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SIXTY-FOUR WEST NINETY-SECOND STREET
NEW YORK

Jan. 3rd 1926.

My dear Miss Bender,

An added word or two seems in order, to clear up your uncertainty as to the date I want to return to Gushing. It didn't occur to me to say anything about that as I supposed it was definitely understood a year ago that I should return this coming summer, if conditions permit. That I know is the expectation of Mrs. Thurston and others on the field and was what I had in mind. That will give me a full semester's work here on a full-time basis before returning, so that I shall not go back without knowing I am equal to full work. I have my plans all made for the remainder of this school year and do not contem-

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state any immediate return. But I raised ^{the} question at this time because if for any reason I should not seem wise to the Committee to send me back this summer it would be necessary for you to be looking right away for someone else to take my place - it would be tragic to risk another year of makeshifts.

I am glad Miss Dauterive is to be here, for she knows the fishing situation and me so well that her opinion on the matter will be worth a good deal. I am also very glad to look forward to seeing her soon.

Very sincerely yours,

Paul W. Chester.

64 West 92nd St., N.Y.C.
Jan. 30, 1926.

(After Feb. 2nd - 134 W 92nd St.)

Miss Mabel K. Howell,
Lambuth Building
Nashville, Tenn.

My dear Miss Howell:

I have turned up two or three clues to possible Ginling candidates in the last few days, so I will write you about them all at once.

In the first place I obtained the name of a Mt. Holyoke girl who was very highly spoken of and who is taking her M.A. in chemistry this year, but the person telling me about her thought she might be willing and able to take the physics position, so I wrote her. I will enclose a copy of my letter to her and her reply, from which you will see that she herself is not available at present but she suggests Miss Doris Thomas who is going to write you. I think this Miss Maclean is a person it would be worth while to keep on our lists, as she might be available for chemistry some time in the future if we should have a vacancy there. Meantime Miss Thomas sounds hopeful for the physics, though I know nothing about her other than what Miss Maclean says.

Then last night at a supper given by several organizations here I heard a very attractive young girl across from me say " I don't know what I want to do. First I think I want to be a missionary and then I think I want to be a college teacher". So I promptly butted into the conversation and said she sounded as if she wanted a job like mine which combines the two! She was very much interested right away, and proves to be a physical education person. She had her training at the Y.W.C.A. physical training school and does not have a college degree, though has had some college work. But in that particular department perhaps that might not matter. She seems to be a very energetic, hard-working person and has a very pleasing personality. She is young, probably in the early twenties, but again I feel as

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if that might not matter so much in physical education work as in some other lines, and she seemed to be a level-headed and sensible person, as far as one can judge in the course of an hour or two. I gave her my address and yours, and this noon she called me up, saying she was really interested and thinking about it. But she seems to be very anxious that a dear friend of hers go too, and speaks most highly of the friend who is taking her masters degree in chemistry at Pennsylvania. She hasn't said she wouldn't go if the friend couldn't but she is very anxious to make such an arrangement if possible. The friend, she says, is an unusually brilliant girl, has gone through college on scholarships and has one now. She has not had any teaching experience. I hardly knew whether to give her any encouragement on the chemistry person or not. I do feel that if we can get a Chinese girl it would be far better, but we must have somebody and if we should fail to get a Chinese, then we'd be sorry we had turned this one down! The physical education girl is Miss Beatrice Price, care of the Fellowship of Youth for Peace, 104 East 9th St., N.Y.C. and I think it would be worth while to send her a candidate blank right away, and if you think best send her an extra to send to her friend. I suppose it would do ~~know~~ harm to get the facts about her anyway. I have suggested to Miss Price that she try to get in touch with Miss Barger, who is here in the city I believe, and who knows just what type of work is needed in the physical education, as I was not able to tell her much about it myself. As far as the chemistry girls goes, I wonder if it is not still early enough to wait till we can hear from Mrs. Thurston as to whether Miss Wei or any other suitable Chinese person seems available. We might even ask her to cable if you think it wise. Then if there seems to be no one on the horizon we might find this girl acceptable, and in the meantime you could be getting papers from both of them. That is only my suggestion and you may think of some better plan. A girl with her masters degree in chemistry would be able to do enough of the work so she and I could handle it all I should think, while the other

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plan would probably mean providing for one course from the University - at least if some one like Miss Wei took the position as she has not had enough training to be more than a good laboratory assistant.

While I am writing I want to express to you my joy that the Committee has decided to let me go back to Ginling this summer. It has taken a great load off my mind, for even the remote possibility that I might not go back was very upsetting, and I feel sure that my joy in the work at Ginling will more than compensate for any adverse factors there may be in the situation, and they are few, I believe. I have given up my part time position and am starting next week on a full program of study.

I hope something may come of some of these possibilities, though of course there are many barren efforts for every fruitful one. If I can help further in any way either with these people or with others, please don't hesitate to call on me.

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth M. B. Beebe.

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March 3, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
84 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

I am writing to report the action of the Ginling College Committee as it relates to your case. It was taken at the Annual Meeting of the Committee in Atlantic City on January 18th and is as follows:

"Voted that Miss Chester be returned to China in the summer of 1926, if at the end of a semester of study in Columbia her physician presents a report that will be approved by the medical examiner of the Presbyterian Board.

Voted that on view of Miss Chester's probable return to China she be paid furlough salary to complete a full year's allowance."

Mr. Carter, as Treasurer, will see that furlough salary is paid you according to the vote of the Committee.

I assure you that it has given the Committee a great deal of pleasure to vote your return to China in the summer, conditioned, of course, upon satisfactory health conditions. I shall be glad to have you send me the report of your physician at the close of the school year so that I may submit it to Dr. Dodd. We are hoping that conditions will be such that the way will be open for you to return to Ginling. A recent letter from Mrs. Thurston expresses again her earnest desire that you may be with them next year.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

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Nashville, Tenn.,
March 10, 1926.

Miss Ruth M. Chester,
134 W. 92nd St.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Chester:

I am sorry that I have not before this time answered your letter with reference to possible Ginling candidates. I have written to Miss Thomas, urging her to put in her application for the Department of Physics, and also to Miss Beatrice Price about the Department of Physical Education.

I want to express to you personally my joy in knowing that you are going back to Ginling this summer. I voted for it and have the sincerest appreciation of your work at Ginling. If only we can secure for Physics a person who can do in that department what you have done in yours I shall be exceedingly grateful. I shall be glad for any suggestions you may have from time to time with reference to any possible Ginling candidates.

Sincerely yours,

Mabel H. ...

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May 5th, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Chester:

I was so grateful to have your letter of April 18th putting me in touch with Miss Elizabeth Mitchell. I have written her sending her the blanks and encouraging her to make application. She is the only one for the Physics Department that I have come in touch. I am really distressed over it because this is one of the needs that we just must meet.

We have accepted Miss Harriet M. Cogswell of Mt. Holyoke College for the English Department, and I am sincerely hoping that we will be able to accept Miss Minnette Barber as the second teacher for the English Department. We are in touch with two for the physical education department. One from the Ohio State Normal School and one from Chicago. I am urging Miss Vautrin to see both of these in person. I have in hand what seems to me a very splendid application for librarian which I am following up,--Miss Eunice Edith Yip of Berkeley California, whose parents were born in the Southern province of China, and whose grandmother was one of the pioneer missionaries. Miss Yip has her M.A. in Educational Psychology. Her application seems very fine but I will have to follow it up further.

I am most grateful to you for sending me the suggestion of Miss Mitchell, and I shall appreciate any further suggestions you will send. I am working as hard as I can to meet the needs, but it is not easy as you know. I think I should tell you that I suggested to Miss Sutherland to take Miss Grabill's work for one year at her own expense. I have not yet heard, but it has been suggested to me that she would be willing to do this.

I am so grateful that you are going to be able to go back this summer. I want you in Ginling. I believe that there is a work you can do there that will not be done unless you are

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there, and your message of the doctors which says you are well brings joy to me.

Yours very sincerely,

H:A

Miss Howell

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June 2, 1928

Miss Ruth Chester
64 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

You will remember that when the Ginling College Committee took action on your return to China this summer, approval was conditioned upon certain favorable medical reports which we were to have at the close of your term of work at Columbia. I suppose that your work there is finished and that you will soon be ready to give us the report. I understand that Mr. Carter has made a tentative reservation for you on the Empress of Russia sailing from Vancouver August 19th. Is this date correct? I suppose that he will soon want to make the reservation definite. I am sure that you will let us have the report just as soon as possible.

You probably know that Miss Cogswell and Miss Barber, both appointed to the Department of English, are hoping to go on the same steamer with you. It will be fine for them to have that time with one who has had experience in Ginling, and I am sure that you will be able to help them in many ways. They seem well qualified and we are confident that they will make a fine contribution to the college.

I hope that your work at Columbia has been satisfactory in every way and that you are in good condition physically for your return to China.

Very sincerely yours,

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Re Miss Ruth Chester

DR. JAMES ALEXANDER MILLER
DR. EDWARD PERCY EGGLE
379 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

June 4, 1926.

Dr. E.N. Dodd,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

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Dear Dr. Dodd:

Dr. Dodd

Miss Chester has been in for a final look-over. She has had a very good year and from her general condition and physical examination I should have no hesitancy in passing her for going back to China as she had planned in August. The only hitch in that programme is that the x-rays taken in April compared with those of a year ago show there has been a slight stirring up of the old trouble in the right lung during that period. From her story I think that probably occurred last February although I did not see her until April. The disturbance is very slight but I think it undoubtedly means a definite activity of her lung condition.

The x-ray films taken to-day show the condition a little better than in April but the shadows have not entirely gone.

Under the circumstances I think it is just a question of time when Miss Chester will be entirely out of the woods and she has stood her work here in New York splendidly. It is very probably she would do just as well, if not better even, in China, but at the same time this little disturbance having occurred so recently it opens up the possibility that there may be another even under the best of circumstances. Should this occur in China there is a doubt in my mind whether she can or would take as good care of herself as she would in this country. That is a question that I think her Board and she herself will have to decide, out of course you ought to know there has arisen this slight doubt in my mind or at least the possibility that she has not yet gotten entirely on top of her tuberculosis as I had hoped she would have by this time.

Very sincerely yours,

James A. Miller

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*Please return to
E. R. B.*

DR. JAMES ALEXANDER MILLER
DR. EDWARD PERCY EGGLE
379 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

June 4, 1926.

Dr. E.N. Dodd,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

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Very sincerely yours,

James Alex. Miller.

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Please return

134
SIXTY-FOUR WEST NINETY-SECOND STREET
NEW YORK

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June 4th 1926.

My dear Miss Bender,

Your note came yesterday and I waited to answer it after my visit to the doctor, as I had an appointment this morning. He dictated a letter to Dr. Dodd while I was there and is sending you a copy so you will have his report by the time you get this. It is not quite as clear a bill of health as I'd hoped for but I am still convinced that I'm equal to moderate work at finishing next year and should very much dread the disappointment and readjustments involved if my return were to be further delayed. Two or three factors seem to me important: first that this slight trouble this year seems to have been due to the damp & smoky atmosphere of January & February, for I felt some slight symptoms then which cleared up im-

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Immediately when the air cleared. Obviously, it was not due to overwork for I've worked the hardest the last six weeks of the term & during that time the condition improved. For the last month of the term I worked harder than I should at Guilting & it seems to have done me no harm. Naturally, at least Guilting's section of it, has cleaner air than New York by far and that will be all to the good. I am feeling fine and as my work stopped two weeks ago I shall have all told 3 1/2 months of rest before starting work at Guilting, so that should put me in shape to carry through all right.

I am right here in the city and if you or Dr. Dodd feel that a conference with me would help in the final decision I can come down anytime - My phone is Riverside 7928. He, of course, is very busy these days with the Presbyterians here for the conference & it may

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[3] delay him in taking this up, but I hope I won't for long for
I am eager personally & for feeling to have it settled as
soon as possible.

I'm due to go out to a meeting so must not write more
now, but shall be on call anytime you wish to see me.

Very sincerely,

Walter M. Chester.

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Please return

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134 West 92nd St.

New York.

June 8th 1926.

My dear Miss Bender,

Because recent experiences have brought to me both a deepened conviction that it is God's will for me to return now to preaching and a vital faith in His power to meet all the needs of His children when they trust Him fully, I have come to feel that I cannot let the question of my return this summer come up for final decision without making some effort to make clear my feeling. Such an effort necessarily involves speaking in very personal terms of things that cannot easily be expressed in words, and I felt I could do it best by way of a personal letter to you, asking you to pass it on to any other members of the Committee who have a part in the decision.

Although Dr. Miller considers it very probable that, either in China or America, I shall continue to be equal to living a normal life, and deep well, he feels that not quite enough time has passed since the slight trouble I had in February (probably) to make a thorough test of the permanence of the

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[2] cure and he is therefore, as his letter to Dr. Dodd in-
dicates, not willing to give his complete approval to
my return this summer. I think I must therefore
be admitted that - from a purely human point
of view the thoroughly cautious and prudent thing
to do would be to delay a few more months,
which delay would be not so much to gain more
strength as to prove that I have sufficient be-
fore incurring the expense of sending me back.
My first reaction to Dr. Miller's report was one of
uncertainty as to what ^{action} the Fielching Committee
would take, or ought to take. I have spent
much thought and earnest prayer on the matter
and more and more clearly it has come to me as
a challenge to a deeper faith in Christ and a
closer dependence on His power. I have ever
since the beginning of my illness more than
two years ago been grappling with the problem
of His relation to our physical health. Slowly,
and with many times of great uncertainty my
faith in His healing power has grown to the
point where Dr. Miller's unexpected report in
April that he found a slight increase in my
trouble, came, not as a discouragement, but as
a challenge. It is my earnest belief that the

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improvement which has occurred in the last two³⁷
months is an answer to prayer. I had hoped
and prayed for a degree of healing that would
enable Dr. Miller to recommend my return without
any qualifications, and felt at first bewildered
by what seemed only a very partial granting of
my prayer. But it seems now that, as He often
does, God, while seeming to withhold what I asked
was really granting something much larger
and richer. Not until now have I been fully
sure of a faith in His sustaining power strong
enough to enable me to go forward without any
sense of fear or uncertainty. I have no longer
any doubt that the only thing which stands in
the way of our receiving through Christ full
power, physical, as well as spiritual is lack of
faith on our part and a resulting inability to
give ourselves over wholly into His care. It is no
new thought I have come to, but a much more vivid
realization of what Christ demands of us in the
way of faith and of the power He offers in return
for that faith. If therefore, the decision
were in my hands I should, without the
slightest hesitation, return this summer, as
planned, not in any spirit of careless optimism

[4] but in a deep faith that ⁶⁻⁸⁻²⁶ that is God's will and that His promise is still true "As thy days, so shall thy strength be".

The decision is not mine, but I ask, in all humility, for I have been very slow in coming to what seems now so clear and simple a faith, that my point of view be prayerfully considered and that you try to understand what I know I have very clumsily expressed. I am conscious of a deeper dependence on Christ than I have ever known and I trust that if I am allowed to return this summer I may be not only physically but spiritually and in every way more worthy of the great opportunities which come to us at Guilting.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur M. Chester.

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134 West 92nd St.
New York City.
June 10th 1926.

My dear Miss Howell:-

I am to be at Smith for Commencement June 17th - 21st and shall be speaking at the Quilting meeting. It is possible that I may be able to get in touch with some people who would consider going to Quilting, and I should like therefore to know the latest news on candidates before I go. My Barber and Miss Cogswell are the only appointments which I know positively. Is Miss Sutherland going to fill the music vacancy? And are there any other appointments or hopeful candidates? I was so sorry to hear from Miss Mitchell that she has given up all thought of going, for she sounded good, I thought. I am waiting eagerly for final approval of my return this summer, meanwhile making all my plans to go, for I feel sure that is the right decision and that it will be so de-

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Very sincerely yours,

Ruth M. Chester.

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June 14th, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd Street
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Miss Chester:

Your letter of June 10th has waited a day or two to be answered because I have been ~~too~~ occupied by other things. I do hope, however, that my letter has not been delayed too long to servie your purpose on your visit to Smith College.

The status of the Candidate work is as follows:

We have two fine women accepted for the Department of English-- Miss Minnette Barber and Miss Harriet Cogswell.

We have Miss Catherine Sutherland partially planning to go at her own expense in Music. We have another fine candidate for the Music work--Miss Helen Shotwell whowould be available if decision could be reached quickly. I have understood from the Executive Committee that money would not be available for the person in the Music Department.

The Miss Mitchell to whom you make reference was not available. We are in touch with a very fine young woman, Miss Margaret Shields, who looks possible for the Department of Physics.

The papers of another splendid candidate for the Physical Education, Miss Margaret Andrews are in the hands of the Candidate Committee in New York.

The papers of Miss Eunice Yip who is a possibility as librarian are also in the hands of the Candidate Committee in New York. Of course, she is a Chinese and her papers will ultimately have to go to Mrs. Thurston. The papers of Miss Ruth Pau who is a specialist in Psychology have been sent on to Mrs. Thurston, but all of us think that she should not hold a college position this

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year. I think the most certain possibilities outside of the two already accepted are Miss Andrews for Physical Education and Miss Margaret Shields for Physics. There are really the only ones for whom, as I understand it, there is a definite appropriation.

While you are at Smith do not fail to get in touch with folks who might be available for these important places. Get their names and addresses and all the data you can regarding them and pass this on to me. It is important that we keep in touch with possibilities.

Yours very sincerely,

H:A

Mabel K. Howell

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E. M. DODD, M.D.

June 14, 1926

Miss Elizabeth R. Bender,
Ginling College Office,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Miss Bender:

As you see, the enclosed report for Miss Ruth Chester came from Dr. Miller a week ago. It was during our strenuous, busy New Missionaries' Conference; and I haven't been able to write you about it before. As a matter of fact, it is largely a matter of passing on this opinion for your ultimate decision, as he gives us a certain amount of leeway on the question.

It is fine to know that Miss Chester has made such good progress during the year, even though it is disappointing to have had a little stirring up of the old trouble last winter.

As Dr. Miller so well says, it comes down very much to a question of just how the regime can be managed on the field. If it can be so guarded that she has very moderate work it would seem as though the risk in letting her go back would not be great. We all realize that here is the crux of the situation - that it is so hard to guarantee anything from this end as to how much work will fall upon a person, or as to what the conditions will actually be.

I suppose your committee would like some comment from me from the standpoint of a Board medical officer in passing on these reports, since they come through my hands. Anything from Dr. Miller is taken as about the last word in authoritativeness. And one can just build on that, according to how the administrative side of the problem shapes up. I confess, however, that if this were one of our missionaries going out to most kinds of work I would hesitate about letting her go this summer, in view of the comparatively recent, though slight, flare-up. I could not state this as a positive negative, because so many individual circumstances enter in. She is evidently doing well; and Dr. Miller thinks she will be about as well, if not even better, in China. And I think you people at Ginling can often manage better, provided you are adequately staffed, than in some of the rough and tumble interior, small, mission stations, where the work is not so well systematized or delimited.

In other words, to sum up: I really haven't very much to add to what Dr. Miller has said, and would feel that you had considerable discretion in the decision.

Very sincerely,



EMD:J
Enc.

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Dr. James Alexander Miller
379 Park Avenue
New York

June 23, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

I have your letter and am sorry for your disappointment but I think the decision is very wise. As far as your plans are concerned, I would stay away from New York all summer and begin your study in the fall. I think the chances are excellent that you could get back to China along about January with my approval.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) James Alex. Miller

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Chester

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137 W 92nd St.
New York City.
June 26, 1926.

To the Members of the Grading College Committee: -

Since hearing of the action of the Committee I have written to my doctor and have from him a reply which makes it very probable that he will approve of my returning to Grading in time for the second semester of this coming year. In view of this opinion I should like to ask whether the Committee will be willing for me to return in January if Dr. Miller gives his final approval along in November or December. Such an arrangement would make it possible for me to study here during the first semester and be back there for second semester.

I have also another suggestion which I would like the Committee to consider. I do not feel that I am any less likely to keep well at Grading than here and therefore it seems to me that the only added risk involved in sending me back this summer is the risk of the

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travel money involved. If some of my family or friends (27) would be willing to agree to pay my return passage and refund my outgoing passage, if I stay less than a year, or any proportional part of the total travel expense if I stay more than a year but less than the full term, would the Committee then be willing to let me go this August, or have planned and expected to do? I could have an X-ray taken in the late fall and send it to Dr. Miller so that I could still have his judgment about proceeding, and it is only the X-ray that tells anything in my case. I am not certain I could make this arrangement, but I think I could, and if the Committee would be willing to let me go under such an agreement I will proceed to find out whether it is possible.

It is of course important for me to have my plans settled as soon as possible and I shall appreciate as prompt a reply as is convenient. I am sorry to cause extra trouble but I cannot find it in my heart to accept the verdict of a whole year's delay which is more even than my very cautious doctor advises, and I am not yet convinced that

any further delay is necessary.

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Very sincerely yours.

Ruth M. C. Hester.

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June 29, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd St.
New York City

My dear Miss Chester:

A cablegram was received from Mrs. Thurston last Saturday. It was a lengthy message covering the faculty situation and candidate matters. The first part of it, however, was as follows: "Chester heartfelt sympathy. University will provide for Chemistry."

I am glad that the message tells us that the work can be provided for. It is along the line that we spoke of, but I am sure it is a satisfaction for us to know that it is being definitely planned.

I received your letter and have sent a copy of it to Miss Hodge. As she is Chairman of the Ginling College Committee I thought it best to have it go to her first, and ask her approval of the plan to submit it to the Committee for a vote. I hope that you approve of this. I do not think it will delay it very long.

Sincerely yours,

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134 West 92nd St.
New York City
June 26, 1926

To the Members of the Ginling College Committee:

Since hearing of the action of the Committee I have written to my doctor and have from him a reply which makes it very probable that he will approve of my returning to Ginling in time for the second semester of this coming year. In view of this opinion I should like to ask whether the Committee will be willing for me to return in January if Dr. Miller gives his final approval along in November or December. Such an arrangement would make it possible for me to study here during the first semester and be back there for the second semester.

I have also another suggestion which I would like the Committee to consider. I do not feel that I am any less likely to keep well at Ginling than here and therefore it seems to me that the only added risk involved in sending me back this summer is the risk of the travel money involved. If some of my family or friends would be willing to agree to pay my return passage and refund my outgoing passage if I stay less than a year, or any proportional part of the total travel expense if I stay more than a year but less than the full term, would the Committee then be willing to let me go this August, as I have planned and expected to do? I could have an X-Ray taken in the late fall and send it to Dr. Miller so that I could still have his judgment about proceeding, and it is only the X-Ray that tells anything in my case. I am not certain I could make this arrangement, but I think I could, and if the Committee would be willing to let me go under such an agreement I will proceed to find out whether it is possible.

It is of course important for me to have my plans settled as soon as possible and I shall appreciate as prompt a reply as is convenient. I am sorry to cause extra trouble but I cannot find it in my heart to accept the verdict of a whole year's delay which is more even than my very cautious doctor advises, and I am not yet convinced that any further delay is necessary.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Ruth M. Chester

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Reported 7 votes
to Chester July 12

150 Fifth Avenue
New York City
July 7, 1926

Dear Member of the Ginling College Committee:

Enclosed you will find copies of a letter from Miss Chester and from her physician, Dr. Miller, that are self-explanatory, and I am asking you to vote on the question that Miss Chester submits: That is, do you approve of her return to China in January, if, about Christmas time, Dr. Miller gives unqualified approval of her return at that time? In the Minutes of the meeting of the Ginling College Committee in January at Atlantic City, and in New York in June, you will find actions bearing on her case.

Before making her plans for the fall Miss Chester should know whether there is a possibility of her returning to Ginling in January or whether she is to spend a year in this country. It will help her if we can have a prompt vote on the question submitted.

Sincerely yours,

Miss McVeigh - yes, conditional - July 8
Miss Lundy - to return July 26
Dr. North - yes - July 9
Miss Hodge - yes - letter of July 5
Miss Ray - yes, July 8
Miss Witt -

Anwalt - Yes July 9
(Word Yes - July 9)
E.R.B. - Yes
conditional
see letter
July 10

Not heard from:
Critt
Harrell
Abraham

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Paul Chester

150 Fifth Avenue
New York City
July 7, 1926

Dear Member of the Ginling College Committee:

Enclosed you will find copies of a letter from Miss Chester and from her physician, Dr. Miller, that are self-explanatory, and I am asking you to vote on the question that Miss Chester submits: that is, do you approve of her return to China in January, if, about Christmas time, Dr. Miller gives unqualified approval of her return at that time? In the Minutes of the meeting of the Ginling College Committee in January at Atlantic City, and in New York in June, you will find actions bearing on her case.

Before making her plans for the fall Miss Chester should know whether there is a possibility of her returning to Ginling in January or whether she is to spend a year in this country. It will help her if we can have a prompt vote on the question submitted.

Sincerely yours,

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Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

276 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS: "TAVOYAM, NEW YORK"

PRESIDENT

MRS. H. E. GOODMAN
5753 WOODLAWN AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.

FOREIGN VICE-PRESIDENT

MRS. NATHAN R. WOOD
26 ACADEMY ST., ARLINGTON, MASS.

ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

MRS. HOWARD WAYNE SMITH
111 WALNUT AVE., ARDMORE, PENN.

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MRS. W. S. ABERNETHY
715 HOTEL CHATHAM, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOREIGN SECRETARY

MISS MABELLE RAE McVEIGH

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

MISS JANET S. MCKAY

SECRETARY OF

LITERATURE AND PUBLICITY
MRS. L. J. P. BISHOP

TREASURER

MISS ALICE M. HUDSON

July 8, 1926

Miss Elizabeth R. Bender
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Miss Bender:

I have read carefully the letters of Miss Chester, Dr. Miller and your own of July 7th. I should be willing for Miss Chester to go back to the field on the conditions outlined in her letter of June 26th, which as I understand it suggests the plan of providing all financial expenses for her return to the field and passage home if she found it necessary to return because of health before the end of the first year, a proportionate return to be made if she should return any year before the end of her term. There is only one other condition that ought to be added there. I believe we should be relieved of all financial responsibility for her health if she came back ill again. Her provision is sufficient for coming back to America but we ought to know that she will be cared for should another break occur, and I do not believe this would be our responsibility if she took the risk at her own suggestion and proposition.

It is not my best judgment that she should go to the field for another year, but as stated above I shall approve of her return if the rest of the Committee does, on the condition that no extra expense shall fall on the Ginling Committee.

Very sincerely yours,

Mabelle R. McVeigh
Foreign Secretary.

M/B

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134 West 92nd St.

New York:

July 11th 1926.

My dear Miss Bender,

Just a line to say that I'm leaving New York on Tuesday so if you should have a report from the Judging Committee for me tomorrow or Tuesday morning I should appreciate it very much if you could telephone instead of waiting to write, as I do very much want to know before leaving, if possible. I shall be here till about eleven o'clock Tuesday morning. After that for a week address me at Camp Westminister, The Gymnasium, East Northfield, Mass.

My phone is Riverside 7928.

Hoping to hear from you soon, as I can make

my plans.

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth M. Chester.

July 12, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

Confirming our conversation over the telephone this morning I will say that seven of the eleven-voting members of the Ginling College Committee have replied to my request for a vote on the question submitted regarding your return to China in January. None have favored your return this summer, but those whose votes I have are in favor of your returning in January if about Christmas time Dr. Miller gives unqualified approval of your return at that time. In addition to the conditions which you suggested in your letter, two have added the condition that in case of your giving up the work before the end of your term, the college or the committee be not involved in expenses connected with your illness. Of course, as I said over the telephone, two votes out of eleven are not enough to incorporate this in the decision.

After the full vote has been received I will officially report the result to you. This is for your information and convenience at this time.

With all good wishes,

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Camp Westminister
The Gymnasium
East Northfield
Mass.

July 14th 1926.

My dear Mrs. Bender,

Just thinking of plans for next fall it occurred to me that I might possibly be able to get a China Medical Board Fellowship, which would enable me to spend my full time studying instead of having to earn my way. So I went down to their office Tuesday morning to inquire about it. The lady I talked to was not very encouraging because she says the fellowship fund is practically exhausted for next year. But she did think it worth while to apply even tho there is little hope. The application however, should come from the faculty committee rather than from me personally. So if there is no objection to doing so, I should appreciate it very much if you could make such an application for me for the first semester for further study at Columbia.

It needs to be done immediately, as they will have to refer it to China and there is no extra time before the opening of school when I shall have to take some sort of part time work if this doesn't go through.

I'm enjoying Northfield immensely tho I hope not every day will be quite as full as this one. Two Quaker girls are here and a third coming so I have excellent support for my efforts. There are also two girls here from Madras.

Must go to a meeting so I must stop.

Very sincerely yours,
Ruth M. Chester.

JUL 14

1926

July 16, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
124 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

Your letter has just been received and I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I have written the China Medical Board. You did not tell me to whom to address it but I am sending it to Miss Eggleston, with whom we have had our correspondence regarding their grant to Ginling. If there is anything further that I can do to help, please let me know.

If the rule and practice of the China Medical Board are the same as they were a few years ago, I anticipate difficulty from the fact that their grants are practically on condition that the one aided is at the same time receiving help from the college employing him (or her). It is true that we have given you one year's home allowance since you returned from China, but during the period when the China Medical Board grant would be applied you will not be receiving an allowance from the Ginling College Committee. I hope, however, that the Board will not insist on this and that they will make you a grant.

I am glad to hear about Northfield and hope that you will not find the work too strenuous.

Very sincerely yours,

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July 16, 1926

Miss Margery K. Eggleston
The China Medical Board
61 Broadway
New York City

My dear Miss Eggleston:

Miss Ruth Chester of the Department of Chemistry in Ginling College, Nanking, is in America and expects to return to China within a year, -possibly in January 1927. She would like to spend the time from now until then in study, and I am writing to ask if it is possible for her to receive aid from the China Medical Board. A fellowship or help in any other form will be of assistance to her and would be greatly appreciated by the Ginling College Committee. She is a very valuable member of our Ginling staff and we wish to do all in our power to promote her efficiency in her special department.

With appreciation of the interest and cooperation of the China Medical Board,

Very sincerely yours,

July 21, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

I am prepared to report the decision of our Committee in regard to your return to China in January. The Committee approves on condition that Dr. Miller about Christmas time gives unqualified approval of your return at that time. This of course implies that his judgment will be submitted to Dr. Dodd, and our final acceptance will be conditioned upon Dr. Dodd's concurring in Dr. Miller's judgment. The Committee in voting has accepted as a condition, your suggestion that your return passage and your outgoing passage^{be} refunded by you or your friends if you stay less than a year, or that any proportional part of the total travel expense be paid in the same way if you stay more than one year but less than the full term.

On the two conditions given above the Committee approves your return in January. We hope, however, that you will be able to give a full term of service and that it will not be necessary for you or your friends to refund any of the expenses connected with your going to China. As I have said before, our Committee is exceedingly desirous of having you on the field as a permanent member of the Ginling faculty for we realize the big contribution that you have to make to the college. We hope that the time between this and January will be one of continuous up-building so that there will be no question when the time comes to decide.

Very sincerely yours,

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GEORGE E. VINCENT
CHAIRMAN
A. S. THOMPSON
SECRETARY

ROGER S. GREENE
DIRECTOR
MARGERY K. EGGLESTON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

CHINA MEDICAL BOARD
OF
THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

61 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

MEMBERS

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WALLACE BUTTRICK
SIMON FLEXNER
RAYMOND B. FOSDICK

FREDERICK L. GATES
FRANK J. GOODNOW
VERNON KELLOGG

JOHN R. MOTT
PAUL MONROE
FRANCIS W. PEABODY

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR.
WICKLIFFE ROSE
GEORGE E. VINCENT
WILLIAM H. WELCH

July 21, 1926

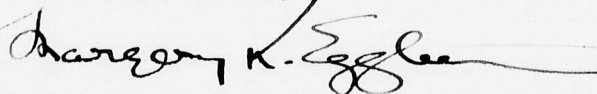
My dear Miss Bender:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 16th in regard to Miss Ruth Chester. I fear I cannot hold out any hope of fellowship aid to Miss Chester for the funds of the China Medical Board for this purpose for 1926-1927 are already practically exhausted.

Usually it is our custom to consider fellowship aid before the person reaches America so that we may have the advice of Dr. Houghton and Mr. N. Gist Gee and others before the matter is taken up. Of course, in Miss Chester's case, I realize that she came to the United States on account of her health and when she left I suppose plans for study had not been considered.

I shall have to refer this matter to Mr. Gee for his recommendation but I do not think that you should give consideration to the possibility of such a fellowship in making plans for Miss Chester's work this autumn.

Sincerely yours,



Executive Secretary

Miss Elizabeth Bender
Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

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134 W 92nd St.
New York City.

Nov. 7, 1926.

My dear Miss Bender:-

Having found that Dr. Miller was ready to see me and decide about my return to Finland in January, I went to him on Wednesday. He found me in good condition and said he would write Dr. Dodd as soon as he saw the X-ray he took. I have delayed writing you, thinking Dr. Miller would send me a copy of his letter to Dr. Dodd but no far word has come so I thought I would not wait longer. There is little possibility of the X-ray not being perfectly satisfactory so if Dr. Dodd hasn't already received it.

11-7-26
It will in a day or two have Dr. Miller's approval of my return in January. In view of the vote taken last summer I understand that that will settle it without further action from the Committee. I shall be glad though to have a definite statement from you, so that I may be sure.

The most convenient steamer for us, to take will be the Pres. Jefferson from Seattle, Jan. 29th which will get us there two days before college opens. As soon as it is all settled will you authorize Mr. Carter to engage passage for me, please? I had hoped to go back a 2nd class, but the C.P.O. boats do not fit my rather limited requirements as to dates. I want to finish the term here - be sure of my credits + also to get there before the 2nd semester begins and this one boat is the only one that will do it.

11-7-26

[37]

I am enjoying both my studying and my teaching -
the latter part time work at ~~Barnard~~ and tho I should
have liked to be working back into ~~Quincy~~ still I
feel I have been able to make good use here of these
extra months.

I'm in splendid health - never felt better in
my life and am sure there is nothing more to worry
about on that score.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth M. Chester.

DR. JAMES ALEXANDER MILLER
DR. EDWARD PERCY EGGLEE
379 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

November 6, 1926.

Dr. E.N. Dodd,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Dodd:

Miss Chester came in the other day and I examined her carefully and had new x-ray films of her chest taken. The x-rays still show the shadow previously noted in the lower part of the right upper lobe but it is distinctly more fibroid although the shadow itself is no smaller than it was.

Inasmuch as she has been living a perfectly normal life and has kept so well so long I think there is no good at all to be attained by interfering with her returning to China as she is planning the first of January. I think she should take her x-rays with her and not only watch herself carefully as to general health but also periodically be checked up by the best man available there. I believe the chances of her breaking down are practically no greater in China than they would be here and are very small, in any event.

Very sincerely yours,

James Alex Miller

RECEIVED

NOV 8 1926

Dec. 10, 1926.

Dr. Miller to Miss Bender & M. E. Hodge over telephone

Plaque
4607

"Case arrested - No activity now. She is returning to China with his approval."

1022

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E. M. DODD, M.D.

November 8, 1926.

Miss Elizabeth R. Bender,
Ginling College Office,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Miss Bender:

The enclosed letter about Miss Ruth Chester has been received from Dr. James Alexander Miller during Dr. Dodd's absence from the office because of illness. In his absence I am passing the report on to you at once, as I am sure you will wish to have it as soon as possible.

Very sincerely,

Jessie A. Smith
Secretary to Dr. Dodd.

JAS:J

Enc.

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

CHARLES R. ERDMAN
PRESIDENT
MISS MARGARET E. HODGE
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
JAMES M. SPEERS
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

November 27, 1926.

Miss E. R. Bender,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Miss Bender:

Attached is a memo from Dr. Cunningham who is sub-
stituting for Dr. Dodd.

His reservations are such as I would expect any
substitute to make. Do you think we can accept
this as a virtual O.K. or should we do something
else.

Miss Chertis

Cordially yours,

Margaret E. Hodgen

MEH:R

OBSERVE JANUARY AS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

To sail Feb. 1

*Ans. Jefferson
from Seattle*

1024

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

MEMORANDUM Re Miss Ruth Chester

November 19, 1926

FROM Dr. Cunningham (for Dr. Dodd)

To Miss Hodge

Inasmuch as Dr. Miller is a specialist in Tuberculosis and has had Miss Chester under observation for some time it would seem hardly advisable not to take his recommendation--namely that she be permitted to return to China (letter of November 6, 1926). However as late as June 4, 1926 he expresses the opinion that the disturbance at that time undoubtedly means definite activity in her lung condition. My personal opinion is that if activity ~~was~~^{were} present as late as five months ago a missionary's active life in China would not help to make permanent any possible improvement now existing. However, Dr. Miller's experience and judgment should be of considerable authority; and furthermore, it is the best we have in the case.

Geo. S. Cunningham

GSC:JAS

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150 Fifth Avenue
New York City
December 10, 1926

Miss Ruth Chester
134 West 92nd St.
New York City

Dear Miss Chester:

I am happy to report that we have definitely approved your return to Ginling in January as you planned. You tell me that the most convenient steamer is the President Jefferson from Seattle, January 29th. I think Mr. Carter has made tentative reservation on it. I am writing him today authorizing him to make the reservation definite. You will take up with him any matters regarding transportation and passport which may be necessary.

I have no doubt Dr. Miller has advised you as to what you should do in China to establish permanently the splendid recovery that you have made. You have been very brave during these trying months and we are happy in the result. We are glad for the sake of the college that you are returning to China, and we trust that it will mean many years of service there.

Miss Hodge tried to get you on the telephone this afternoon but as she failed, she asked me to include in this letter a message from her. She has received your invitation for tomorrow afternoon and is planning to be present. You may not know that Mrs. James M. Pratt, 135 East 74th St., this city (Butterfield 1786) has recently been added to the Ginling College Committee as a second representative from the Baptist Board. Miss Hodge wanted to suggest to you that Mrs. Pratt be invited to the Tea tomorrow afternoon. I think she would appreciate it.

Very sincerely yours,

Bender

1027