

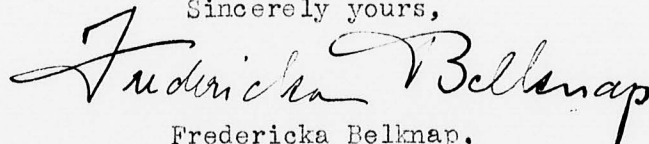
My dear Mrs. Macmillan:

As I explained in my letter of February 27th, although March ninth is the final date for applications from entering freshmen and transfers, I feel we can make a special case of the student you have in mind and consider her application after the Admission Office has passed upon it. However, she would not be eligible for the special scholarships open to non-residents as those are reserved for students who are entering as freshmen.

As I mentioned previously, she would come up for consideration for one of the General scholarships. As she would be a special case we would try to handle it when we could get the necessary information. It is desirable that this be on hand as soon as possible, but if blanks must be sent to China I realize there will be considerable delay. I was hoping we might obtain from you some idea as to when we might expect these.

In any event, the Scholarship Committee cannot act until her case is passed on by the Admission Committee. Therefore, if you have not already been in touch with Mr. Meder, Chairman of the Admission Committee, I suggest that you get in touch with him as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,



Fredericka Belknap,
Director, Personnel Bureau,
Secretary, Scholarship Committee

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Chen Pin-ling 217

6 March 1940

Dear Miss Mossman:

Thank you very much for lending us the letter from Dr. Paterson in relation to Chen Pin-ling. I imagine that this was enclosed in one of the envelopes which long awaited your return from Europe and which we forwarded from this office without opening.

Yesterday I finally paid a personal visit to the office of the New York School of Social Work in which a Miss Brockway as well as a Miss Prentice have to do with the papers awaiting decision by the Committee on Scholarships. I got the very definite impression of peculiarities in the filing and classification of these papers which renders the result of the application in danger of being prejudiced by minor technicalities. These technicalities are such as supposed lack of documents which are really in the files, and the unwillingness to use fast mail to China or such facilities as our office provides in order to complete papers in time. In other words, unless the Committee at the School is far and a way better than its office set-up, the conferring of the appointments is under a considerable cloud, and it will be well ~~to~~ to develop other opportunities.

My greatest agony of mind today is resulting from the discovery that Dzo Yu-lin is an applicant for a fellowship at the New York School of Social Work. The official responsibility of our office is first of all to members of the Ginling faculty and ~~you~~ were able through dint of pressure yesterday to discover that Dzo Yu-lin's application has been seconded by Djang Siao-sung on behalf of Wu Yi-fang. We were also told that letters supporting Miss Dzo's application from you and Miss Sutherland were ~~an~~ file. This office had been informed of no plans on behalf of Miss Dzo, and we have been in the position

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Miss Mireb Mossman

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6 March 1940

during the last several weeks of taking steps to forward the interests of other candidates who may have much less close relation to Wu Yi-fang's plans than does Miss Dzo. Two months ago Wu Yi-fang said that she hoped to present a second candidate in Social Work whose training in this country would supplement that which was being gained by Wu Suen-i, and who would come to America this coming summer of 1940. At this distracting point, can you tell me first whether it is your understanding that Dzo Yu-lin is to return to Ginling faculty, and second how you yourself would rate the ability and the future usefulness of Chen Pin-ling, Lin Yu-wen, and Dzo Yu-lin.

I think you would agree that all of us will have our time saved and our efforts on behalf of students multiplied in efficacy if this office is used in all cases as clearing house of records and recommendations on behalf of candidates for scholarship appointments. We are already to a considerable extent the clearing house of information from Committees who have such scholarships in their gift.

Sincerely yours,

EHM:e

Mrs. T. D. Macmillan

Miss Mireb Mossman
Woman's College, University of North Carolina
Greensboro North Carolina

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SMITH COLLEGE
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMMITTEE ON
EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES
March 8, 1940

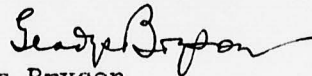
Mrs. T. D. Macmillan
The China Colleges
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Mrs. Macmillan:

In line with my earlier comment, I am sending back to you at once the papers of Chen Pin-ling. I think it would be too bad for us to accept in the liberal arts college a student who has had the experience that she has had in social work, and who is so definitely eager to go on with specific training. All that she could get from us here is a general background in the social sciences since no work of the Social^{work} School curriculum is carried in the regular college program. I think I indicated to you the other day the method of operation of the School for Social Work, with its three summers of theoretical work on campus here and its two years of work for the student in a social agency. That is a long time for a student who is under the pressure of the situation in China, and I should, myself, doubt that the psychiatric emphasis in the social work training of the Smith School is what this student most needs.

I send you the papers at once so that you may have them to try out on a place like Bryn Mawr, the New York School for Social Work, the Pennsylvania School, Western Reserve, Chicago, et cetera, --all excellent schools, but operating on a plan of study much more nearly parallel with the plan of a regular college. She certainly sounds like an unusual person, and I think an effort should be made to secure for her the kind of training she needs most at this point.

Yours very sincerely



Gladys Bryson
Chairman

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(COPY)

March 22, 1940.

Professor Albert E. Meder,
N. J. C.

Dear Professor Meder:

After reading the correspondence concerning Miss Chen, I am more than ready to confirm your conclusion that we have nothing in the way of sociology courses here which she would find suitable for her needs. My first thought, of course, would be the New York School of Social Work and Smith College, but apparently she has tried both of these institutions. It might be that Connecticut University would be interested. They have recently started a graduate school for social work and might welcome such a person. There are, of course, many other graduate schools for social work but she undoubtedly has information concerning these.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) John W. Riley, Jr.
Assistant Professor of Sociology

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Chen Ping-dji

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207 N. State St.,
Ann Arbor, Mich.
June 10, 1935.

Dear Miss Grist,

It is really a great pleasure to receive your letter. Thank you very much for the book "Sou" which I read before I returned it to you. Of course I cannot deny some of the facts that I have seen in China, but in some parts of the book Mrs. Buck cannot avoid exaggeration.

I got several letters from Siao-sung but she has less chance to hear from me for her uncertain address. I am glad to hear that she enjoys the trip very much, but at the same time I wish she would be here on my

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commencement day.

JUN 10
1935

The news from home is so bad I wish I were home right now. I just can not imagine how the students in the North China suffer.

It is difficult to get a place to stay because most of the landladies do not like to rent the room to the person who just stays for a short while. I moved out from 209 N. State and am now staying in my friend's place. She is asked to move too for the same reason. Both of us are planning to go home on July.

May I hear from you again after I get home?

Sincerely yours

Pui-dji Chen

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Chen Shang-Chiu

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Chen Shang-chiu

February 18, 1948

Dr. B. A. Garside
United Service to China
1790 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Garside:

Enclosed I am sending you some additional information, just received from Dr. Wu Yi-fang, about Miss Chen Shang-chiu, the girl who is receiving the Tri-Delta Scholarship.

Please make whatever use you think best of this material. We hope very much that the Tri-Delta people will want to continue their interest in Ginling and renew the scholarship next year.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

CSM:ef

Enclosure: Paragraphs on Miss Chen.

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Chen Shang-chiu

February 18, 1948

GINLING COLLEGE
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.

President Wu Yi-fang gives the following information about Miss Chen Shang-chiu, recipient of the Tri-Delta Scholarship:

"You will be interested to know more about what we have learned about Miss Chen Shang-chiu and her needs. I asked Dr. Chang Siao-sung to discuss with her what these needs might be, and this is what she found out. Miss Chen has been getting special nutrition from a small fund that the College has received from British United Aid to China for nutrition for needy students. It serves only those who are unable to provide necessary supplementary nutrition for themselves. Now that the scholarship is available for Miss Chen, another place on this list can be made available for other needy students. Miss Chen has been suffering from sleepiness, so she has secured Vitamin B pills from the nurse. An egg a day has been recommended for her, but she has not been able to afford that. She has been having a heart murmur, which she said was caused by bad tonsils. Teeth also have been giving her trouble. She has clothing enough for next semester, but needs a gym suit. She did not have enough bedding, but borrowed an army blanket from the College and says she now is warm enough.

"When Dr. Chang gave me this report, I suggested that she tell Miss Chen that the scholarship would be sufficient to enable her to have some medical attention and recommended that she do so during the winter vacation. This morning I asked Dr. Chang about it and she said Miss Chen had been to the Central Hospital, but did not have a report as yet. We are very glad that the scholarship will help her to take care of some of these needs. Since we do not yet know what the decision will be about her medical needs, we do not know exactly how far this scholarship will go. We hope that it will not only meet these needs, but will go considerable distance in helping her complete her education here. Of course, the rate of exchange of the American dollar and the increases in living costs are also variables. By the end of this school year, we will know more about how far this \$500 will go for her education. We are very glad to know that there is a possibility that the Tri-Delta Scholarship may be renewed, and hope they will continue their interest in Ginling.

"I talked again with Miss Chen some days ago. I learned that she had taught for four years before she was able to manage to come to Ginling. She taught music, chemistry, and history at a Mission School. She is the eldest daughter in her family. She has a stepmother. Her father now supports nine children. She has been helping herself financially by giving ten hours service in the Library each week. Because of her general health condition, she will be much better off if she can be relieved of this work, and can use her time to improve her English. She reads English but is a little slow at it, and she needs more practice in conversation. She is majoring in history, and needs lots of time for reading. She is interested in campus activities, and has been active in the Christian Fellowship. These groups are re-organizing into a Y.W.C.A. group, and I am sure she will continue her work in the activities of that group."

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Chen Shih-dzung

1945-1947

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Chen Shih-dzyang
C11

The Union Club
PURDUE MEMORIAL UNION BUILDING
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

JAN
1947

South Hall
Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana

Dear Mrs. Mills,

At first I should say that you probably haven't got any news about me. I am Chen Shih-dzyang. I sailed on Jan. 9th. and landed in San Francisco on Jan. 21. But I did not get off the ship until 22nd. I got my train ticket on 23rd evening and on 26th I got to school. Although I don't know any body here yet they all are so friendly and helpful to me. This week they are very busy for the ending of this term. Next term will be started on Feb. 10. I stay in this Union building for one week and I shall move to the residence hall next week. Chinese students are about 36 (boys & girls) ~~and~~ only 5 girls. None of the girls takes Home Economics. Dean of Home Economics told me that I am the third graduate student in H. E. ~~who~~ that was sent by American Home Economics Association. The first one was from Europe and the second was from India and I am from China. I have met the Dean of Women, Head of the Department of Foods & Nutrition and the major & minor fields professors. Also I have seen & talked with Mr. D. H. Patterson who is taking care of the foreign students.

0859

JAN
1947

The Union Club
PURDUE MEMORIAL UNION BUILDING
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

I think ^{that} I shall like this place very well. I shall send a catalogue to Giling and I like to have more Giling graduates to come here.

Have you got the letter that I sent from San Francisco for Dr. Wu? Do you have a list of ^{names of} Giling graduates in States? I like to have Dr. Chester & other faculty members addresses too. I hope that does not trouble you too much. How is Dr. Liu?

This is a photo of mine. I took it in Chengtu. Now I am getting thinner because I was seasick and train sick too. Now I am getting better rest and will gain more wt. I hope that you do not mind my poor handwriting because I can not find a typewriter now.

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,
Chen Shih-dzung

Ginling College, Chengtu
November 28, 1945

Dear Mrs. Mills,

Miss Chen ^{Shih} ~~Sih~~-dzung (graduate of Ginling in 1936, and teacher at Ginling for the third year in the Chemistry department, with the rank of Instructor) is applying for a fellowship given by the American Home Economics Association. She finds that much of the necessary work in connection with this application is being held up because Dr. Chester and Dr. Wu are both away. She has wondered if Dr. Wu might be reached in New York, so is sending this letter in Chinese to Dr. Wu regarding the whole situation.

If Dr. Wu has left for China when this letter arrives, then destroy the letter. However, you will know that Miss Chen is applying for the fellowship, and correspondence relating to this will have some meaning for you.

If there is anything you can do in this matter, we should be very much obliged. Miss Chen is sending Dr. Wu Mou-i's and my recommendations (mine regarding her facility in English) with the general application and health certificate soon. She has written Dr. Chester in Chungking and Nanking, hoping to establish speedy contact with her. Miss Chen has given valiant service, and we should be most pleased to see her have an opportunity to study abroad.

Sincerely,

Lawrence (Fisk)

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