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NANKING, CHINA

January, 1924

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

After the excitement of the formal opening was over, and when the long stream of sight-seers and visitors that came in its train had ceased, the college resumed a more normal aspect, and settled down in earnest to the work of the term. But life in new buildings demands that many re-adjustments should be made, and buildings and plant are not necessarily complete because they are opened. For a while the electric light was a somewhat uncertain quantity, apt at moments to leave the college in darkness; and for a time the water was rather insufficient, until our president discovered the leak that others had failed to identify. But the time of insufficiency was long enough for us to have learned to be careful in our use of water, no bad thing perhaps, especially in an unusually dry season. That all is not yet finished, we are reminded daily by the sight of the fourth dormitory in its outer dress of scaffolding; and the presence of workmen with us was forcibly brought to our notice one midnight, when, having completed a certain job, they thoughtfully let off some fire-crackers to scare away the evil spirits. Another event, which reminded us that things in China happen gradually, was a very delightful concert given by Miss Paul, Dr. Hamilton and Mr. Hancock to celebrate the arrival of the new piano for the chapel.

Nor do visitors cease when opening ceremonies are over; invited and uninvited guests continue to come, till those in authority must wonder whether there is not sufficient work for an official guide to do. Among those who have stayed in college have been Dr. Pratt of Williams College, Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray of the Christian Literature Society, and Miss Lumsden of the International Federation of University Women, while one memorable day we were greatly honoured by several distinguished Chinese visitors. Unfortunately absent from the scene of action most of the day myself, I have made bold to borrow, with permission and many thanks, the following extract from Miss Thayer's diary.

"Friday we are at home, guests are welcome and we are ready for them. Often we enjoy our leisure hour and our company cake by ourselves,

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and guests take pot luck with their welcome when they do come. So it was on Monday, that an early message informed us of coming callers,—Chinese these, who permit us time to slacken work and smooth the brow. A young man of presence was the first; he brought Cambridge English on his Chinese tongue, to enquire about Ginling prospects for a young sister. He honors us. At chapel time there was another stir when, drawn up by the executive building, we saw the big limousine done in flaming red and finished like a lacquer bowl. This we know speeds people of distinction about our city. Our guest had arrived. Rice and curry had been served when the dean came to ask place at the table. Hasty moves made room for His Excellency, the ex-premier of China, Hsiung Hsi-ling, who accepted the invitation to our luncheon ordinary, and met our rising greeting with Chinese calm. His niece, a junior, was with him. His coming had caused a ripple, but after his departure, was no obstacle to business as usual. In the laboratory classes went on, the rotifers reeled, the clams kept composure and the girls their eyes glued to microscopes, when to the door came the Ginling president and the dean, with them a young girl in turquoise blue brocade down to shoe soles; her face quiet, even wooden compared to the lively faces bent over bone section and panamecia; her brother, these two the children of the Civil Governor, a nephew of his and three young women of poise and dignity, students in the Government Normal School. An interpreter attended, and also servants in livery, one of whom, with six feet of "bearing" and a magenta choker added to his blue and gold uniform, held my lady's mantle of silk and white fur. There they are, seeing Mr. Wood's birds; even going to the cellar to inspect the crocodile and the furnace, and amazed perhaps most of all at the *girls* who are of all this a part, and the end. When after hours, two weary biologists came for tea cheer, there it was, a bit more elaborate than usual, in deference to Chinese custom, with two plates added to our usual peanuts and cookies. The girl in her king-fisher blue had spent an hour, and now had flown in her limousine of ivory white, and we ate the cakes. A day it is to remember, when an ex-premier and the family of the governor of the province so honored us. What comes of it all? Who knows that!"

But while we have had the joy of welcoming so many friends, the college had the sorrow of saying "au revoir" for a time to Dr. Reeves, who had to leave somewhat hurriedly for America. On Wednesday, November 28, the students gave for her a farewell party of an impromptu nature, but none the less pleasant; there were music and games, but the central feature was the presentation to Dr. Reeves, when both the givers and the recipient had an opportunity to express how much they meant, the one to the other. And then on the next night after the Thanksgiving



dinner, Dr. Reeves, accompanied by quite a procession of little carriages, which looked very gay with their lamps as they bowled round the drive, left for America, bearing with her our very best wishes, which we endeavoured to express in song.

Dr. Reeves' departure left a big gap in work, as in other things, and though she had made all possible arrangements before she left, the arrangements could not have gone so smoothly had not Miss Thayer been able to help in the science department, work which she combined with the teaching of drawing and the concoction of wonderful dishes. If a faculty for doing everything and anything, and doing it well, are the qualifications for a missionary, then Miss Thayer has undoubtedly found her vocation at last.

Comings and goings form some part of the life here, especially of Miss Butler's, but that is by no means the chief part. November 12-18 there was observed at Ginling, as in colleges throughout the world, the universal week of prayer, culminating in a joint service at the University of Nanking. This term we have started a weekly college prayer meeting, led alternately by students and faculty, which affords an opportunity for more informal and intimate spiritual fellowship than is perhaps possible in chapel.

I am only a newcomer to Ginling, but one thing that has struck me is that there always seems something imminent, for which preparations are necessary. Hardly had the opening ceremonies been left behind, and Thanksgiving dinner eaten, when Christmas was upon us, with all the manifold preparations it involves. The faculty were not as busy as some years, it being the students' turn to give the play. Despite all the buying of presents, the arranging of times and seasons for feasts and parties, and the decoration of rooms, the inner meaning of Christmas was not forgotten, and a special series of chapel talks was arranged to bring out something of the richness of the Christmas message.

Christmas celebrations proper began on Sunday evening. At a musical service arranged by the Y. W. C. A. and the glee club, we listened to some of the most beautiful Christmas music. This was followed by a service for the servants, arranged by the freshmen, which consisted of a dramatic representation of some of the Birth stories, given with a straightforward simplicity reminiscent of the Middle Ages in Europe.

On the previous Saturday night the faculty had been busy preparing themselves for Christmas by a party to celebrate the birthdays that fell in December; we let down our hair, and put tucks in our frocks, and regained for a time "the years that the locusts have eaten," and entertained ourselves with suitable and seasonable occupation, by making scrap-books.



At lunch time on the day before Christmas we began our Christmas feasts by attending a Chinese one in our own dining-room, to which we had been bidden by the Chinese members of our faculty, but at which our male hosts were not present. A Chinese feast is one of the seven wonders of the world, both because of the variety of the food, and the lavishness of the labour that is spent in preparing it. This was no exception, and we were more than grateful to our hosts, both present and absent.

On that evening students, faculty, and servants gathered together in the gymnasium, festive with bamboos, garlands of evergreen, and a small Christmas tree. The play performed was "Babushka," a story of an old Russian peasant woman, who having refused to accompany the Wise Men on their search for the Christ Child, had been wandering about ever since looking for Him; though she did not succeed in finding Him, she brought joy and blessing to the children whom she did find. It was full of the Christmas spirit, and was acted sympathetically, the singing being especially effective. After the play the servants received their presents, and students and faculty drew from a lucky dip some useful or grotesque present worth the vast sum of ten cents. As the students gave the play, the faculty gave the refreshments, and had great pleasure in waiting on their guests, though our service was perhaps willing rather than expeditious. We went to our beds feeling that Christmas was indeed with us; and at midnight we were further reminded of this by the carols that aroused the slumbers of some. Everybody seemed to agree that the singers had never sung better, nor given more pleasure to their audience. Unfortunately I am unable to give a personal opinion.

In the night it was the students who sang; in the morning the faculty sang their Christmas greetings to the students before entering the dormitories to eat the breakfast of "mien," by which the celebration of the King's Birthday is fittingly opened in this ancient land of China. After breakfast we gathered for a service of song in the chapel; not for the most part prepared music, but just the songs and hymns of Christmas, that express almost better than anything else what we are feeling.

Then students and faculty separated, each group to gather round a Christmas tree, and open presents from far and near, from America, from England, and from China. The day once begun, events moved swiftly; hardly had all the presents been opened before it was time for dinner, and before we had finished our Christmas fare, nay before we had begun, the guests for the women's and children's party that the students were giving had begun to arrive. The women and children of the neighborhood had been invited by written invitations, delivered the previous Sunday. The time mentioned was 2:30, but many of the guests had no clocks or watches, and when they



had eaten their midday meal, then they came. And they came in their numbers; presents and candy had been prepared for about 200, but over 400 came, and drawers had to be ransacked to find little knick-knacks that would prevent people going away disappointed. The gym was a great sight, filled with all sorts and conditions of women and children, but all interested in the Christmas program that the freshmen had prepared. They listened to the Christmas story, they saw the angels who sang of Christ's coming, and the Wise Men and Shepherds who gathered round His cradle, and they heard Christmas songs. They also made the acquaintance of Santa Claus, who distributed packets of candy, towels, small toys, and picture post cards, which were by no means the least popular of the gifts. Some of our guests were poorly clad, some were dressed in highly respectable clothes, but almost all the children were like little round balls in their padded cotton coats, and when, much to their surprise, they fell down on the slippery floor of the gym, had some difficulty in picking themselves up.

After the guests of the afternoon had come and gone,—and some were still coming when others had begun to go,—there was a brief pause; but it was not long before the gym was again thronged, this time with the servants and their families. They had already eaten their Christmas feast, and came to continue their party, while students and faculty alike fended for themselves. The party was largely in the hands of the girls, who entertained their guests with music, with the story of "The Other Wise Man," and with games; most of the guests were grown men and women, some of them very staid looking, but they entered with zest into such games as "Drop the Handkerchief." When the end of the day came many must have gone to bed weary with well doing, but feeling that it was something like what a Christmas should be.

The results of Christmas Day were seen next Sunday, when many women and children came, as they had been bidden, for a meeting in the afternoon; the numbers were perhaps greater than they will usually be, as there was still an expectation abroad that presents might again be given.

The day after Christmas was devoted to walks and sight-seeing, a visit being paid to the Model Prison. On the next day work was resumed; but before settling down to the last month of work and exams, there was one last little fling on New Year's Day, when the college had a holiday. Many walking parties set out, the weather being absolutely ideal, though for some it was a little warm; all were bound for the wall, though for different sections, and the various parties between them all but "put a girdle round about the wall," though it took them rather more than "forty

minutes." Tired but happy, the walkers returned home to attend a New Year's party that had been planned by the freshmen for the whole college, and a very delightful party it was. Each guest was welcomed on arrival by the gift of a fragrant twig of yellow winter plum blossom or "lah mei," which the girls and such of the faculty as are dark wore with great effect in their hair. Proceedings opened with a little address of welcome, very charmingly given, and then the play began. It was a dramatic representation of an old Chinese story, "Shui Ren Kwei's Victory over the Eastern Barbarians,"—though the action of the play was more concerned with the hero's private fortunes than his public victories. The play was Chinese in every sense of the word, but such of us as cannot understand the Chinese language were able to follow intelligently, as we had thoughtfully been provided with an outline of the story. It was very effectively staged, some of the costumes were beautiful and elaborate, and the acting was spirited, all the more so because though the plot was fixed, the words were not, and each made her part up as she went along. But I suppose that any Westerner not as yet used to Chinese custom, has slightly strangled feelings when watching a scene in which husband and wife meet after a separation of 13 years, but in which no embrace of any kind takes place. In between the acts there were songs and recitations. One item on the program was "Fire-Wands," when the lights were turned out, and two girls whirled flaming torches round their heads. Nobody could deny its effectiveness, but whether or no it was dangerous would be another matter. At the end of the play all the freshmen gathered together, each bearing a candle, on a darkened stage, and sang their wishes to us for a happy New Year. After refreshments the party closed, and all who were there felt that not only had the freshmen given us a very enjoyable party, but had begun the New Year well by proving to the college what possibilities and talents there are among its youngest daughters.

As a newcomer to Ginling, and as a stranger to the ways of both Chinese and Americans, I should like in this letter, which is meant for those in whose interest and support our roots are grounded, and who desire to know what manner of place we are, and what work we do, to put on record my own personal testimony to the friendliness and purposefulness of the Ginling spirit. Whether you come for a visit or whether you come to stay, I can assure you that you will be warmly welcomed and, if you come to stay, a feeling that you have come to a place where it is worth while to be, because it is founded and carried on in the Name and with the aid of Jesus Christ.

EVA DYKES SPICER.



FROM EVA SPICER

Please return

Riverside Street, Lancaster, Pa

GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA  
February 3, 1932.

We are living through exciting days at the moment, I am afraid that you will be a little anxious but so far in Nanking, though there has been panic among the Chinese, and on Monday night, as you already know the Japanese gun boats did let one or two real shells off, as well as several blank ones, we on the Campus here have been quite quiet, and I think as far as Nanking as concerned this is as safe as any place, and safer than some. However, I don't know that it is really much use writing like this, as by the time you get this letter, you will know what developments will have been, and probably already know more than we do, as we have had no foreign paper since Thursday, though we are getting Chinese news over the radio and through the newspaper published in Nanking, and also the Consulates are issuing every day a brief statement of the Reuter telegrams, and any other news that they have been able to get hold of from their own official sources. But you don't get much but the main facts, and there are lots of side developments that one would like to know about. Of course via the radio etc., one gets some statements which are not facts, but up to date the general nature of the news which has come through seems to have been fairly reliable, and indeed one would have to have quite lively imagination to invent things which are much worse than the truth. The Japanese do really seem to have gone quite mad.

Mr. Bates, who happened to be in Shanghai when the thing began on Thursday night, and is a very level headed person gave us a fairly full account of the developments of the first twenty four hours or so, and it certainly did seem an incredible piece of disregard of all the decencies of International intercourse for the Japanese to occupy a section of the Chinese city after the Mayor of Shanghai had accepted the Japanese demands. However, you know all about that as well as I do, what I was going to say was that Mr. Bates had met in Shanghai a man who has for a long time been an advisor to the Chinese government, mainly the matter of railways. He was active in that capacity during the Washington conference in 1922, and got to know one of the Japanese railway advisers very well. This Japanese is now on the staff of General Hengo in Manchuria, and he had happened to meet him in Shanghai just that day, and had asked him what was Japan's purpose in all this. He said that they meant to intimidate the Chinese people to the point where they would drop all their Anti-Japanese movements and boycotts, and that if this affair in Shanghai did not do it, they would try elsewhere, but that they meant to do the business thoroughly. It really is a devilish business this intimidating of the Chinese people, especially at a time like this when there is already so much suffering of the people owing to the floods. One of the results of this fighting in Shanghai is that the loading of the wheat to be sent up the river for famine relief stopped, because the wharf was under fire. A civilian population is always so helpless, and the Chinese live in so crowded a fashion, and are so relatively unversed in the ways of modern warfare on a large scale, that it seems like intimidating a crowd of children, though there are quite a lot among them that are not children, and judging by the way that it has affected some of our students, I am wondering whether the Japanese will find it quite so easy to intimidate the Chinese as perhaps they thought. You certainly get the impression with some of them that their blood is up, that they have no intention of trying to leave Nanking, but are going to stay here, and endure what they have to, and do what they can. It is rather terrible to see how bitter the whole thing has made some of the most thoughtful and moderate in their general outlook, and one really cannot wonder. Even if the other nations succeed in putting the stopper on Japan and prevent the things spreading very much further, it is going to be a long time before the feeling between Japan and China will be of such a nature that they will be able to have any of the co-operation which it is really desirable for the well-being of all concerned that they should have. It does seem rather a strange method of trying to stop anti-Japanese movements and boycotts. Dr. Wu thinks that one thing the Japanese are trying to do is to bring such confusion in to China that even the remnants of Chinese stability and order will have disappeared before the League Commission arrive here, and the Japanese will be able to make out a case for International control, and the reduction of China from the status of a sovereign power. They are apparently bent on at least police control of Manchuria, though they are willing to have some form of Chinese government, as long as the real control is there in hands.

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They would like the public services such as the Post Office, customs etc. to be still part of the Chinese system, and to be managed internationally, which would mean the international recognition of the Japanese police control in Manchuria. Of course they know that as long as they keep control of Manchuria, the anti-Japanese movement will continue so they are forced I suppose into these measures to try and break up that.

I wonder how successful they are going to be in their efforts, certainly the Chinese have not got a very stable government, but the move of the chief officials to Loyang, away from the river and Japanese gun boats seems sensible, and the officials who are left here seem to be doing their best to carry on, and one hopes they will succeed in keeping themselves together, but certainly they have got the common people stirred up all right. Crowds of people have been leaving the city by the motor road for Hangchow, people have been flocking into the city from Hsiakuan and of course in Shanghai it must be just ghastly in that section of the city which has been occupied by the Japanese and where thousands and tens of thousands of Chinese live. <sup>Our compound</sup> is just on the edge of the International city and the Chinese district, and doubtless all the people living there have now left, but you will have heard more about that from the Mission house, than I have here, as we are getting no letters or mail through from Shanghai, not only because the communications are uncertain, boats are still coming through at somewhat irregular intervals, but because the post office in Shanghai has been closed. Since Friday I think.

Well this is all rather beside the point, as it is only telling you what I am thinking, and not what we are doing. At the moment in Nanking, though the Consuls are from time to time holding meetings of responsible male citizens, (women are not invited) to consider plans for evacuation of foreigners, and different men are appointed to be responsible for different sections, we are under Sam Mills, but so far no general order for evacuation has been sent out, for the very simple reason that it would be hard to evacuate us in any numbers if they tried. The train is not running through to Shanghai, and in any case who wants to go to Shanghai, there is nothing particularly desirable about that at the moment. There is no kind of foreign protection to be offered us at Wusih or Soochow. The boats down river are very crowded, and very uncertain, and again why send us to Shanghai, they have quite enough on their hands there already. Up river is no safer than here, and the trains to the north are a very uncertain quantity, yesterday none left the station, because they are trying to protect the rolling stock, and have moved it out of Pukow. So they can't push us off in that direction besides who knows what might happen on the way with the Japanese at Tsinan, if they began getting nasty there, or with bandits on the road now that the country is so generally upset. So they really have no option at the moment but to keep us here, which of course is what we would much rather do, and I dare say it will turn out to be quite safe, in spite of all the panic. I imagine that even if we were ordered out we would probably some of us remain. We have a group of about seventy students on the campus, and the removal of all the foreigners would, I think make it a little harder to keep up the morals, apart from a Communist uprising in the city, we are in no special danger as foreigners, and if the Japanese actually took the city might even be some protection to the girls. In any case this is our home in China and our job, and we would much rather stay here. I think we shall probably try and work out which of us had better remain, and which go in event of the foreigners being ordered out, I hope I should be one of those who would stay, but as I say we have not settled that yet.

One very easily loses sense of time just now. The railway connections with Shanghai were broken on Friday, and they held a meeting at the American Consulate that Afternoon, and sent round word to advise us to have a suitcase packed in event of a sudden order to leave. We continued with our normal pursuits, but began to wonder whether we ought to postpone the opening of college, we were due to open on Tuesday. Dr. Wu was still in Shanghai, she had stayed down as late as possible, because she had had an operation on her nose, and wanted further treatment on it, so we felt rather lost, as we had come to depend on her very much, and there is no one Chinese who can take over things at all. Miss Koo and Mr. Hsiung ~~XXXXX~~ who are both on the Advisory Cte (of which Mrs. Thurston and I are also members, are both

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very good in their own way, and Mr. Hsiung was very good indeed in going round and collecting all the available news, but Mrs. Thruston doesn't believe in believing anything she hears which is bad, until it has been doubly or trebly confirmed, and she rather annoyed him by not believing any of the news he collected, much of which later proved to be true, so that it was not a very harmonious group. Her policy was to do nothing until more had happened. She said that up-to-date nothing had happened which justified us in postponing the opening of college. However, it became clearer and clearer that we had to do something, as girls from two places wired or telephoned to us to ask if we were not opening college on the regular date. Fortunately Mr. Bates returned from Shanghai on Sunday morning, and came over on Sunday afternoon and told us of his experiences, and how things looked to him, and that made Mrs. Thurston see that it was pretty serious. I don't mean that she didn't think it serious beforehand, but her way of trying to keep calm, and to keep rumours from flying round the place, is to believe nothing. I don't think it quite ~~extreme~~ succeeds in its purpose, as she carries it to such an extreme, that people just disregard her opinion altogether, as they think she isn't facing the facts, which isn't true in a way, as I think she is storing them up inside of her, but it certainly makes it difficult for the Chinese to work with her, as they are naturally rather worked up at the moment. However, after Mr. Bates' talk she consented to sending a telegram to the students who had already asked whether we were opening or not saying "Await further notice", when originally she had wanted to say "No Change". She also realized that we couldn't wait indefinitely for Dr. Wu, but must organize for the immediate situation.

So we had a busy time on Monday having meetings of various kinds. we started off with an advisory Cte meeting, then we had a faculty meeting, then a student meeting, and finally a meeting of a Joint Student Faculty Cte. As a result of all these various meetings we came to the following decisions. That we would postpone the opening of College for a week, that we would have this Joint Faculty Cte, four faculty and six students, to settle policies and programs for this particular situation, and with the help of the students we had worked out a provisional program including such activities as Chinese writing directed reading, lectures, athletics, music, and chapel services. The girls had also on their own been planning to go on with their first aid work, and had offered their services to the University Hospital in case they might be of any use. Their services there were accepted as they were having a little trouble with some of their student nurses who wanted to leave, so they went over there this morning, at least about thirty of them went, but, haven't heard yet what they were given to do. So that on Tuesday we started in with this program, girls signed up for the various activities, and we started right in with some of them, others had to wait, but if any girl now wishes to keep herself occupied, there is something for her to do most of the time. They were getting rather restless and disturbed before, somewhat naturally.

Monday evening we had our first little excitement, I was reading a little later than I should have been perhaps, and about 11:30 I thought I heard something that sounded like a gun going off, after a moment or so another went off, after one or two more, I got up, and after some conference with one or two others, we asked Jane Thomas's finance who is staying with us to get up, and go over and telephone to the American Consulate and see if he could get any news. He did so and reported that they said that there had been firing from shore, presumably by Chinese, and that the Japanese had let off one or two star bombs to see what was happening, and some blank shells, and there did not seem to be any more happening. By that time some of us were dressed, and we went round to the various dormitories, and told them what it was, so as to re-assure them. In two of the dormitories all was quiet, and we just told a member of the faculty there, actually the students were mostly awake, but they were being very quiet and self controlled, in the other dormitory, they were all up and moving their bedding in to the living room where they parked themselves for the night. The firing didn't last for more than twenty minutes, and after that all was quiet. We heard next day that the Japanese had demanded in certain demands and that parleying was going on, but on the whole people seemed to think we should have a quiet night, and we did.

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FROM EVA SPICER

FEB 3 1932

However, we have now made arrangements to have two of the Faculty (Chinese men) on duty all night in the building where the telephone is, and they will report any information that comes through in event of anything happening to one person in each dormitory, and they will take whatever steps seems necessary. We have also appointed a First Aid Cte in case of any real trouble, and have made arrangements in case there should be any large number of our neighbours streaming on to the campus, because I suppose that in event of shelling or bombing, they might think that these buildings offered rather more protection than their own little mud huts, so we have settled where to put them, etc. A good many people seem to think this place is relatively safe, as we have a little difficulty to settle whome should allowed to come, and who refused. Still it makes one feel good to know that other people think one so safe.

This morning, Wednesday, were all made very happy by the arrival of Dr. Wu. She had sent us two telegrams, but none of them had arrived. And she had tried to get on to the boat on Saturday, but had been turned back on Sunday, and on Monday they were inquiring at the office on the Bund, and with Mrs. New with whom she was staying. They got on to the boat, and learnt that it probably would not go for an hour, so Mrs. New went back for Dr. Wu's luggage, but Dr. Wu stayed right there, however, the boat left just after that Mrs. New had got on the wharf, but before she could get on to boat, so that Dr. Wu came up without any luggage at all, however, she looked as tidy as ever when she got here this morning. She had a little difficulty in getting off, as they were not landing at the wharf, just stopping for a few minutes in mid stream and sending people off in a launch, and they were not allowing Chinese off in the launch, I don't quite follow why, however, Dr. Wu got off, and we were very glad indeed to see her, and now feel ready to face anything, though, of course we are hoping that we shan't have so very much to face.

We haven't had any news today, except that fighting broke out again in Shanghai last night, which isn't so good. Its wonderful how quickly the time goes, I don't know where it all goes, to, but a Cte meeting here, and a little gossip there, and a letter somewhere else and the day just flies by. On Monday there was a meeting of the Women's Club at which Gordon Bowles, Jane Thomas's finance, told us about his recent trip to Eastern Thibet, which was quite interesting, and took our minds far away from the P.T.S. (present tense situation). It's funny how things go, so far this time, though things are? I suppose much more serious than they have been since 1927, I feel far less frightened than I was in March or December 1929, long may it remain so. I think it helps to feel so annoyed with the Japanese though I am trying not to get bitter, as I realize that that will not help the future settlement, but I must, I don't wonder if the Chinese do get bitter, it does seem like such a terrible time to hit them, when they are already down with the floods etc.

Well, this will tell you our situation up to date. Yesterday the city was so nervous, that they were not accepting any bank notes on the street, only silver, and it was very hard to buy rice. Today however, they are accepting bank notes. Fortunately the college has got a six months supply of rice, so that even if the merchants do start hoarding it won't effect us.

I hope by the time you get this letter, the powers will have succeeded in establishing some kind of agreement, and we shall be proceeding with the normal college work. But if we aren't don't worry more than you can help, we are away in the country, and our buildings are re-inforced concrete, and fire proof.

With much love, and I will try and write every three days or so, I am going to send this letter both via Siberia, and another route, in case it doesn't get through Harbin.

Copy of Mrs. Spicer's letter to her mother.

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CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S. S. Toman.

Feb 5<sup>th</sup>En route for Shanghai  
from Amoy

Dear Rebecca,

Thanks ever so  
much for "Flowering Wilderness"  
which I enjoyed very much  
indeed - though I think it is  
very sad. I hope you had a  
good Xmas. We really had  
quite a pleasant one this year.  
It seemed a little less rushed  
than of late - because since it  
fell on a Sunday - we had both  
Saturday & Monday as holidays -  
& lately we have been having  
only the day itself - & half a  
day beforehand!

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We had quite fun with the entertainment too as the Opera put together by Rachel Kachenzie & Mignil Hoffmann was great fun - a much easier & pleasanter to rehearse than the ordinary plays.

Rachel Kachenzie is a great addition - I only hope her health is going to be alright. She got a cold about November which she didn't seem able to throw off - she was in hospital when I left trying to get rid of it - I hope she really has succeeded in doing so - but I left Berlin almost two weeks ago - and have not had word since.

I have been on a brief trip

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## CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S. S. Triana.

to Anay - where I stayed  
for a week - a while I was at  
Anay for 5 nights - & I spent  
2 nights up at Changchew  
a very pleasant country  
town in the midst of lovely  
country - where an mission  
has work. It is where Liu  
Bao ying teaches - you remember  
her don't you? She married in  
Kortag - & asked after you. She is  
doing very good work there.  
She is not principal - they have  
an older woman as that - but  
I gather that Shid really does  
most of the work as principal  
as far as the interior of the school  
is concerned - & fills in teaching  
whatever subject is left over!  
She seems to have taught every  
thing from botany to physical

0040

1932

education and music!  
But - I think she does teach  
rather more of history than  
other things.

I saw a lot of all the  
alumni there - most of  
whom I knew - Wang Shuhsi  
(who looked well - I thought -  
though she is reported to be very  
tired) Shao yu sui - Hsueh &  
Bao yu - Liu Bao yu. Chen  
Mei ching - Wu Sue - ying, &  
Hsueh Bao - men, who has  
just finished - & travelled  
down with me on the same boat.  
Oh & there was Mrs Chen  
(Min Liao of 1922) - whom I  
had not met previously.  
They were all very pleasant  
& friendly - & there was a meeting  
of the South Fokien Branch



1932

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[5]

over

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S. S. Trian

of the Hymn Association,  
which was very pleasant.  
Several of them had brought  
their copies of the College  
Hymn book with them - & we  
sang several hymns from  
it - which I thought was  
interesting. It was very much  
more definitely religious in  
tone than the meetings of  
the Shanghai branch that  
I have been to - but then  
that <sup>Fujian</sup> branch is 100% Christian.  
Altogether I had a very good  
time with them - & with my  
own missionary people - and the  
weather was lovely.

I also met Miss Hsueh Lin  
(Miss Hsü) who did not graduate  
though she was at Fuling 4 yrs. I  
gather she had just 243 credits

0850

1932

lacking, & perhaps felt a little rue about it, in any case she does not come to any of their meetings. I called on her in quite the most attractive house that I have yet seen a Chinese live in (from a foreign point of view). Her husband is very wealthy & the house is really beautifully furnished.

I am feeling quite troubled about my journey home - as I booked my passage just before I left Shanghai. I am leaving Shanghai on June 24<sup>th</sup> on the Resident Lodge; & I should be in San Francisco by July 1<sup>st</sup>. I expect to spend 3 or 4 days in Cleveland with Grace's family - then to

1932

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CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S. S. Toisan

came east via Chicago  
then to etc. I wrote to  
Mary & suggested whether or  
not it would be possible for  
her & you to take me a brief  
motor trip in New England  
from about July 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> -  
when I could see both of  
you at leisure - & we could call  
on Miss. Allen & Mary Cook.  
D. H. Hackett. Miss. Thayer. Miss  
Wild etc. I realize it is  
great deal my suggesting  
this - but you can always  
say no - and I thought you  
would like to know my dates  
anyway. I am writing to  
Alpha suggesting that I be with  
her in New York at the earliest from  
July 29<sup>th</sup> - Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>. ~~Perfect~~

0852



1932

81

I have booked my sailing  
on the Muretana - which  
sails Aug 2nd - as I want to  
get home before too late in  
August - as all my family  
has holidays then.

If this is ~~not~~ not possible  
for you - I will shorten my time  
in New England - & come down  
to Lancaster - a week in  
New York - but I thought  
you would not mind my just  
making the suggestion.  
I am trying to let people know  
well ahead - so that I shall be  
able to make the most of my  
rather short time.

Last term was relatively  
peaceful - the new people all  
fitted in very well - and Mr. Thurston  
was trying hard. But the  
hacking of an Chinese woman

0853

1932

10000-9-32-L.

[9]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S. S. Tamen

family constitutes quite a problem - & one that Mrs Thurston seems wholly unaware of - a would seem to be by the way she talks at times - but I think it will be increasingly difficult to keep an Chinese woman - unless we can solve it satisfactorily.

I think D'Wu is aware of it - but Mrs Thurston is still pretty powerful in the building policy - & she seems unwilling to face it. However, I am going to try & permit a bit this time.

I hope all goes well with you - your trip in the Kentucky

0854

1932

10/1

Met with Mrs Macmillan  
sounded very pleasant.  
your time in England did  
too - I had news of that  
both from my family &  
from Mary.

Well good-bye for the  
moment - I don't expect  
to be writing much this  
term - except fixing up  
arrangements for my trip.

Yrs with many thanks  
& much love

Don,



Ginling College,  
Nanking,  
China.

July 18th, 1932.

Dear Friends,

I think I actually wrote my last letter to you at the end of August almost a year ago, but I didn't get it sent off till just before Xmas, so that it doesn't seem as long as a year. I think I did put in a brief postscript, but there was not very much to it, so although it is all rather old news by now, I will put in a bit about the first term. It was not, as you can imagine, an easy term. Not only was the Manchurian problem, and the student meetings, movements etc. that that involved constantly with us, but some of the older, more experienced members of the foreign faculty, such as Miss Vautrin, were home on furlough, and we had five new foreign members of faculty, and although they were all very nice, and adapted themselves very well, still it was the kind of situation which didn't make things easier, or rather made another thing which should be done, and which I am afraid did not always get done—that is the making them acquainted and keeping them in touch with all the different happenings. There were several new members of the Chinese faculty, and it was a real joy to have back Lui En-lan and Hwang Li-ming, who came straight from two years in America, and a most interesting trip through England, Norway and Siberia, and also Dju Ao. It is sometimes said that we have too many of our alumnae on the faculty, and I suppose there may be something to it, I don't know, but it is certainly very pleasant. In addition to having several new members of the foreign faculty, we were short two of the old ones that we should have had, as Miss Chester was still up in Kuling trying to get the better of suspected T B. (which turned out in the end not to be that at all apparently, and she now seems to have back all her old vigour and energy), and Miss Whimer, who left soon after the beginning of term to have an operation in Peiping, which went off quite well, but which kept her out of action for some time.

As you already know, as well as I do probably, the Japanese aggression in Manchuria resulted in a very energetic student movement throughout the country. At first the students dealt with it through their ordinary student union, but then a new organization the "Anti-Japanese Save the Country Association" was organized, and that embraced not only the students but the faculty (Chinese not foreign), as it was not just a student but a citizens' association, which included all kinds of people. I think this was a decided advantage on the whole. For a time the Ginling students did what all the other students were doing, carried along by a very real tide of patriotic feeling, they had first aid classes, they attended parades, and their representatives attended endless meetings of all kind. We missed a certain amount of work, a day here, half a day there, but no long period of time. Gradually as the movement developed, they became a little more restless, Dr. Wu was working hard all the time to try and help them think through all their actions, and not do anything unless they saw meaning to it, and some of them were becoming rather doubtful as to the meaning of some of their actions, though I think the majority of them needed some form of expression, and it was not a situation where it was easy to find an expression which was really constructive. The climax was reached as far as we were concerned early in December (I think) when it became clear that the movement was rapidly becoming at least as much anti-Government and anti-Chiang Kai-shek, as it was anti-Japanese. A farewell meeting was held by all the students of the city for Chiang Kai-shek on the occasion of his reported departure for the north, it was a very hastily arranged affair, and had not gone through the regular channels, the notice announcing it arrived, or rather was delivered, too late for our students to go. After that meeting the students attending it adjourned to the Government headquarters, and announced their intention of staying there until Chiang promised to go north, so that it clearly was not *only* anti-Japanese. There were students visiting Nanking from other places, and when representatives came round to ask us to join, our student representatives had about decided that the thing was not quite going in the direction it had originally started in, and they decided not to join. It took a certain amount of courage not to do what everybody else

was doing, but it was the decision of a large majority and although there were various threats, nothing happened, as is so often the case. On the day that the rest of the students started their period of abstention from classes in order to try and bring pressure on the government, we did not have classes but did various things of a patriotic nature, including tabulation of the results of a survey of the damage done by the floods, which had been undertaken by the University of Nanking at the request of the National Flood Relief Commission. The survey was a big piece of work, and some of the students and Chinese faculty put in a good deal of time throughout the term helping on it. It was really a very useful thing to have, as it could provide almost endless work, that the people in charge were glad to have done, but which did not need too much special training, and as they were anxious to get it done as quickly as possible, the students could feel they were really helping. One of the difficulties in this whole business, is that some of the students really have a desire to help, and it is very difficult to find sufficient *extra* activities that appeal to them as patriotic, which can be done at a moment's notice, without any special training. First aid and military drill are all right as preparation, but if it seems that your country does not intend to fight, they only produce more energy without a channel for outlet, and endless demonstrations, parades, and propaganda in the city and neighbouring districts soon lose their appeal to the more thoughtful students. We only stopped classes just the first day of the strike, to afford psychological relief, after that we went on as usual, and were able to finish up work normally. It is a help being a little off the main road. The unfortunate University of Nanking was overrun a good deal of the term by students flocking from all over China to tell the Government what they should do, a good many of them put up in the Central University, but a good many of them, especially ones that came from Mission Institutions, came to the University, and camped out in different places, especially in the building they use for an auditorium and chapel, so that quite a lot of the term they could not use it. We had various appeals from some of the women students who came, but without actually refusing we succeeded in putting them off, it would have been almost impossible to

continue work ourselves if we had had students living on the campus who were going out every day on parade etc.

I suppose it seems kind of strange, to say the least of it, to some of you that the government should have allowed itself to be pestered in this way by students, and they did try to prevent the railways bringing them, but then, perhaps you remember seeing it, the students lay down on the tracks to prevent the trains going. The students in China are something of a privileged class, and it is very difficult to handle them as you might other groups, and then of course the students were but the expression of a good deal of opposition to the Government policy, and were undoubtedly being urged on and used by the Canton faction. Chiang probably did the best thing he could under the circumstances, in withstanding peacefully for some time, and then getting out, but arranging things so that they pretty soon had to get him back again.

But you can imagine that all these kinds of events made a pretty tense background to the term, even though we did succeed in carrying on more or less normally. The distress caused by the famine helped in lending a sombre tone to the background too. There was a big refugee camp in Nanking, and after a visit that the students paid to that on Xmas Day, they decided to go without any heat in their dormitories, and give the money they had saved in that way to the Flood Relief, of course that was not the only money they gave, as collections of various kinds were going on the whole time. I went down once to a food kitchen that was run for part of the time to supplement the diet which the Government was giving to these refugees, which in some cases consisted of only two pieces of a kind of steamed bread a day. They were giving them a kind of wheat porridge, that had various vegetables etc. in, and they certainly looked very glad of it, though they didn't (most of them) look as ill as you might think they would, some of course were pretty miserable looking. There were a good many flooded areas around Nanking, though the city, itself, of course, did not suffer anything like Hankow.

Because of the national crisis a good many of the usual entertainments and parties were cut out. But we did have a party on Xmas Eve, though without any of the ten cent gifts that we usually have, and the refreshments were

one orange apiece. The entertainment consisted mainly of a play that we had got up very hastily, in which faculty and students acted together. It was really rather a good play of its kind, and suitable to the occasion, as what it stressed were the unfulfilled hopes of Xmas, which seemed to be better than to talk as though Christ had already brought peace. We did it very simply, and it was very under-rehearsed, but it went pretty well notwithstanding. We only had one and half days holiday at Xmas time, so that it was nothing of a breather,—as there were things to do most of the time, and Xmas Day was almost completely filled with good works of various kinds, as all the students were supposed to do something for somebody else on that day. We had our faculty Xmas dinner in the evening.

As soon as Xmas was over, we plunged into meetings connected with Dr. Eddy's visit to Nanking. There had been a certain amount of preparation for them beforehand, and the students turned out pretty well. He had fairly good publicity, as he had been in Mukden on Sept. 18th, and had given evidence, so to speak, against the Japanese, and he had also got into a little trouble with some Communists in Peking, and both those events had attracted attention. He spoke to the main body of the students of the city in three big meetings, on three successive days. He dealt fairly well, I thought, with the difficulties and problems that China was facing, but on the third day when he was presenting the Christian solution he was not so clear or forcible as he had been on the two previous days. He asked for decisions, and quite a number of students signed cards showing various degrees of interest. I don't know how much I approve of these meetings were they ask for decisions, but it was done in a fairly business like way, and not very emotionally. And it is certainly true that they make possible follow-up work, which would not be possible otherwise. We had something over a hundred Ginling students who signed cards; and to try and enlist the enthusiasm in constructive ways, we planned to have a retreat of one day at the beginning of the next term, and make plans for the term. Owing to the events at the end of January we were not able to have it at the beginning of term, but we did have it later on, and it was quite successful. Groups were formed round different interests, medical, social and educational, and these continued



to meet during the term to discuss problems, and plan work. We also had five baptisms, one member of the faculty, and four students; in the case of one student at least it was partly due to Dr. Eddy's meetings, and I think the others were indirectly influenced, it brought the whole question of decision up. When they are living in a Christian institution, in constant touch with Christian activities and services, they seem to be able to share in the life, and there may not seem any reason why they should take any definite step, especially if their family are somewhat opposed, but meetings like these force them to think. But whether or not the meetings have much result depends almost entirely on the work that is done afterwards.

Vacation followed pretty soon after Xmas, and the Eddy Meetings, and before that was over the trouble occurred in Shanghai. I went down to Shanghai for a few days during the vacation, and attended among other things a very pleasant gathering of the Shanghai alumnae. There was a big explosion the Sunday I was there, but it was only a little accident in the river, and not the Japanese, I left Shanghai the first part of the week, and the Japanese went into Chapei at the end of the week. I am glad I was not there, as in a time of crisis I would much rather be where I belong, and travelling became rather difficult, and it might have been hard to get back. Dr. Wu was down in Shanghai when the thing happened, and it was four days before she succeeded in getting on to a boat and coming up, of course the trains stopped right away. Apart from rumours, which were plentiful, a general feeling of instability and the order to foreigners to evacuate, not much actually happened at Nanking itself. Our one little excitement was the so-called Japanese bombardment, which took place about 11.20 one Monday evening, it only lasted for about twenty minutes, and I suppose they must have fired about six or seven shells, they did some damage to buildings, but none to life.

I was still awake reading when the first shell was fired, and after one or two more, I got up, other people had been inspired with the same idea, and a man who was staying with us (Gordon Bowles by name, the fiancé of Dr. Wu's secretary—Jane Thomas) went over to the Recitation Building

and telephoned to the American Consul to see if he could tell us anything about what was happening. He came back and reported that the Consul said that the Japanese were firing only blank shells (which was not true, but he thought it was at the time), because there had been some little fracas on the Bund, and they wanted to prevent the Chinese from doing anything further. Having got this information, some of us made a tour of the dormitories to tell the girls the news we had got, which seemed to be of a re-assuring nature (by this time there was no more shooting). We found dormitory 400 all running round the place, moving their bedding into the living room, and all proposing to sleep there to keep each other company, 600 on the other hand was absolutely still, there didn't seem to be any sign of life at all, so we woke up a member of the faculty who sleeps there, told her what we had heard, and left them. They were not really asleep, I learnt afterwards, but they all seem to have decided that the thing to do was to lie quite quiet, and make no sign, hardly to each other, East Court was also without any signs of life, and we left them to sleep in peace.

Of course, this little incident against the background of what was going on in Shanghai, caused a good deal of panic, and people began flocking out of the city by all possible means, the new motor road to Hangchow was particularly popular. Vacation had still been in progress when the Shanghai incident first occurred, but we were due to open in a few days, and had to postpone our opening. We had something like eighty students on the campus, who had not gone away for the holidays, and as time went on, it became difficult to know what to do. The difficulty of travel, and the uncertainty of the situation in Nanking itself made it seem unwise to open school, on the other hand it was unwise to keep a large group of girls there doing nothing, with all the rumours there were flying round the place, and unfair to them, if by letting them go, they might be able to transfer to another college in a more peaceful area for study during that term. We started activities of various kinds to keep them employed, they went over to the hospital every morning to give assistance and receive instruction, and had other classes in the afternoon. The situation was further complicated by the order, or rather advice, to evacuate which was received by the American

community, for all women and children, and men without a job at the moment. I think the order was mainly a precautionary one, travel to Shanghai was becoming increasingly difficult, and nobody quite knew what might happen, I think it was the possibility of internal disputes as much as the Japanese that they were afraid of, but it seemed a situation with endless to possibilities. This question of evacuation is always a knotty one, no one wanted to go, yet school was not open, though it might be any day, which made it even more difficult. It is always particularly difficult for Dr. Wu as it is harder for her to encourage complete resistance to consular advice than it would be for a foreign president. In the end after talking it all over together, we agreed on a reduction of numbers, the people to go first to be settled by the group, as nobody wanted to go, the principle followed was mainly that of seniority of appointment, but the question of the teaching needs was also taken into account. The order to evacuate was received on Friday evening, with the additional information that a special train to Peiping was being arranged, and was the last train that was guaranteed to go through (actually the trains on that line never stopped running) which introduced a certain note of emergency. Jane Thomas decided that she would get married the next day, and go north with her husband, it was also decided that three others should leave—Harriet Whitmer, Catherine Carl, and Abigail Hoffsommer. Saturday was quite a rush, what with arranging Jane's wedding, and helping to get people packed. Both Jane and her fiancé are Friends, so they had a Quaker wedding, which is delightfully simple and straight forward, as you marry your self. We had a very small reception for them with a hastily prepared wedding cake, and a beautiful pair of Chinese wedding candles, which were the most festive things about the whole affair. It was the second foreign wedding that we had had in the chapel, though we have had quite a number of Chinese weddings. Some of the northern girls left that day too, with the intention of transferring to Yenching for the term. After we had reduced our numbers by four, we thought we might be let alone, but the American consul put further pressure, and I had a notice from the British consul, which I had not had before, so Dr. Wu decided to reduce our number still further by asking

Miss Mossman and Miss Bond to go. Ruth Chester, and Miss Sharle had been in Shanghai when the trouble occurred, and had not returned, so that would only leave four foreigners, Mrs. Thurson, Emily Case, Esther Tappert and myself. At the same time we decided that we would start regular classes for the students who were there, and for any body who cared to come back, though it was made very clear in the notice that was sent round that no safety was guaranteed, and that if students did not come back every effort would be made to help them to make up their work later. We seemed a pretty small foreign group when there were just the four of us, but almost all the Chinese faculty were there, and with the reduced number of students it was possible to give a fairly complete program of work.

Life continued to be something of a strain, and one was always on the qui vive for news, but it was a great help when regular classes started, I was kept pretty busy at the beginning, as owing to the absence of one of the Chinese faculty who taught history, I took on the Freshmen history for the time being, and as it was some time since I had studied history, it took me a good deal of time rubbing it up. In the course of time as you know the Shanghai affair was more or less settled, students trickled back by twos and threes, though our numbers never quite reached 110, I think it was 108 students that we had, against 185 the preceding term, and after about five or six weeks the foreigners were allowed to return. The crisis began so suddenly, and was so much with you to begin with, that it was strange how gradually in the end that particular one cleared up, and things returned on the surface to normal.

But I am afraid that it is only that particular situation which has to some extent cleared up. The Japanese made a big mistake there, and I think they realized it, and were glad to get it out of it with as much as face as they did. But I am afraid as far as Manchuria is concerned there is no mistake on their part, and now it looks with this new movement in Jehol that they are encroaching still further. It is almost impossible to describe to you the mingled feeling of anger, despair, cynicism and a real desire to do something which grips the thoughtful Chinese to-day. They cannot but feel furious at Japan's whole attitude, whatever the Japanese justification



their way of behaviour is extraordinarily arrogant and cruel, at the same time they know that they are themselves to blame for the country being in a state which makes this a possible policy for Japan to follow, they want to do something, but the need is so great that it is difficult to know where to begin, and they feel that the League of Nations, or rather the great powers are just going to let Japan tear up every treaty that she wants to. They know they are not prepared for war, and yet not to fight seems to be getting them nowhere. I don't know where it is going to end, but I do not know of anybody who needs more spiritual courage and faith in order to go on than any thoughtful Chinese to-day who has really faced up to the situation. If the people of the west want to save the soul of the Chinese from absolute cynicism and despair, they will do their level best to put a brake upon Japan, and I can't help thinking that the Japanese need it as much as the Chinese.

Dr. Wu was one of the Educational group who saw the League Commission when they were in Nanking, but I rather gather that she did not think the interview a very fruitful one. It will be interesting to see what form their report finally takes, I must own that I do hope that they will not, in order to try and propitiate Japan, (which seems an almost hopeless task) refrain from quite openly condemning certain of Japan's actions. I think the Chinese are not hoping that the League can do much to restrain Japan, but I think it would help them quite a lot psychologically, if the League Commission, while commenting perhaps on the state of disorder etc. in China, also came out quite clearly with a statement refuting Japan's various excuses, and showing quite plainly that it is a military seizure of Manchuria, nothing more or less. And I must own I sympathise with the Chinese in that, it looks as though Japan is going to get Manchuria, I don't see why she should be whitewashed into the bargain. Well, this is enough of somewhat platitudinous comments on the political situation, which changes overnight. But it is very much with one these days, and it is an extraordinarily difficult situation for any Chinese to face in a really Christian way, though some of them make gallant efforts so to do. It also a very difficult situation for a foreigner to be involved in. Unless you feel with the Chinese, it is very difficult to help them. and

if you feel with them, and only with them, how can you begin to be what I suppose a Christian should be, something of a reconciling influence? It was relatively easy when the movement was anti-British, then you could put all your strength into seeing the Chinese point of view, knowing that all your inborn instincts and traditions would keep you aware of the British situation, and what was to be said on their side; but the attempt to understand the Japanese point of view is a very self-conscious one, and it is either practically of no use, or intrudes itself in such angular ways, that it arouses hostility towards yourself, without doing much good to the Japanese, or the cause of peace in China and the world. There are a lot of foreigners who have the reputation of being pro-Japanese, but I think the real truth is that they are perpetually (for various reasons) anti-Chinese, and therefore when there is any dispute naturally take the other side from the Chinese. In the main the missionary community is pro-Chinese, the business community pro-Japanese, in the sense of being anti-Chinese, but of course there are many exceptions.

The end of the term was far more normal than one might have expected, perhaps because everything socially had been so quiet during the preceding term, and the beginning of this one, there was at the end almost a plethora of parties, plays etc. I was busy during the last part of the term helping the Sophomores with the two brief English plays that they were doing for their farewell party for the Seniors, the Seniors with their play for Class Day (they did an abbreviated version of "The Taming of the Shrew"), and also in acting in a brief one act play myself for a program of four one act plays that the Dramatic Section of the Women's Club was doing to raise money for Flood Relief. The Dramatic section had originally planned to do one three act play, but most of the people who were responsible for that had left, and no one had quite the energy, so we substituted this, which meant less work, as you could get different people to do different plays. I think all the different events went off quite well, though none of them reached that pitch of perfection that one would like, of course nothing that I had anything to do with could, as I don't know enough about it to give all the finishing details. The best of the plays in my opinion was one that the



Sophomores did called "The Duchess Says Her Prayers", one of the girls in that Djang Deh wei by name (she comes from MacTeiye) was very good, and so was the girl who took the part of the Duches, although she had never acted before, but she got into the part amazingly well, the third girl was good too, though not so good as the others.

The end of term went off quite normally, in spite of the troubles only one Senior did not return, and that I think was for home reasons, so that almost the whole senior class graduated in spite of everything.

What I have given you up to date has been mainly, though not exclusively college affairs. To give you slightly more personal news, I went to Shanghai twice, and attended in Nanking once during the year, meetings of the National Christian Committee on Religious Education of which I am a member. I find the meetings very interesting, as they keep you in touch with all that is being done in China to try and meet in various ways the needs of Religious Education under the present conditions. I must own that of technical knowledge of Religious education I have very little, and I often feel that I am there under false pretenses, but I learn a lot, even if I do not contribute much, and I can be depended upon to be there, and to do what is necessary in the way of moving and seconding resolutions. Most of the material that has been prepared for children in the past has been somewhat conservative to say the least of it, and the need for a more modern presentation is great, but it is easier to see the need than to meet it. A good bit is being done for Children, and something for adults, but the greatest lack at the moment seems to be for adolescents.

I have also enjoyed during the winter, and really long on into the spring, a weekly and sometimes bi-weekly game of mixed hockey. There is a man at the British consulate who is very keen on exercise, and he, in conjunction with Miss Case, has organised these games of hockey which include many and sundry members of the community, both male and female. The British navy has come up quite a certain amount, and as a result we have been a down a bit to various of the British ships that have been in the harbour, rather more and bigger than usual owing to the crisis.

A good many of the faculty seemed to be leaving for one reason or another, though not so many as sometimes, Ruth Chester, Esther Tappert and Emily Case are all going on furlough, incidentally they are all planning to study, Mr. Hsiung has also got a fellowship and is going to Chicago to study, how we are going to exist without him I don't know, though since we had this new engine the lights have gone out less frequently, (though in the process of installing the new air pump, the man who had been sent up from Shanghai to put it up right, blew himself into bits, which was a terrible thing to happen), still I suppose we shall rub along somehow, and he certainly deserves a change, and chance to study. When one is saying good bye, it is pleasant to remember that in September we shall be welcoming people back, which is a more cheerful occupation.

I am spending July in Peking, partly studying, and partly having a vacation, I work at Chinese in the morning from half past eight to half past twelve. I concentrate on newspaper reading, both by myself, with a Chinese teacher, and in class taken by a foreigner, and attended by other foreigners. In the afternoon I do various things, sight see a little, shop, rest, write letters, play tennis, and read. Both week-ends I have been out to Yenching at the invitation of an old friend of the family, Louis Bevan by name, I haven't actually stopped with him, but he has parked me out at various places, and has been responsible for amusing me, which he has done very successfully. They have a beautiful campus, the architect is the same as the man at Ginling, but the place, of course, is much bigger, as it is a university for eight hundred students, and they have certain natural advantages in the way of old trees etc. It doesn't look quite so finished as our campus, partly because it isn't, and partly because I think it is hard to get grass to grow in this climate, and it consists mainly of weeds. Their buildings are more highly-coloured than ours, and I couldn't make up my mind whether I liked it or not, I think it fits into Peking alright, but I don't think it would look so well in the softer climate of Nanking. I expect our campus is looking pretty untidy by now, as we are starting work on two new buildings, (we had the money long before the depression began), they began work just after I left. I have done various of the sights over again that I did when I

was here last, such as the Altar of Heaven, this time by moonlight, and the Forbidden City, also some new ones such as the Catholic University, which is in charge of the American Benedictines, and is a new and very interesting adaptation of Chinese architecture, quite different from Yenching and Ginling, more like a city wall, round a quadrangle. They seem to have plenty of money, and the whole thing seems very well equipped and well run, one of their exhibits which seems strange to a Protestant missionary is their wine cellar, which is well stocked with wine that they make themselves. Apparently the Pope heard that the Chinese people thought of the Catholic Church as the agency of the French government in China, so to remove that impression he gave the right to found this University to an American community, I believe the French Jesuits felt quite badly about it, and tried to prevent them buying land, but they were helped by some of the American Protestants who knew Peking and the land buying business pretty well, and it certainly is a business that needs some knowing. After I leave Peking I shall go for a week or so to Tsingtao and then back to Nanking.

There are many other things I might have told you about, including a very delightful trip to a Buddhist Monastery near Nanking, where we stayed over night during the spring vacation, and Yang Hsiao Rang's wedding to Mr. Nyi, but I seem to have been at this letter for some time, and I want to get it finished. I am coming home for furlough next June by way of America (I hope), and I am not sure that I shall write another of these letters before then, it depends how exciting this term is. But as I hope to see most of you within the year, it doesn't seem so necessary. Generally I have added a line or to in my own hand, but it makes the postage so much if I do that, (they have put up the postage a lot lately) that I am not going to do it; to the ones that I owe letters I hope to write personal letters during the next six week or so.

I am afraid this is rather a dull letter, considering that the events with which it deals were really quite exciting, but I left it too long before writing, and the weather, though not at all bad, is rather hot, so you will have to forgive me.

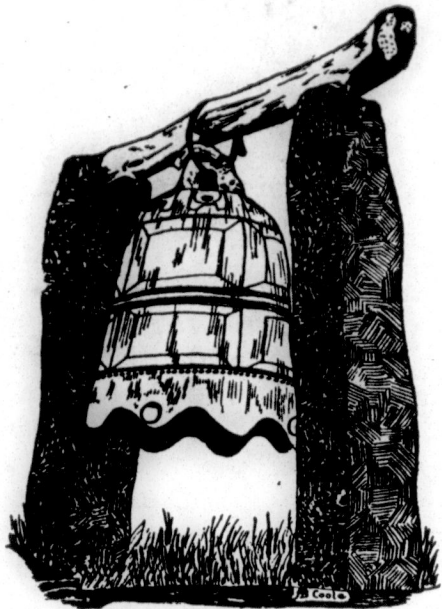
With best wishes to you all,

Yours

P.T.O.

*Joe*

P. S. I find I have left out all mention of the various distinguished visitors that we had—there were a good many in connection with Institute of Pacific Relations, the Laymen's Commission and the League of Nations Educational Commission etc. but I shouldn't have time to give more than names so I think I will leave it. Perhaps our most famous visitors were Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh!



at 80 Chaougoon Road,  
Shanghai,  
Jan 27th.

1930

Dear Rebecca,

Thank you very much for both your letters, of Dec 2nd, and Dec 30th. I felt rather guilty when the second letter arrived so soon after the first, as I am afraid I have not been at all a good correspondent, and I had really meant to write at Christmas, but never got round to it.

I was interested in all you told me about the Team and the work for the Colleges in China, it does sound like a pretty strenuous life, Emily told me something of their programme in Cleveland, I only hope they will all survive it, without too much wear and tear on their nerves. I was very sorry to hear from Dr Reeves, of Eva Macmillan's motoring accident, I do hope it didn't shake her up too much.

I was awfully sorry to hear what you said about Blance Wu, I gathered as much from Siao-sung, and I passed on what I could to Dr Reeves, but I had to be pretty careful, as I do not think Siao-sung felt it as wise that too much information should go via her. I think it was probably a mistake her going to America, but now that it has been done, it has got to be made to be as much a success as possible, and I do not quite know how it is going to be done, or who is going to do it.

Thanks very much for all the news you give me in your two letters, I wish I could have come to some of the Gilbert and Sullivan with you, they are a perennial source of delight, and I didn't get to any while I was at home, they were not doing them in the West-end, and I didn't make plans long enough ahead to get to the outlying regions.

When they had the house warming for Anna Moffet's and Miriam Null's new house, they put on an opera of which all the tunes were from Gilbert and Sullivan, and the words were really quite amusing.

There was a good rousing chorus to finish up with to the tune of "For I am an Englishman" from Pinafore, but it was "Presbyterian" instead, and the other words to fit.

Miss  
Soh

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JAN 27 1935

As far as Christmas was concerned, it was saddened for me by the word of Father's death, which reached me on Dec 21st, he died quite peacefully in his sleep on the morning of Dec 20th. All my letters from home had spoken of his growing weakness, and I was as prepared as I could be, but whenever it comes, and however much you know it is the best thing, (and I am rejoiced to think of Mother and he being together again) there is sadness in the final going. You would think that with so long a preparation that all the adjustments had been made, and yet the final going seems to bring to a fresh head the realisation of the loss involved, and I mourned him as I had not mourned before. Of course it means too the break up of what has been my home, and while I know that I shall always have many homes to go to when I am in England, and shall probably make arrangements with Olga or Bertha to have a place of my own with them, still as you know the passing of the loved and familiar is not easy, though when I think how much I have left, I marvel again at how much I have to be thankful for, and I feel as though comparatively speaking I have no right to be sad, which doesn't of course mean that I am not!

I hated being away at the time, and was more than every thankful that I had been at home at the time of Mother's death, I was able to follow much more closely in imagination and thought what they would be doing. They had the Cremation and the service at the Crematorium the very day after his death, and then the Memorial service at his church on Dec 28th.

Olga will take a small flat of her own, I don't quite know what Bertha will do, I hope perhaps she will come out and visit me before she settles down.

I think the Christmas at Ginling was a good one, we didn't have a holiday on Monday, but what was really better we did have a holiday on Wednesday 26th, so you had a more peaceful feeling on Xmas Day itself. We didn't have a Xmas dinner in 500 this year, Dr Reeves had a Xmas dinner out at her house, and most of us went out to homes, I was with the Thomson's, which was very pleasant. In the evening En-lan had an informal party for the residents of East Court, and we had a nice pleasant homey kind of time, playing games, looking at the films of Ruth's nephews, and some Dr Hsiung had taken in America, and it was all very pleasant. I went up to try and hear the King's speech at 11 pm at some neighbours who have a radio, but it didn't come through very well, still we did succeed in hearing a few muffled words.

I think the term has been a fairly good, though not very eventful one, though the Dedication Ceremonies went off very well indeed. But Dr Wu's personal loss, and the strain it puts her under (though she is marvellous) and the fear of what it may yet do is sort of always there in the background. We have been (in common with all the colleges) making a self-study of our religious life

Dr. Wu

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Ginling College,  
Nanking,  
July 9th. 1935.

Dear Friends,

I am afraid that some of you have not had any word from me since I returned to China, however, in most cases I haven't heard from you either so we are about quits. I hope you are all well and flourishing, I am. I have just finished a year without any sickness, and am trying to get various odd jobs and clearing up done before I go up to Kuling next Sunday. The weather has remained very cool so far, which is obliging of it.

After the first wrench was over (and I must own leaving England gets harder as I grow older, not easier), I had quite a pleasant journey, having Mary Glover with me made all the difference, of course. I only had about four days to spare in U. S. A, but even so I managed to see about six friends at various stopping places along the route, and Mary and I had half a day in the Rockies, and another half day at Victoria.

Japan was not too kind to us, we got off the boat at Yokohama, went up to Nikko, spent the night at Tokyo, and went by train to Kyoto where we had two hours of sight-seeing, so we had fitted as much as possible into the time. But it rained hard almost all the time, so we peered at the temples and scenery at Nikko through mist, and had an excellent view of the mist throughout the day in the train; we couldn't even see the base of Fujiyama, let alone the peak! It was rather disappointing, as it should have been a lovely train ride, and we were travelling first class in the observation car on purpose.

Mary's time in China was short, but I think she spent it well, she didn't waste any of it in Shanghai, but had three days in Nanking, and a week in Peiping, to which she quite lost her heart, as most people do.

It was sad to have her here for so short a time, but still it had been lovely having her on the trip, and I am glad that she got that little glimpse of China.

It is amazing how quickly one settles down again after a year's absence. The campus looked rather different, as the two new buildings, Library and Administration, and Auditorium and Music were finished; and of course there were masses of new students, but otherwise it all seemed very much the same; and the routine soon closes over one as though one had never been away.

Nanking itself has changed a good deal, and goes on changing every day. There are always new roads being built, and new houses spring up over night, not I am afraid of the most lovely. Roads have been a very agitating question all this year, as they were due to run one through the campus, which would take quite a large slice off, and be unpleasantly near our buildings. Dr. Wu and others did all they could to have it moved a little, and I really think they could have done it without any great inconvenience to anyone, however, it was not done. They have now begun making the road, and have sold all the college property on the further side of the road for residential purposes. They gave us a little compensation for that land (nothing like its value), but nothing at all for the land they take for making the road — though as a great favour they have not charged us for the making of the road, which they generally do. It would be easier to be reconciled to losing one's land, if one felt that the plan of development was a good one, but it is rather hard to feel that. Talking about building and development in general, I am going to do a little of that as I am building a small house for myself in a corner of the campus. It is a bungalow, more or less of the Spanish style, which I think fits in quite well with the landscape here, and the rooms open into a hall, rather than out of one another, which they tend to do in a purely Chinese house.

The changes in Nanking are not only external — there is a much more cosmopolitan foreign group than there were formerly, especially a large number of Germans, mainly connected with Military affairs, though some of them are teaching music at Central University, but I think those are mainly wives. But although you do feel there is a difference since it became the capital, the political temperature of the students has hardly ever been so low as this year, although there has been plenty of provocation. It is quite amazing how completely they have been suppressed during the recent activities of Japan in the north. I suppose they know that that is the government policy — to allow no expression of any opinion — and therefore they haven't even tried. I know how strongly and bitterly some of them feel, but I can't help getting the impression that among the younger students the suppression of all expression means that there is actually less feeling, as well as less expression, but I may be mistaken. Among the older and more thoughtful Chinese the policy of repression makes them feel more not less, I should say.

Personally, I must own, I find it harder and harder to achieve any kind of sympathetic understanding of the Japanese, and I become more and more infuriated with them,

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but I know it is foolish and unchristian to be overcome by emotion of that kind, and I suppose the Japanese in China are not any worse than the British have been in lots of other places, which doesn't make them right, of course, but which takes away my right to condemn. We had one Japanese woman here, who was trying to be a reconciling agent, but the word had got round that she was connected with the government, and whether that was true or not, it didn't create the best atmosphere for her speech. But after having heard her, one of the Chinese faculty said she didn't think the government would employ anybody as stupid as that, and I was rather inclined to agree with her. Her talk was muddled from an intellectual point of view, and she seemed to show very little understanding of the feelings of the people she was addressing. It made you realise how extraordinarily able and spiritually discerning would have to be any Japanese who attempted to act as a reconciling agent between his own country and the Chinese.

Even in this part of the country it is said that there are various activities planned by the government which have been called off because the Japanese didn't approve. There seems no end to their present encroachment, and it is very difficult to see where it can stop. I believe the present government given time could really put China somewhat in order, and perhaps be able to call a halt to the Japanese, but it doesn't look as though they would have the time. And the whole process involves so much bitterness, and a deliberate fermenting of factions by the Japanese.

Against this rather sinister background, especially towards the end of the school year, the life of the college (as that of all the schools in Nanking) has gone on very peacefully, except for a serious financial shortage, which has cast rather a shadow over the administration. The chief event of the first semester was the dedication of the new buildings, which although they had been in use for about four months or more had never been formally opened. We had it at the time of the annual Founder's Day Exercises, and everything went off quite smoothly. There were two services, one religious, and one purely academic and non-religious. Hu Shih was the speaker at that, and was amusing if not very deep or profound. The Library is really very beautiful, and the auditorium is beautiful all right, but not terribly practical I am afraid, as it is not particularly good for either seeing or hearing though when it is full the acoustics are not so bad. Having a deaf architect seems to have its drawbacks, as the acoustics are not good in the auditorium, and there is nothing sound proof about the music rooms!

The college also enjoyed very much Mountain Day, which is on the way to becoming an annual institution, when the whole college goes on a trip to some famous and beautiful spot. The autumn is one of the most lovely times in Nanking, and it is a good time of year for such an expedition. We went this time to Tsai Shih Chi, a place about there hours or so up the Yangtse by launch. It is famous as a place of many battles, as many troops crossed the river there, and also as being a place where one of the famous poets - Li Tai Po, drank and wrote poetry; there is a special temple erected to his memory. It is a very beautiful spot, a cliff jutting out into the Yangtse, partially covered with pine trees, and with attractive temples, grottoes etc. We had lovely weather, pleasant times on the river both coming and going, and a good time there. We certainly spent the day out of doors all right, as we left about seven am, and didn't get back until about 9.30.

Christmas had its usual festivities, though the time was rather overshadowed for me personally by the death of my Father, which happened on December 20th, still it was good to think of him with Mother again.

Another college expedition was planned at the time of the Spring vacation when about 40-50 students went to see the sights of Hangchow, but I did not go with them, but with a smaller group to a place called I-Hsing, near which there are some famous caves and potteries. I say near, but they were much further than I had expected, and as we walked all the way there and back, and I was out of practice I finished the day with bad blisters on each heel. I-Hsing is one of the places which has become accessible from Nanking by reason of the motor road and motor bus, it is amazing how much of China is being opened up in that way. It is quite an attractive small walled city, rather prosperous looking, except for the beggars, (who had come in from the country and who have been very bad everywhere this year owing to the bad drought) with a really very lovely yellow roofed temple in the centre. The potteries are in villages near by, and everybody in the village is engaged on one or other of the processes, which have been going on there for probably thousands of years. It was the kind of expedition where you take your bedding along with you, and I couldn't make up my mind whether the ability to sleep anywhere (where you could just find a floor) was made up for by the nuisance it was to get the luggage carted about or not. I suppose really you should train yourself to sleep on the floor without bedding. Towards the end of the long walk four of us (all foreigners so it happened) got separated from the main party, and we were not very clear where we were going, but it was interesting to observe that all the people we asked seemed to know where we were going, though we didn't ourselves.

To turn to more serious affairs, I have as usual attended a good many conferences



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of one kind and another. I went in November to the meeting of the N. C. C. R. E. (National Christian Committee on Religious Education) which as usual was interesting because some of the members are doing experimental work, and we had a good series of talk on the present background in China. This government, like all other governments, seems to be moving in the direction of regimentation, and the Ministry of Education is issuing more and more regulations of various kinds.

During the winter vacation I attended a conference on the place of Religion in the Life of the Colleges. It was interesting, and there was quite a good deal of discussion, but there did not seem to be any unanimity of opinion at all as to what *was* the place of religion. Everybody seemed to be agreed that it had a place, but there was a very great difference of opinion as to what it should be. In preparation for this conference they had sent round a certain number of visitors to look over the colleges, the reports were interesting, and they too did not agree. In order to help this study that the visitors made we had given a questionnaire to all the students, and the results were rather depressing in revealing how many of them classed themselves as "passive Christians", though it was about the same number I should have given on the basis of observation; still it always seems worse when you have it in black and white. A passive Christian should be a contradiction in terms, but I am afraid Ginling is not the only place where they exist. The number of active Christians was about 20% of our whole student body.

We felt that something should be done about it, and arranged for a special series of meetings fairly early in the second semester, when Dr Gordon Poteat of Shanghai College came for a week. He was very good, and the students come out to hear him in large numbers, but I am not sure that our follow-up work was as good as it should have been, and his appeal was mainly intellectual and moral, which doesn't seem to be quite as effective in some ways as the more emotional, and yet that is so dangerous. It remains a big problem, I think, without emotion there is no drive, but once let it loose, and it is so apt to get out of control. There is rather a successful evangelist of the emotional type, Dr. Sung by name, who is very active just now, and he does seem to do something for certain people that others do not, and yet there are cases (one of which I have come across somewhat personally) of people whom he has helped becoming mentally off their balance. Certainly we had nothing of that kind here, and I think what was accomplished was all to the good.

I am going to a conference almost as soon as I get up to Kuling, which is the finish up of a trip that Dean Weigle of Yale Divinity School has been taking in China examining more particularly into Theological education, but also other leadership training in general, and the conference is dealing with that general topic. It will be stimulating but at the moment I should be quite glad not to be going to *any* conference. I went to a student's conference for four days at the beginning of the vacation, just after commencement. It was held at Hangchow, and I enjoyed it, but just after the end of term is not a good time for me to go to a conference, as I am always so sleepy. I am afraid I didn't stay right through, as there were certain things here that I needed to attend to before I went up to Kuling.

One was my house, the other was finishing up a movie that has been occupying all my spare time and thoughts for the last two months, and other people's too. The idea was given us by Mrs. Macmillan of Smith College, who thought that a good way of interesting Smith College alumnae in America would be to show a picture of Ginling College life. In order to hold the interest of the audience she thought it ought to have some story. I am afraid the story of the movie in its finished form is a very slight one, but it has a heroind, and it does string together a good many episodes in the life of the college. I hope it will do what they want, though I am no longer any judge of whether it is interesting or not. It has taken a lot of time, as all the different scenes had to be taken specially, each scene had to be gone over before being taken, then after they were developed some did not turn out well and had to be retaken. Some scenes were quite easy to take as they only involved a few people, others involved large numbers, sometimes the whole student body, and could only be done on certain occasions and times, and if the weather wasn't very suitable they had to be postponed. Altogether it was quite a job, and at the end it is far from being a finished performance, as we simply could not spend the time or the money to re-take the scenes as often as they ought to be re-taken; and the continuity is not very good, none of us who were working on it had any experience. Since I got back from the Conference at Hangchow we have been working on the final splicing of the right scenes to follow the captions, and cutting it down to a reasonable length, even now it is too long, three rolls of 400 feet instead of two, but if they want it further cut they can do that in America. We just about finished yesterday, and I can't say I am sorry. The photography has been mainly done by two men from the University, Mr Wheeler, and Mr Pan, they have been very good about giving their time, Mr Hsiung has also helped.

Apart from the movie there have been other dramatic events in some of which I have helped, in others only enjoyed their results. One that took up a good bit of time was the annual play given the dramatic section of the Women's Club in aid of the Social Ser-

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vice section we did "The Kingdom of God" this year, Abigail Hoffsommer was the heroine in the first two acts, and I was in the last. It is a play with one great advantage from our point of view, it has many more women's parts than men's and it is always easier to find women than men. I think it went off quite well, Abigail was very good, and so were some of the others, and we made the requisite sum of money, which is always encouraging.

One of the best things on the campus was the annual (more or less) dance drama, this year it was based on an old Chinese legend "The Tenth Sun" with original music by Miss Graves (who was new in the music department this year) and original dances by Miss Haight and Tsui Ya-lan, it really was very effective, and it didn't rain, which it so often seems to do on our out-of-door performances.

We have, as usual, had our share of visitors, since Nanking has been the capital they have tended to increase. Among others we had Mrs Hobart author of "Oil for the Lamps of China" and other books on China, she used to live in Nanking, but her husband has a job in Washington now, so she was only here on a visit, and at the same time as she was here there was Mrs Ayscough, who also writes on China. She is quite a character, with an atmosphere and style all her own. She gave two interesting lectures, one on Chinese Gardens and Women, and one on the poet Tu Fu, whose poems she has translated. Another interesting person who has been living in Nanking this year is Mr Strickland, who has had a good deal of experience with co-operatives in India, and has been out in China helping them with starting more co-operatives here. He is a real enthusiast, and gives very good lectures on the subject. I could give quite a long list, but I don't think that is particularly interesting, so I will only just mention that at the end of the term Mrs Thurston's sister, Miss Calder, and her sister-in-law, Miss Thurston, came out to visit her. They have gone up to Kuling now, but Miss Calder will be here for most of next year, as she and Mrs Thurston are going home together next summer. They are very pleasant guests.

One always hopes when one stays on at the College during the vacation that one will get a lot done, but what with the movie, and guests, and a wedding that we are having in the South Studio this afternoon, I don't really seem to be making very much headway.

We had three foreign members of the Faculty leave at the end of this term, two, Miss Mossman and Miss Kirk, expect to return, but Emily Werner was only here on leave of absence for two years from the Biblical Seminary in New York, so I don't expect she will be back. We have at least two Chinese returning from America next year, so I expect that our foreign Faculty will be down in number, and our Chinese faculty up next year.

In looking through this letter it would almost seem as though I did no regular work, but I take it that you will understand that the majority of the time is taken up with teaching and regular routine work, and that I have mentioned only the extras.

I think so far as work goes it has been a quite average steady year. We have started to give the Seniors a comprehensive exam in their major field in the last term, and they are also now writing a thesis for graduation, so that their life has become rather hectic.

I am adviser just now to the Sophomore Class, and getting acquainted with them, (there were 53 in the class last year,) and helping them with their farewell entertainment for the Seniors has taken up some time, but very pleasantly. I also this year had the experience, which I have not had before, of teaching Americans, as two American girls have been taking work here before going back to college at home, and also one American boy who has been taking classes at the University took one course here with me.

It is good on the whole to be back, though I must admit that at moments it seems like a long time before the next furlough, and seeing my friends and family again. But there is lots of work to be done here, and my teaching interests me, though I am afraid it does not, always do the same for the students. And China is an interesting place to be in at the moment, though at times its problems seem almost overwhelming, they had a drought last autumn, and now they look like having a flood. If only they could have a little rest from external and special disasters I think they might get settled a bit.

Well, you can't really tell the events of a whole year in one letter, but I hope I have mentioned the most important.

With all good wishes to each of you,

and love

from

Eva. D. Spicer



0870



Aug 3rd. 1935

I am afraid I have never written to thank you and Mary for the film you sent us for Xmas, I hope Dr Wu did, I must own that my feelings are just a trifle mixed. I think it was a very good idea of Mrs Macmillans, and I do hope you and she will not be too disappointed at the results. We really did not have much experience to draw on, and I am afraid the finished performance is far from finished, and you may both be very disappointed. But even at that I can assure you it really did take a lot of time, the last seven weeks or so of term seemed completely coloured by film. Abigail and I were mainly responsible, with Mr Wheeler and Mr Pan doing the photography.

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though of course a lot of other people helped too. I am afraid it is rather long as it is, but we thought that any further cutting could be done in America, as probably you would know best what scenes you thought would be appeal more than others. After you have spent a long time on a thing I am afraid your sense of judgment leaves you, and I was ~~also~~ so pleased if the scene came out looking more or less like what had been taken, that I wasn't able to develop a thoroughly critical spirit. Because we got under way a little later than we should have, and I used to wake up with cold feet in the early morning that we shouldn't be able to finish it before the end of term. We have had it safely censored, so that we ought not to ~~test~~ strike any snags from Chinese criticism.

The last part of term the Japanese have been very much with us in thought. Myfanwy Wood from Yenching was telling us that a Student Conference up there had been forced to change the ~~title-of~~ subject of their conference because the Japanese had intimidated the Chinese officials that they didn't approve of the one chosen, they thought it had political implications. So they had to change the subject, change the program, the Y.M.C.A and the Presbyterian Mission had to act as guarantors that the conference would be non-political, the numbers were limited to 100, and Mr Hayes and Lyman Hoover had to count out the boys, and guarantee that they were the boys who were down to come, and that they were known students.

A conference held under such circumstances does not have very much chance of being successful I should say, and Myfanwy said it was pretty depressing, and the attitude of the students was more or less hopeless. It is extraordinarily difficult to know what is the right attitude for the average Chinese Christian to take at this point. I am for ~~a~~ my own country a ~~peifis~~ pacifist, but I don't see how it would work in China.

I was ~~undertake~~ attending a group up here the other day mainly of former British Student Christian Movement people to meet R.O. Hall, the Bishop of Hong Kong who has been giving speaking at the Convention (very well indeed). We were discussing this question of Japanese aggression, and I don't think any of us knew what was the right thing to do or to say. Muriel Lester was there, she is holding an ashram in Lily Valley with about ten or twelve Chinese. The account she gave of the drug traffic in North China was just terrible.

I must own life looks rather gloomy at moments, and the financial situation at Ginling adds an extra little personal gloom. But even so I am enjoying my holiday, and it is amazing how even against great tragedies such as the Japanese aggression one can continue to enjoy the minor pleasures of life. I am staying with a very pleasant couple of my own mission the Withers Green, up to date I don't seem to have done much except attend meetings, but I hope to be a little freer now.

I am afraid everybody at home, as we are out here, will be terribly distressed at Emily Werner's breakdown. It seems quite terrible, and one feels responsible, yet I honestly don't think ~~are~~ we are, though perhaps we should have settled more for her when she was running the high fever at the end. She did rest a great deal, but the first bout she had she got over, and then she did have a fairly strenuous time with farewell parties etc, but all that was of her own doing. And of course when she had the second attack ~~as~~ her packing and everything like that was done for her. We shall be very anxious to hear what the New York doctors say, and what her condition is when she arrives home. Poor Mereb must have had a terrible time.

I am sending a rather dull general letter under separate cover, it will at any rate give you some of the events of the year. I think Dr Wu is a little on top of the affair about her sister, though not completely so of course, but I think both Mrs Thurston, and Japan, especially the latter are very much with her.

0872



With all good  
wishes for Susan  
a true  
friend  
Love  
Dora

Ginling College,  
Nanking.  
Nov 24th. 1935.

Dear Rebecca,

Thank you very much for your long and interesting letter, it was good of you to write so promptly. Bertha plans to go mainly by way of Canada, she is visiting friends in Toronto, and then possibly-if stopping off in the Rockies, but if she lands at New York, I will let you know, in case you should be there at the time. I passed on your invitation to her, but haven't heard direct from her since then.

Thank you ever so much for all the news about the Ginling College Committee, most of it sounded good, even if the financial situation leaves much to be desired. I was glad you saw Mereb, she is a very fine person; and I am glad she saw you. The experience with Emily must have been a very difficult one, Mereb must have been glad to talk it over with you, so as to get some direct contact with the Ginling people in the East.

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NOV 24, 1935

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I wonder how the new director is getting on, it is curious I think how completely men and women differ over their opinion on certain members of the other sex; though of course I suppose that in the majority of cases a decent person is liked by people of both sexes. When women agree on liking a woman whom men don't have so much use for, do you think it is due to a lack of personal charm, or sex appeal, and when men like a man that women don't, do you think it is due to the fact that that particular man is rather contemptuous of women, and makes it quite clear?.

We did know about Miss- Mary Treddley's Father having died, but I suppose it just happened that nobody mentioned it to her, she lived down at East Court, and wouldn't hear it mentioned at table; and I don't suppose anybody made a special point of telling her. Gilling isn't quite like it was, the Faculty is more scattered, and news like that does sometimes slip through, though I think all Mary's personal friends knew about it.

I think the Bates' had a very good trip, and arrived in quite good shape. It is good to have them back, though I can't say I see so very much of them, but still I have had one or two good talks with Lilliath, and heard Searle on various occasions. Lilliath certainly

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is a nice person, she grows and grows on you.

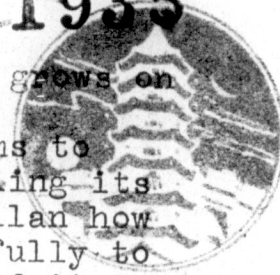
I am glad that the news seems to indicate that the film is fulfilling its purpose. Please tell Mrs Macmillan how good it was of her to write so fully to

Dr Wu about the first showing of it in public at Boston, it was a most cheering letter, and personally I felt more than repaid for any of the work that I had done in connection with it.

I think the 20th Anniversary went off as well as could be expected under the shadow of the attempted assassination of Wang Chin-wei and general financial and other crises. The occasion was rather clouded too for Mrs Thurston because her sister-in-law was pretty bad over that week-end with dysentery. She has been in the hospital for almost two months now, and is still pretty sick, she got better after that week-end, and seemed to be rather on the up grade, but she has slipped again since, and they operated last Friday, it is too early yet to see if that is going to give her any relief. Mrs Thurston is really being very good about it, and of course it is a great help having her sister here; but still it is a very distressing thing.

I wonder how Mary is enjoying her sabbatical year, I hope it will give her the combination of rest and stimulus that I suppose a Sabbatical year should

I am awfully sorry you have found Li Dze-djen difficult, she really is very fine,



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[4]

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but she has her own way of seeing things, and thinking things out, and her written style is not the most felicitous things about her, I don't think she knows herself how what she writes sounds *like*. And I think too that she found the whole adjustment much more difficult than she had in anyway anticipated, and that probably made her draw in more on herself. I have written about the need of Ginling etc, but I ~~this~~ never quite know how much letters accomplish.

Dr Wu is pretty tired, but who would not be under the circumstances? The situation here doesn't feel as tense as at other times I have known it to feel, but I think it is bad enough ~~in ways~~ to make a thoughtful Chinese suffer agonies, as indeed some of them do. There seems to be something of a stiffening in the Chinese attitude, and even a greater drawing together, but I don't think they are quite ready to fight yet, though that, I am afraid (and yet ~~else~~ what else can you expect?) ~~what~~ they are looking towards.

We are busy practising what to do in event of an air raid, and the Freshmen were out this morning attending a review of all those taking the course in military training, which is compulsory for Freshmen.

Well, this is really a Xmas letter, so I think I had better give you my Xmas greetings before we arrive at the end of the page. I do hope it will bring you much of real joy and peace. I enclose a very small gift.

0876

Faculty to Chengtu  
Dzang Xiao-xing  
Chen Pu-dzi  
Chen Lan-jing (Registrar)

Min Chaw (Secretary)  
Dr. Ling (Dean)  
Chen Chung-fan  
(Dean-Chinese)

London Mission  
Hankow.

Jan 3rd. 1937.

I am afraid I didn't get a general letter written last week, life seems to have been slightly full, though it would be hard to say exactly what has filled all the time.

The middle of the week just before Xmas our Ginling unit in Ichang began rapidly to melt away. We had already decided upon a policy of moving one unit up to Chengtu, and sending a few faculty, and possibly a student or two back to Shanghai, and during that week they began to go. We got bookings on one boat to Ichang on Tuesday, and seven departed on that boat. Then on Wednesday the rest, about fifteen or so got places in the hold of a boat. They didn't leave until Thursday afternoon, but they went on early in order to make sure of their places. They were mostly with University of Hankow people, so that their company was all right, which was the main thing; but they had to sleep on the floor of course, though they had all their own bedding spread out quite comfortably. Still I should think they would be pretty tired of life on the floor by the time they arrived at Ichang. On Wednesday we also had word that the four members of Faculty who had finally decided to go to Shanghai, had tickets on a train that was leaving just after the International train. So they left on Thursday too.

We have heard of the safe arrival of the first group at Ichang, and they are staying quite comfortably with the Scottish mission, and we have also heard of the safe arrival of the group at Hong Kong, though they seemed to think that there was not much advantage in travelling after the International train, as the only effect it seemed to have was that it left them all the old carriages and coaches for their train, and they were not allowed to follow it very closely. We have not yet had word of the arrival of the second party at Ichang, but we take for granted they got there, as we have not heard that they did not. Quite suddenly Dze-djen went with them on last boat, to go to her family in Ichang and Shasi, and I got a letter from her, which must have been posted at Shasi. seven

So our group was considerably lessened, just six students, Miss Sutherland, and myself left in the hostel, and three in the "Wa Chang" women's hostel. Now all the students have left, and last night there was just Catherine Sutherland, Dr. Yu and myself in the hostel. Dr. Yu should have gone to-day, but the plane didn't arrive until this morning from Chungking, so I guess she was not off until to-morrow. So she has for once 24 hours in hand, as she has no appointments or anything. Catherine is nobly staying on to close up, I am afraid, as always I am optimistic about how long it will take to close up, and didn't leave long enough, but I had made other engagements for to-day and the rest of the week, so now I am over here, and to-morrow Irene Moody and I are going out to stay for three days at Griffiths' new school with the Knottis, which gives one the sense of being in the country.

My own plans for the future are not very certain. I had a booking on the plane for Hong Kong on Jan 11th, as Dr. Yu first thought she wanted me to go to Shanghai, to help with the group there, and also to be ready, if possible to return to Keping to give help - if I could - to Miss Vautrin. Now she is not so certain, as the prospects for an early return to Keping do not look very good at the moment, and she is not sure that it could not be better to stay here for the interior. In any case I am postponing my booking until Jan 20th, by which time I should have had time to hear from Miss Hester to whom I have written a long and complicated letter in Chengtu, and also from Dr. Yu herself at Ichang. The group at Ichang are rather stuck at the moment, as it is very difficult to get boats on Chungking, and if they don't get them soon they may be stuck for two or three months, as the water may be too low to go up.

4 to Shanghai - Liu Su-lan - Wang Ming-dzi - Hsueh Dzin  
me - Min-jed (teacher, Chinese)

0877

P.S. The Sunday Dept has sent an advertisement of their work to Ning Hsien-mei - I don't know if it is any good for publicity - they left in rather a hurry - a I would have heard them - send me to you - but perhaps you can get it from her. I don't think I have her address - but I expect you do. Would you give my love to Lucia - give her the copy of the general letter after you have read it - I have got a whole pile of letters to send to her. Would you also give her a letter from me of the things I've been doing to give a little more of the fruit of your research about Mrs. Thompson's story - what happened to it? [17 over]

London Mission,  
Hankow,  
Jan 6th, 1937.

Dear Rebecca,

Thank you very much for your letter of Dec 21st, which arrived here on Jan 2nd, which was quite good. I think Dr Wu wrote on Tuesday. She was due to go on the plane to Chengtu on Monday Jan 3rd, but the plane did not leave that day, so she had an extra 24 hours, and she said she would write to you. She had commissioned me to write by this week's China Clipper, but as she was going to write herself, I thought it would be all right if I left it till next week, as she will have doubtless given you the main facts.

I enclose a copy of my-1 this week's general letter home, which will give you most of the facts concerning the break up of the Wuchang Ginling unit. I wish the group at Ichang could get on without too long a wait, but I guess that is pretty difficult. Dr Wu hoped that with the new Ministry of Railways and Communications which has just been formed (the minister) whom she knows, might be able to help, and she has written to ask, but it is not easy, as the main difficulty is the lowness of the river and the fewness of the boats, and it is hard for even ministers to do much about that.

However, we are well scattered, and when and if the Japanese do strike Wuhan, we have not many persons concerned. We still have two men teachers here with their families - Chen Er-chang the treasurer, and Dr Yaan who teaches Education. But they are both thinking of going up river. All the girls who are here, with one exception, have their families here, and she is staying at the moment at Yen Hostel on the Hwa Chung compound, and she can either stay there - I think they are expecting to keep Dr Tappin and Mr Coe on the compound to protect their property (if possible), or she can go to one of the other's homes. Catharine is for the moment - as Dr Wu probably told you - staying on here. She is moving into the Yen Hostel, and Dr Wu has more or less put her under Bishop Roots, to do what their single women do. It seems that foreigners personally are fairly safe, whatever the horrors they may have to go through.

My own plans are uncertain, I am staying - Dr Wu first thought she wanted me in Shanghai, and to that end I got a booking on the plane for Hong Kong, now she is not so certain, so I have postponed my booking, and am hoping to hear from both Ruth in Shanghai, and Dr Wu in Chengtu before I finally have to make any move. It is very difficult to make any decision, when there are so many unknown factors in the situation. There seems to be a slight lull in the general situation, and there is a general feeling here that Hwa Wuhan is likely to be left alone for about two months, and that when they do come, Wuchang will get it worse than Hankow, but of course nobody really knows.

The latest news from the University people there is more encouraging.

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JAN 6 1937

Jan 8th, 1937.

I am sorry I did not finish this letter when I started, I am afraid it will be make it even more jerky than usual. I went over to Wuchang to-day, and discovered from Catharine that Dr Wu had not written to you. I am awfully sorry I did not know that earlier, I would have tried to get the letter off by Tuesday. I couldn't wait over till Tuesday myself, as I had an appointment for the dentist, and also a dinner engagement, but when I left she said she was going to write, and of course we had expected Dr Wu to leave on the Monday.

We have not heard from her yet, but she was stopping over two days at Chungking, and I doubt if she had much time to write then. But there have been no accidents, so I take it for granted that she has arrived safely.

I am afraid your air-mail letter to En-lan must have arrived after she left, though actually neither Catharine nor I have seen it, of course if it arrived we will forward it on. The project for the rest station was still running when she left, but I rather think they are thinking of closing that particular thing up now, as not nearly so many wounded soldiers are coming through now, and there is not the same need for it now; it did excellent service for the two months that it was running. They had, I think, thought of taking on some other particular piece of work with the staff and money that they had collected, but I rather think the doctor concerned has already found another job, so I don't know whether they will or not. There is of course still a great need for money for various projects, so if that money can be turned to other uses- if it is collected- please try to let it be so. En-lan herself has gone to Shanghai, and if they want some of her racy accounts, I am sure that there is work there to be done. The Christian group here have just taken on the job of looking after 1000 refugees- civilians they are parking them out in the various missions schools which have closed early for the winter vacation, and will open Heaven and the Japanese alone know when. After the experience in Nanking and other places it seems scarcely possible for schools to risk having large groups of either older boys or girls on their hands, so though they may run some day schools, I doubt if they will open any of the boarding departments, until after the Japanese have come, if they can, or until the threat of their coming has gone. Actually now it seems a pity that we didn't go on properly until the end of term, instead of stopping on Dec 31st, with most of the students already gone. There was a little flare up of left wing trouble just about the time of the fall of Nanking, and the two combined rather got people restless, and one the move. But with the present development of affairs, we look as though we should be quite safe until the end of January.

I owe you an apology, Rebecca, for not having wired you after the receipt of the wire that you sent Catharine and me. It arrived while I was over here, and though Catharine told me about it, it never really penetrated my mind that it needed an answer, I don't know why, but it never did. I really am very sorry, but I don't think the delay made very much difference as you did get her letter posted from here, but I know how anxious you must have been, and had I seen the cable, I would of course have cabled at once. But being told by Catharine, in her rather gentle voice, with a mind full of concern for Nanking, it just didn't register that a reply was needed; and I think Catharine took it for granted that I was seeing to that sort of thing.

It was a great relief to get Minnie's telegram from Nanking on Friday, and to know that with the possible exception of one servant they were all safe. If they have got 10,000 women and children on the Campus, I should think that they would soon be needing a spot of money to feed them. You seem to have had much fuller accounts of what happened in Nanking than have been in the papers here, which is perhaps natural. As though doubtless

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the Chinese would be quite willing to give full accounts of the misdeeds of the Japanese, they would not want to give too many details which would undermine the morale of civilians in other places- for instance the shooting of all the special police who had been left behind in the safety zone, would not exactly encourage other policemen to stick by their duty. I don't think you need worry about letting Minnie stay there, you know quite well that no protest from New York or ~~anyway-else~~ anywhere else would have altered her decision; and she was ~~the~~ ideal person for it, both from the point of view of her practical gifts, and her physical fearlessness, but she must be frightfully tired by now. One of the objects in my going to Shanghai was to try and get up to Nanking as soon as possible, to help or relieve Minnie, though of course I should be much less useful than she. But it looks so uncertain when one will be able to get. However, I am rather coming to the conclusion that unless Dr Wu writes very definitely from Chengtu, wanting me to go on up there, I shall go to Shanghai as I have planned. ~~I can afford to pay my own travel expenses,~~ and I am sure I could get back into the interior if necessary. They are opening a new air line direct from Chungking to Hong Kong. I expect Dr Wu will come back that way.

It is extraordinarily difficult to see what is the right decision for the future, but I am sure we must keep on, somehow somewhere, even if in a very small way, it is all part of the great process of helping China keep up her morale. Dr Wu was very eagerly awaiting word from the New York as to what their thought was as to whether it was better to try and open in Nanking as soon as possible, or start an independent Ginling somewhere in the interior. I think at first she was all in favour of the first, but what happened in Nanking, and also rather discouraging reports from Yenching have made her wonder; on the other hand not having moved any of our equipment, and it being very unlikely that we shall be allowed to move it now, the possibilities of opening an independent unit also seem rather remote.

So we have quite a problem.

I shall be here at the moment up till Jan 25th, and then of course c/o Ruth would find me in Shanghai; if I change my plans I will send you airmail at once. I think so far as I know that all the Chinese faculty are safe. Dr Yuen only got out of Wuhu a few days before the trouble began there, and had a quite exciting journey by house-boat from Wuhu to Hankow which took him 24 days in all. The main danger in the country between Wuhu and Kiukiang is being looted by wandering band of Chinese soldiers, which I daresay is better than being killed by Japanese.

Catharine's address until she leaves here is :-

Yen Hostel,  
Hwa Chung University,  
Hwa Wubhang.

I think this will give you the main news of this place up to date. We had two air raids this week, both at lunch time. On Thursday I looked out of the dug out I was in, and there seemed to be simply swarms of Japanese aeroplanes, the papers reported 30 altogether. It wasn't nearly so noisy where we were (at a boy's school of ours about 6 miles outside Hankow) on Thursday as Tuesday, but in relation to where the bombs dropped, I don't really quite know why.

Good luck to you in all your work for us in America, it is certainly good to know that you are behind us. I hope you had a good Xmas, my family all seem well, though Marion is very tired, and is going for a term's rest to my youngest sister in South Africa. Bertha had a wonderful trip, and is finding it quite hard to settle down again. I am glad she got to China when she did. I enclose a rather belated Xmas greeting that I had printed just for out here, but I think the message still holds. Elsie leaves for Chengtu on Jan 17th.

My Love to you,



[1]

LETTER FROM EVA D. SPICER, ENGLISH SECRETARY FOR  
THE GINLING COLLEGE UNIT AT HWA CHUNG UNIVERSITY

Written October 18, 1937 - Received New York via China Clipper November 1, 1937

The Ginling Centre at Hwa Chung, the University in Wuchang, is rather like Topsy in that it has "just grewed", rather than having been carefully planned out in all its details. It began by Djang Siao-sung, professor of Psychology - Ginling 1926, University of Michigan Ph.D. 1935 - and Chen Pin-dji, professor of Biology - Ginling 1928, University of Michigan Ph.D. 1935 - who were already in Hankow, being asked by Dr. Wu to get in touch with the students in Wuhan to see what their opinion was, and also to make connections with Hwa Chung, through Dr. Hsiung - formerly professor of Physics at Ginling, and now at Hwa Chung.

Dr. Djang and Dr. Chen gathered the girls together, and found that if it were possible for Ginling to arrange for them to be guest students at Hwa Chung, that would be the arrangement that would appeal to them most. Most of the girls who came that first day lived in one of the three Wuhan cities - Hankow, Wuchang, and Hanyang - and their families would not approve of them going to such a danger zone as Nanking. At this stage I was added to the original group of three, as I had already come down from Kuling, and was staying with friends.

Having got the opinion of the students, we got in touch with Nanking; and it was decided to approach Hwa Chung. Dr. Hwang Pu, the acting president, was most kind, and said they would be willing to take up to 30 Ginling students as guest students. The students already here were about half that number, so we then had a busy morning sending out telegrams to girls in this district, saying that it was possible for them to study at Hwa Chung, and urging them to come by the day of registration, which was only two days ahead. We sent telegrams to such places as Ichang, Shasih, Siangtan, Changsha, Anking and Wuhu; and succeeded in getting in touch with most of the students then resident in the Central China area, which is not one of Ginling's main centres, as we draw more from Kiangsu, Chekiang, and the south.

When the first day of registration came, it seemed that we should have almost 30 students, but not more than the number Hwa Chung had said they could take. However, then came our first surprise, which involved a considerable change of plan. We had understood that up to 30, our students could be accommodated in the Women's Hostel at Hwa Chung, but it seemed that Dr. Hwang's heart was larger than his buildings, and they announced on the first day of registering refugee students - and we were by no means the only refugee students waiting to be taken in - that they could only house 20 women students all told, and there were a good many other women students besides ours. We alone had already over that number, and we had wired them to come, so it seemed necessary to try and find somewhere for them to live, and to start a Ginling Hostel.

It is one thing looking for hostel accommodation, when the possible area of location is a large one, and you can refuse to take the students if you cannot find the accommodation; but it is quite another thing when the locality is strictly limited - we wanted to be as near Hwa Chung as possible

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for reasons of safety and economy - and when you already have the students waiting to be taken in. I knew that my mission had a vacant house, as Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, representatives of the London Missionary Society at Hwa Chung, had not returned this semester, and the house though not on the campus, was only about a five minute walk, and quite convenient. However, when I first asked about that, I met with a decided negative. Dr. Hsiung heard of a Chinese house to be rented, and though it was just possible, it was not good, for it seemed as though it would be impossible to get the requisite number into it, and nothing else at all near was available.

That evening we - Djang Siao-sung, Chen Pin-dji and I - felt rather depressed, and wondered what kind of arrangements it would be possible to make. However, others encouraged me to go ahead, and make further efforts to get the Anderson house, which I did, and was successful. The next thing was to get the house ready for habitation, and to secure servants. Each girl was told to bring her own bed - camp beds could be got for about 4 dollars - and fortunately every Chinese girl always does bring her own bedding and wash-basin. Setting up a hostel in China is certainly much easier than it would be in the West. We were also fortunate in having friends. Miss Wang of the Y. W. C. A. in Wuchang, a Ginling graduate, secured servants for us, and lent us two dining tables, some smaller tables, and benches - other pieces of furniture, tables, beds etc were lent by other Ginling alumnae living in the Wuhan area; so that apart from cooking, eating, and toilet utensils we did not have to buy much. How much simpler to buy a pair of chopsticks than a knife, fork and spoon, but even so, of course, the cost mounted up somewhat.

We had secured the promise of the house by Saturday. On Monday we cleaned the house, put away the furniture we felt it safer not to use, distributed what was left so that each bedroom had one chest of drawers, no one could have more than that, and generally got the house ready for use. On Tuesday we finished the preparations more or less, and Dr. Djang and Dr. Chen, having worked hard to get the place ready, moved in; and on Wednesday the servants and the students arrived. Classes at Hwa Chung were due to begin that Thursday, September 16th, so the students were able to go to the hostel the evening before that. We were very lucky in having friends near. Dr. Hsiung gave us the hospitality of his house for meals, and helped us in so many ways that I don't know what we should have done without him; and also Miss Ginger and Miss Lenwood of the London Missionary Society, who live next door gave us their help and hospitality.

We were pretty crowded, as there were 20 students in all, five in each room, and at first three faculty in one room, perhaps it would be truer to say two and one half faculty, as I was sleeping part of the time in Hankow. I am doing some teaching there at the London Missionary Society Girls' School, as well as helping in the English department in Hwa Chung. Each of the upstairs rooms had a room attached for washing, but the faculty was on the ground floor, and we had to make a bathroom out of a bit of the passage by means of a cupboard and a curtain. We had three tables for food in the living room and used that as a combined study, dining-room and living room in one. Sixteen of our students had originally secured places in the Hwa Chung Women's Hostel, but when they heard that we were getting a hostel, they took away six of those

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places, which enabled women students from other colleges, which did not have hostels, to get in.

Having succeeded in registering 30 students, and having having secured and started a hostel, the Ginling-Hwa Chung group seemed well-established, so it seemed to the people in Nanking that it might be used as a centre for one or two of the departments. It became quite naturally the centre of the biology department, as four of the seniors already here were majoring in Biology, and Dr. Chen Pin-dji was here, and able to help them with their theses, as well as teach an elective course in Parasitology in the Hwa Chung Biology Department.

The College was thinking of the possibility of starting a centre for Sociology and Geography in Siangtan, or if that was not possible in Wuchang, so our next arrival from Nanking was Dr. Lung of the Sociology Department, who came to look over the situation, and decide whether to stay at Wuchang, or move to Siangtan in Hunan, where the promise of buildings had already been secured. About seven of the Juniors who had already registered were sociology majors. It so happened that most of the sociology students had their homes in one or other of the Wuhan cities, and were not anxious to go away. Also there was no word of Miss Chow, our newly appointed member of the department, who was up at Peiping at Peiping Union Medical College; and it seemed as though it would not be wise for Dr. Lung to go ahead by himself, or even with the help of Miss Dzo Yu-lin - Ginling, 1936 - an assistant in the department, not then in Wuchang, but easily get-at-able in Changsha. So they came to the decision to stay in Wuchang, in spite of the buildings available in Siangtan.

The next word we had was that the Geography department was also going to be centred at Wuchang, and on Friday Miss Liu En-lan, and four more students arrived from Nanking. I am afraid we did not give them a very good welcome, as that day we had our first and so far only real air raid. That day the first warning, the second warning, and the planes themselves came in very rapid succession, as it was a cloudy day, and the Japanese planes flew high above the clouds, and were not noticed till they were almost here. We were most of us at the time in the Ginling Hostel, and as we had no trenches or dug-outs available, we stayed where we were. Hwa Chung had begun, but not finished, dug-outs for the students on its campus, which of course were available for our use when we were there, but they had not then come to any decision about digging them for the out-lying hostels. There is a hostel for men refugee students also. Since then the warnings have come often enough to make people feel that more precautions are necessary, so that now trenches are being dug in front of the refugee hostels. I am sure that it will make us feel safer, and be safer; but when you have no special place to go to, it is rather pleasant just to stay where you are, as you can go on doing what you were doing, which you cannot in a dug-out. On that first raid only one or two bombs were dropped in Wuchang, and not near us, though we could hear the thud; the main damage was in Hankow and Hanyang, and as most of the bombs fell in a poor residential district the loss of life and limb was high. The raid was not a long one as it only lasted a little over an hour.

Another arrival about the same time was Mr. Chen of the Chinese department. One of Hwa Chung's Chinese teachers had been unable to return, and they said they would be very grateful if we could send one of our Chinese teachers, which we did. Mr. Chen like Miss Liu was impressed with the lack

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of preparations against Air-raids in Wuhan as compared with Nanking. It is, of course, very true, but not only has Wuhan had relatively few even attempted attacks, but in Hankow at any rate the digging of dug-outs is a real problem, as one strikes water only a foot or so below the earth. In Wuchang it is more possible to dig, and since the one real air raid, the authorities have certainly been busier; though the weather has been so bad, that the half finished dug-outs are more like ponds than shelters.

During this first week of classes, we had not only been concerned with the questions of the Sociology and Geography departments, but there was also the possibility of another move. The house which we were then occupying was decidedly small, especially with the new arrivals. Moreover, the owners of it were expected back in January, and we might - though we hope not - have to stay here all year. There was another house on the opposite compound, which was larger, and which would be available for the whole year. So within ten days of settlement in our first hostel, we moved to a second. The house is decidedly larger, not so much in the number of the rooms, though there are one or two more, but in the size of them; and it is not nearly in such a good state of repair as the Anderson house, which had just been done up. This on the whole is an advantage - except when the roof leaks - as it is less responsibility, and we really can do very little damage to this house, even if we tried quite hard. With 25 students, and several faculty living in an ordinary private house, there is bound to be some wear and tear. This house also had some furniture, though not so much, and the dining-room was decidedly larger, so we could put in the four tables that we now needed. The faculty are also better off, in that we now actually have a sitting-room. We are living on the ground floor in the room that would normally be the living room, opening out of that is a small room which can be used as a study, and again opening out of that is a little room, made out of part of the veranda. It has an old sink in it, and makes a quite convenient bath-room, but we have to divide it into two by a cupboard and a curtain, in order to make a room for the smah.

At this stage there were four faculty in residence, and Miss Li Dzedjen also paid us some visits, but she had temporarily taken a job at St. Hilda's, a middle school for Girls under the American Church Mission about 20 minutes from Hwa Chung. Miss Dzo Yu-lin had also arrived from Changsha, but at first was living with a friend in Wuchang. Our next arrival was Miss Chow from Peiping. She got the wire Ginling sent through the American Embassy asking her to come, and had arrived after a nine day's journey. The journey, though long tedious, uncomfortable and crowded had not been as bad as it might have been. She seemed in good spirits, and, though I am sure she had come from comfortable living quarters at P. U. M. C., seemed quite willing to occupy the fifth bed in the Ginling faculty bed-room.

Miss Chow and Dr. Lung got busy planning the work of the Sociology department. They are giving two additional courses to those offered by Hwa Chung, are giving help to Dr. Chen of Hwa Chung in the courses already organized and are also arranging practical work for our students, for which Hwa Chung makes no provision. They have been fortunate in securing the cooperation of the Y. W. C. A., through Miss Wang, a Ginling graduate and major in Sociology and also of the General Hospital of the American Church Mission. The Y. W. C. A. has an Industrial Centre for factory girls in some of the cotton mills here, and our students are doing some work there for the course in Community Organization; while the American Mission Hospital is giving them

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certain cases for the practical work in case studies. Miss Dzo Yu-lin is helping in the oversight of the practical work, and is also undertaking the housekeeping of the hostel, which up till then Dr. Djang had been nobly doing, as well as being the Chairman of our group, with all the responsibility that that involved, and teaching an elective course in the Psychology department in Hwa Chung. There are now six beds in the faculty bed-room, and we are debating whether there is room for a seventh or not.

The geography department has also organized itself, as Miss Liu is giving one course in Hwa Chung, which offers only one course in Geography, in its Economics Department - they had a visiting teacher for this, but she was delighted to hand over the course to Miss Liu - and two courses for our own students. We have moved out of the Anderson house, but the mission has allowed us to retain the use of it for this term. So the Sociology and geography department have each taken one room downstairs for a study, and the third room is used for a class-room.

With the biology, sociology and geography departments centred here, the next problem was that of the music department. We had three music majors registered, but as Hwa Chung's music teacher, coming out from America for the first time, was delayed and has finally stayed in Hong Kong, there was no music at all available. We had been in communication with Mrs. Yeh at Changsha, Miss Sutherland, who was still in Nanking, had also spoken and written of the possibility of her coming up. Finally after some telephoning, and a good deal of writing backwards and forwards, Miss Sutherland has arrived. She was most welcome, not only for herself, as a person, and as a teacher of music, but because she brought with her forty pieces of baggage, most of which contained winter clothing for the students here, which they had left, according to their custom, in the Ginling attics for the summer. They are most of them feeling pretty hard up, and were not desirous of buying more, so they were delighted to see it arrive. Miss Sutherland must have had quite a time with it, as the British boats no longer dock at Nanking, but have moved up the river out of the danger zone, and she and the luggage had to be hoisted on board.

As Miss Sutherland is going to help teach Hwa Chung students, who have already registered for music, the Hwa Chung authorities found accommodation for her on the campus, as they had done for Mr. Chen, and she is at the moment staying with the Kemps. But she is anxious to join the Ginling hostel, and if she slept on the veranda there would be room, I hardly think another bed could be put inside, and the drawer space at the moment is nil. We have one cupboard, which has hanging accommodation on one side, and shelves on the other. The boxes of the Faculty are either piled discreetly behind the sofas in the sitting-room, or else piled on top of each other, covered with a white cloth, and used as a table in the bed-room. There are bed-rooms available in the Anderson house, of which we are using the downstairs for class rooms, and we have thought of moving half the faculty and a few students over there. But it would mean extra expenses in various ways - heat, light etc, and nobody, with the rather drastic cuts in salaries, is feeling very well off; so up to date we have not moved.

The students have organized themselves and have a chairman and secretary, and some one in charge of each room. The Faculty are dividing

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up amongst themselves on different days the responsibility for giving permissions. Very much the same rules are followed as in Ginling, but the students who have homes in this area go home frequently over night. With the possibility of air raids at any time, one does not like to refuse a student permission to be at home if she and the family so desires. We have a short prayer meeting every night after supper taken three times a week by students, and twice a week by faculty. On Sunday there are services at Hwa Chung and in the neighboring churches.

The girls are, and faculty are, of course, taking part in the various war-time organizations that have been organized by Hwa Chung. In addition through the Y. W. C. A. we have bought, and are making as a group, garments for the wounded soldiers.

Living conditions are pretty crowded, as you can see, for faculty and students alike, and the fact that all the water has to be carried does not make things easier. But everybody realizes that under present conditions we are lucky to have a place in which to live, a library in which to read, and laboratories and class-rooms in which to study, and while we think with longing of our beautiful and convenient quarters at Ginling, and hope to be able to return there before long, we are trying to take all that comes to us of life's minor inconveniences in a good spirit, and are grateful to Hwa Chung for their hospitality. We give them not only gratitude but some help in the curriculum, as Miss Liu, Dr. Lung, Dr. Djang, Dr. Chen, Mr. Chen, Miss Sutherland and myself are all helping in some way in their teaching schedule; either by helping with courses already started, offering additional electives, taking students for whom they had no teacher, or teaching some of the extra divisions, as in English, which have had to be formed as a result of their influx of refugee students.

This has been mainly self-centred as it dealt with the problems of the Ginling group, not with China at war. But it is just one example of the adaptation and adjustment that is needed to carry on even a small piece of one institution under conditions of a war, which strikes not at one place in China, but everywhere, and keeps everybody in a state of tension. A war which is so unjustifiable in its aims and procedures that it is hard at times to believe that it is really true. However, it is, and all we can do is to try and carry on where possible, which takes up much of our time, and also try to do what we can in the general effort that is being made to bring relief to the wounded and suffering.

We will try later to send shorter articles of rather a snappier nature. This I know is rather long and dull, but it will give you the main background of our life here.

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Please Return

Eva Spicer - File

LONDON MISSION,  
HANKOW,  
November 2nd, 1937.

Dear Friends,

I think the last word that many of you have heard from me was a brief two pages sometime round about last Xmas. Since then much has happened, but everything that took place before this terrible war overtook China seems so remote, that it is hardly possible to remember it, let alone write about it.

Even the Sian Coup d'Etat, and the dramatic release of Chiang Kai-shek, the news of which we heard at Ginling just as the Faculty were sitting down to their Xmas dinner, exciting and important as they were seem like the events of last century. Even more all the ordinary events of last term interesting and worthwhile as they were at the time such as one of the Spring vacation trips, when a mixed group of Faculty (Chinese and foreign, men and women), students, alumnae, alumnae's husband and friends, and a German teacher of music from Central University spent five days on a trip to Hwang Shan, a famous mountain in Anhwei, two nights being spent in temples on the top of the mountains amongst perfectly magnificent scenery;— or the baptism of three seniors—or the usual end of term events and the farewells to students and faculty alike—seem hardly worth even a passing mention, so quickly has the war era made everything else seem remote and far off.

Most of my summer holidays were spent at Kuling, with a very good Chinese friend of mine, and her three sisters in the house which they jointly own. But for the first week or so in July, I went to a Student Conference held at Puto Shan, the Buddhist Sacred Island near Ningpo. It was interesting in many ways, the place is most attractive, and we had lovely weather; but one realises that a young Church does not have at its disposal the richness of leadership such as we are blest with at Swanick and other Student conferences. I shared a room—among others—with Tsai Kwei, a Ginling alumnae who is acting General Secretary of the Y.W. since Miss Ting's death. I found her very interesting and stimulating. She was one of the speakers and spoke well, but the students seemed for the most part rather uninterested in the serious discussions, and lighted up mainly at the discussions of such topics as the "Relation of the Two Sexes," "Should Married Women Go On Working," "My Ideal Husband," etc. Theoretically, of course, they were much concerned with the national situation (not that it had then reached its present acute condition, the trouble in the north began when we were still at Puto, and we didn't get much news), and some of them were really much in earnest; but they have lived with it so long, it has been so much pressed upon them, that while they thought it was a burning topic with them, I doubt if it was, and they turned with relief, natural to the young, to more personal topics.

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I only had a very short stay in Shanghai on my return from Pato, though I managed to see several people, and stayed for the last time in No. 80 Choaufong Road, Nellie Murray had already left for Peitaiho, but Miss Bain was there. I have stayed there so often, and it is so much my home in Shanghai that I find it very hard to realise that it is reduced to practically nothing. Most of our compound including the Medhurst Boys' School, and the Girls' School was destroyed, though in certain cases shells of the buildings were left, but that particular block of houses was reduced to the condition of which it was literally true to say, that not "one brick was left upon another". The people actually on the compound on August 13th fared worse than any others in the matter of possessions, as they left in the morning expecting to be back to lunch, and never got back at all until all the fighting in that area was over, and so had nothing but what they stood up in. The people away for the summer had at least their summer clothing with them, and those on furlough all their personal property.

I had a very peaceful journey up the Yangtze on a China Merchant boat, on which I was the only woman, and the only foreigner. My journey on that boat, where I was travelling first class (foreign style), and had a cabin all to myself, contrasted very vividly with the journey on the boat from Shanghai to Ningpo and back, when I travelled with the students in the cheapest class, where one lay side by side, row above row, the smell was not too good, and the mere thought of a wreck a nightmare! But as we glided up the peaceful Yangtze, the news was sufficient to make the peace of the landscape seem rather misleading, and superficial.

When I first got up to Kuling, Dr. Wu was still there with a group of notables from all walks of life, called together by General Chiang to discuss in friendly fashion the policies of the nation. It was a very representative group, and included members of parties other than the Kuomintang. Three such conferences had been planned, but the news was such that the first was the only one that General Chiang attended, and even that was cut short. Dr. Wu reported the spirit of the Conference as being very free and outspoken, a thing much to be desired in a country where there is the rule of only one party, and all opposition tends to be regarded as illegal, and resented as being out of place. But I am afraid the really liberal and progressive spirit in which these conferences were planned will be one of the war-time casualties.

At the beginning of the time at Kuling we did much as one does on a holiday—walks, picnics, swimming, seeing friends, having Ginling re-unions, reading, writing letters (though not nearly all I meant to), going to some meetings (not very many) and generally having a pleasant time. But from the beginning there was the additional pursuit of trying to get as much news as possible. At first we were pretty well supplied, there was a Chinese newspaper

published in Kuling, and English papers came through from Hankow, Nanking, and Shanghai; but later on the Chinese newspaper stopped, the Shanghai papers did not come through at all, and the others very irregularly for a time, and then several days late. But there continued to be radio reports daily in both English and Chinese, and one went out everyday once at least, and generally twice to see both the Chinese and English notice boards.

From the beginning the news was bad, the bombing of Tientsin seemed terrible, and things got steadily worse. When the trouble broke in Shanghai, it seemed as though there was nothing that might not happen, and indeed I still feel that way, especially at the moment, with the news of the capture of Soochow and the inevitable advance on Nanking—though in between there have been times when there seems something of a lull, and perhaps for two or three weeks things remain about the same. But that first month in Kuling after August 13th, horror seemed piled on horror, and always something new. I know the death of Dr. Rawlinson, the shooting of Sir Hugh Knatchbull-Hugessen, and even the bombings of Nanking, especially the first two, are relatively small incidents in the large scale slaughter now going on in China but the fact that I knew the people personally (though only slightly) and the city well brought it all before me in a very vivid way.

Kuling itself was relatively peaceful, though we had air raid warnings several times, turned out all the lights, heard the hum of aeroplanes overhead, and once, at least, the far-off explosions of bombs in Kiukiang. One beautiful full moonlit night, when half Kuling had gone, or was going, for a picnic at a famous spot from which to see the moon rise, we heard the air raid warning. There was one policeman at the spot who asked us all to take shelter in the small police hut, with my natural tendency to obedience, I began to go, but the Chinese friends I was with said that it was no use (which indeed was true), and we had better stop where we were, as we had one of the best spots on the ridge; more and more people continued to arrive, and the police gave up the unequal struggle of getting them all to take shelter, indeed the hut would have been like the black hole of Calcutta if we had tried. Nothing further happened until we were back in Kuling, when the second warning went, but even then the planes themselves did not come. The last week I was up at Kuling, Dze-djen and I attended a course of first aid classes, and even took the rather impromptu exam that was given at the end.

There are always a good many discussion groups of various kinds up at Kuling, one was started this time to take up various questions in preparation for the conference that was to have been held at Hangchow, but is now going to be held in India. Actually it turned itself into a discussion of the present situation, especially what should be the attitude of Christians towards it, and at times more particularly the attitude of the missionary. This was particularly relevant towards

the end of August, as it looked for a time as though the Americans were going to try and evacuate all their nationals from China, and there seemed as though there might be a regular exodus. Discussions of that kind are always interesting, at least I find them so, but I must admit that the right attitude for Christians in the present situation is very hard to arrive at. One is so fearfully hampered by the fact that the Church's thinking on the subject of war has been for the most part almost non-existent. With the honourable exception of the Friends, all branches of the Church, and almost all the members (until very recently) have accepted the fact that while it is wrong to have two wives, and also wrong to murder, it is quite all right to kill as many people as you possibly can, provided it is your government that tells you to do so. Most of the group discussing the question inclined to the Pacifist position for themselves, and in regard to their own nations, but they none of them felt very much like telling the Chinese that it was wrong for them to fight under the provocation that the Japanese had given them. And yet if there are no absolutes in this matter, where are you? I know, of course, that from one point of view any absolute is like a mountain peak, at which you never arrive, but which is always one further on, but if you have them, even if only in your mind, at least you climb upwards, however slowly and painfully, but once you being justifying that which you know to be intrinsically against the Christian law of love, you are on a very slippery slope, which may land you in a very difficult and awkward position. In any case the Christian witness on the subject of war is so divided and hesitating that what can you say to the Christian Chinese? I doubt if we have any right to say anything, only stay by, do all we can to help, and try not to be bitter ourselves, which isn't so easy, with the Japanese doing what they are doing, and on the other hand saying that the war is a war of self-defence for them, and that they are only doing it to secure the friendship and co-operation of the Chinese. I must own I take off my hat to any Chinese who can come through this without a very deep and lasting sense of bitterness with Japan, and disillusion with the Western powers. A few of them will be fine enough to manage it, but it is heart rending to think what is going to be the future attitude of the thoughtful Chinese, as a result of this war.

Naturally, as the time for the opening of term drew near one began to wonder what Ginling would do. Dr. Wu, Mrs. Tsen (our matron), Miss Vautrin, Miss Sutherland, and several other Chinese faculty were at Ginling, and a few students who had been there during the summer vacation. The opening was first postponed until September 20th, and then as Nanking became more and more of a target for air raids, it was decided to try and make arrangements for Ginling students in other centres. We got through once to Nanking by long distance telephone, and Dr. Wu asked Dze-djen to stay up at Kuling pro tem, in case they thought of moving up there, and then she could make enquiries. I had already suggested to Dr. Wu that I



come down to Hankow, as I thought I might be useful here, either in the girls' school that our mission has in Hankow, or at the Christian University at Hwa Chung, and she said it was alright for me to do so, provided I made it clear that if Ginling wanted me, I should have to leave at once.

My journey to Hankow was relatively uneventful, the boat was crowded, as all boats were at that time, and very much delayed, so we got on it almost a day later than we expected. But in summer it is no hardship to sleep out on deck, and I had a camp bed with me. The same conditions in the kind of weather we have had just lately—cold and wet—would be very different, and I am afraid the people who are crowding on the boats now to get away from Nanking, and other lower Yangtze ports are having a terrible time of it. I came down with several members of the mission, and we really had a very pleasant time. I was met at the boat by Miss Moody, who teaches in the girls' school here, and came back with her to this compound on which there are two foreign houses, one of which is flatted, and the girls' school. Miss Moody has the ground floor flat in the house that is divided. It is a pleasant compound, and this part of Hankow, which is the old British Concession, is a tidy orderly kind of city, though there is nothing very wonderful or inspiring about Hankow itself, which is as flat as a pancake.

I got in touch straight away with Djang Siao-sung and Chen Pin-dji, who had recently come here from Nanking, and found there was an effort being made to get in touch with the Ginling students in the Wuban cities (Hankow, Hanyang and Wuchang), and find out what their ideas were. There seemed nothing of immediate importance to be done, so as Miss Moody was going to Siaokan, one of our country stations about three hours up the line towards Peiping, I went with her. The weather was frightfully hot just over that week-end, and my memory of Siaokan is covered with a haze of heat, and sleep. It is in any case a very peaceful spot, we have a hospital, quite a good one for a country town, a Church, a school for women, a Lepers' Home, and a primary school for girls and boys, which has just added three years of Junior middle school for girls; it is a new venture, and Miss Moody was going out in connection with that. Everything there seemed very pleasant and peaceful, and the Lepers' Home is really very attractive, even with its occupants. I read a certain amount of literature on the subject while I was there, and became quite interested in the question of whether it was better to go in for entire and complete segregation, or try to establish clinics, where you treat early cases by inoculation. It appears that many of the worst cases in the home have ceased to be infectious, when the disease reaches a certain stage it turns itself out. The main difficulty in the curative treatment is that the patient will never confess soon enough to having the disease, and it depends largely upon the patient himself. So that it is quite a problem.

*January 17th, 1938.*

I am afraid this letter has taken a long time to get finished, and has been written very much in two parts.

When I got back to Hankow after my trip to Siaokan, I found that everything was underway for having a group of Ginling students go to Hwa Chung as guest students, so we sent out wires to the students living in this general area telling them the date of registration. When it came to the day we found that we should have over 30 students, and Hwa Chung, who had originally said they could take in 20 at least, now said it was 20 refugee students (girl) in all for hostel accommodation, so we had to look for a hostel. Fortunately, the London Mission had a vacant house, and after a little exertion we secured the loan of that, and later on succeeded in getting yet another house, which as being the larger we used for the hostel, and the first house we used as class rooms, and later on some of the faculty slept there. Starting a hostel in China is not as difficult as it would be in England, students in any case bring their own bedding, and wash bowls, and we just told them to add a bed of sorts; also bowls and chop sticks are much easier to buy than the corresponding complement of knives, forks, spoons, plates, etc., would be. However, even so there was quite a lot to do, and Djang Siao-sung and Chen Pin-dji had a busy time. Still they managed to have all ready by the day before registration.

As the authorities in Nanking had decided to make this the centre of the Sociology and Geography Departments, those faculty gradually arrived in Wuchang, Dr. Lung from Nanking, Liu En-lan from Shantung via Nanking, Miss Chow from Peiping, Miss Dzo Yu-lin from Changsha, and Mr. Chen of the Chinese Department from Nanking. Finally Miss Sutherland also arrived, and that completed what could be called the working faculty at Wuchang. The Hostel took care of 24 students, and seven Faculty, the latter all sleeping together in a large room downstairs. We really got on very well indeed, all things considered, though perhaps I should not speak as I was only there for three nights a week, and so had a change of the rather crowded conditions. The reason why I lived in two places was that I was teaching in I Hsun, the L.M.S. girls' middle school in Hankow, as well as at Hwa Chung, so I slept in both places, and did a good deal of crossing of the river, which I rather enjoyed than otherwise. The ferry is really quite comfortable, though latterly, since the population of Wuhan has increased, rather crowded, and the Yangtze itself has a certain fascination. I was teaching English in both places, and I have come to the conclusion that it is an extraordinarily difficult subject to teach, and be sure that you are really getting somewhere, it is quite easy to pass the time of day quite pleasantly during the class hour, but really to feel that they have increased their mastery of the language, is very hard indeed. Still I found it quite interesting for a change.

I spent three nights regularly in Hankow, and three in Wuchang, the seventh night—Saturday—I spent in different places, sometimes out at St. Hilda's (Wuchang) with Dze-djen, who had taken a job there for the term, once out at Griffith John College, our boys' school six miles outside Hankow, and so on. Many of the girls in the hostel went home over the week-end, and I had the freest Sunday that I have had since I was in China.

The actual concrete difference that the war made in our life in this centre was at first mainly air raids. During September and the beginning of October there were several, and you seemed to expect the warning about twice a week. One was at night, on a perfect moonlight night, and lasted for about two and a half hours, but mostly they seemed to come in the latter part of the afternoon. They were a bit noisy, of course, but after the first one, when the Japanese plane did really seem to be very near, I have not felt that I, personally, was very likely to be hit, (and one becomes at these moments a terrible egoist, though afterwards one recovers one's interest in others), though I feel far more exposed than I did in London during the air raids; Hankow or Wuchang seem so small, and the Japanese aeroplanes so many, while in London I always felt like a needle in a hay stack, quite unfindable by any bomb. Most of the first lot of air raids came before dug-outs were finished, so during that time I never went into one, also in Hankow it is very hard, almost impossible, to build them, because the water is so near the surface; so here you can stay comfortably on the ground floor of your house, with an easy conscience. For a time there seemed to be hardly any, but lately they seem to have started again, and I have passed a certain amount of time, though not very long, in various dug-outs.

Then of course there were the wounded soldiers, refugees, and war works of various kinds, and above all the news. Actually I am afraid I personally have not done very much for the soldiers, but some of our faculty and alumnae discovered really terrible conditions among the soldiers who were being moved from one place to another, and were successful, with the help of others, in organising a rest station, where the worst cases might be treated before being sent on. In a country like China where modern organisation is relatively new, and they are waging war on such a large scale and so many fronts, you can imagine how easily conditions would become terrible, and the conditions under which the wounded soldiers travel from the time they leave the battle field, to the time they reach the hospitals hardly bear thinking about. However, of course they should be thought about, and the National Christian Council is trying to organise units to take care of them at different important centres on the lines of communications; but there is a good deal of red tape, etc., and things do not move very quickly. Refugees have also been pouring in, and though the government is doing its best to move them on, there



are a good many still here. Since the schools closed at the end of December, most of the Christian middle school in Wuhan have become refugee camps for civilians, though I don't think they account for more than a 1,000 all told.

About the end of November, we all can began getting worried about Nanking, and people from there began streaming up here. The University had opened, but after the fall of Soochow, and the shifting of the capital, they decided to move to Chengtu, and en route for there they arrived here in their hundreds, more faculty and families than students. We had only a few faculty at Ginling, no students, but the remaining Chinese women faculty, except Mrs. Tsen came on up here, leaving just a small committee of Mrs. Tsen (our matron), Miss Veutrin and Mr. Francis Chen (our business manager) to look after buildings, refugees, etc. Dr. Wu was the last to arrive, and only got out just in time, as it was shortly after that the British ships at Wuhu were bombed, and shipping on that part of the Yangtze practically stopped—except of course for the Japanese. She had been very reluctant to leave, but the Women's War Relief Association, in which she had been very prominent had moved away, and certainly we needed her very badly here to decide what we should do for next term; as after Nanking had fallen people felt that Wuhan would be the next big objective, and there was also a bit of left wing agitation among the students (mainly directed I think against any thought of peace), so that everybody was getting very restless, and did not want to plan to stay in Wuchang for the next semester.

We were all delighted to see her, though because of the difficulty of getting correct information about the boats, not a soul was there to meet her. She seemed pretty well, I thought, all things considering; but it is very clear that she is under a great strain. She is, of course, deeply concerned with the future of the college, but that is a small matter compared with the future of the country, and she sees to the full the danger that it is in, not only because of the policy of the Japanese (and the least said about that the better), but because of its own weaknesses, which are even harder to bear. All thoughtful Chinese are enduring agony just now, one can only hope and pray that such agony will be redemptive in the fullest sense of the word.

Those days after she arrived were not particularly pleasant, it was very hard to get accurate news of what was happening in Nanking, the bombing of the British warships, and the sinking of the Panay did not seem to indicate an exactly friendly attitude to foreigners, and altogether one felt rather too anxious for it to be pleasant. We heard fairly soon that all foreigners were safe, but that of course told us nothing about the Chinese faculty members, and then it seemed as the news gradually came through that worse things had happened after the newspaper correspondents had left than before, so one didn't know if even that was true. Apparently terrible things did happen,

but the safety zone was some help. We did not get direct word until January 7th, when we received a telegram from Miss Vautrin which said:—

"Inform Wu I-fang and Units staff safe. One servant still missing. Academic buildings uninjured. Sheltering approximately ten thousand women and children. Many reasons for deep thanksgiving Vautrin."

So that was fairly re-assuring, and a later telegram from the University, though it said that injuries among families had been more serious and that many residences had been robbed, was on the whole along the same lines. We knew already that the faculty houses had been looted of "trinkets", whatever that may be, I mean the faculty houses at Ginling, and I daresay it was looting on a fairly large scale. They say the Japanese are very thorough going about it in some places, and cart the things off by lorry, etc., and ship them back to Japan.

Nanking has been very much cut off from the outside world this last month, and we long to know more details of what happened, but I suppose we shall have to wait as patiently as we can for fuller details. When Dr. Wu first got here, she was rather thinking that perhaps it was our duty as a Christian school to go back to Nanking as soon as possible even under occupation; but it doesn't look at the moment as though that was very feasible. According to recent newspaper accounts the land between Shanghai and Nanking has been practically denuded of inhabitants, and it would be like living in the middle of a wilderness. The amount of human suffering and misery that this war is causing to countless thousands, even millions of people, is unthinkable; and so little of the ground in that region is now being tilled, that famine is likely to follow. There was an account in the paper on Saturday of a city near Shanghai where there used to be a population of 100,000, in which a foreigner found only five old men. The Japanese say they are only waging war on the Chinese government, and have come to liberate the Chinese people, but it certainly does not look like it.

After her arrival here, and discussion of the situation with students and faculty, Dr. Wu decided to divide the group into two parts. One group of students and faculty should move on up to Chengtu, and be guest students for the next semester at West China University, and some of the Faculty (and students if they wished), should go back to Shanghai and help with our unit there. We have had a few members of the faculty in Shanghai, Miss Chester, Miss Kirk, Hwang Li-ming and others, and they have been running a Ginling office, and helping the students to register at either St. John's or Shanghai University, and we have about 50 students there. Next term there may be rather different plans, and Dr. Wu wanted to add to the number of faculty there. In the end four faculty (including Liu En-lan and

Wang Ming-djen) went there, and a party of a little over 20 (faculty and students) left for Chengtu. The faculty to go up to Chengtu were Djang Sioa-sung, Chen Pin-dji, Miss Chow, Dr. Lung, and Mr. Cheng Chung-fang, but probably others will be going up there in driblets. The week before and after Xmas were full of departures, travelling by neither boat or train is easy these days, there are so many more people who want to than can, and you just have to take bookings when you get them. So people had to get off in rather a hurry, and with such accommodations as they could. Part of the group went up to Ichang in the hold of the boat, but they were with good company in the shape of the University people and the company makes the biggest difference. Not only Ginling was on the move those weeks, but there were two international trains for Hong Kong, and the "Capetown," getting a chance to slip down the river before the booms were put across below Kiukiang, took women and children on board.

Since then, though we have had several air raids, the military situation has—up to date—not developed so rapidly, and it looks as though Wuhan will not be captured quite immediately. Some of our students have remained here, or in their homes near by, and if Hwa Chung is able to open next term they will go there. At the moment Miss Sutherland is also staying on here, as her music majors are in this district, and she does not feel she is urgently needed in Chengtu.

At first Dr. Wu decided that she wanted me to go to Shanghai after I had helped close up things here, and hand back to the L.M.S., as I had been responsible for getting the houses from them. They said that probably the International train on December 30th would be the last, so I got a booking on the plane on January 12th, then she thought she was not quite so certain, so I postponed my booking, till January 25th, wrote a long and complicated letter to Ruth, and waited to hear both from Miss Chester, and Dr. Wu, who flew to Chungking on January 3rd, and to Chengtu on January 9th. I have now heard from both, and they both point in the direction of Shanghai, so I am now expecting to go to Hong Kong on January 25th, and from there to Shanghai. I am sending this letter ahead of me to Hong Kong, and getting it printed there, as it is a much better place to send it off from than either here or Shanghai, for obvious reasons in both cases.

I don't exactly know where I shall be living or working in Shanghai, but the following address will always find me:—

c/o Miss NELLIE MURRAY,

London Mission,

Missions Buildings,

169, Yuen Ming Yuen Road,

Shanghai.



I gather that perhaps one should be a little careful what you say, as the Japanese have taken over the post office. But I should be very appreciative of letters, and home news would be harmless.

I have just been reading a book called "The Menace of Japan," if I had read it previous to all this, I am sure I should have thought it over sensational, and some of the chapters—such as that on Buddhism are, I am sure, one-sided—but really in the light of what they are doing now it seems quite credible. The author is a man called O'Conroy, who married a Japanese wife, and does admire the Japanese women, but not the Japanese men. Their complete sense of divine right is extraordinarily dangerous, and I feel as though there should be a peaceful invasion of Japan by every possible means through missionary societies, prayer, etc., to try and get a larger number of them to see how impossible their military policy is.

One hears gallant stories of the Japanese Christians, but for the most part they are stifled by the mass of government propaganda, and their complete ignorance of what is going on. On the night after Nanking had been taken, we heard the English news announcement from Tokyo, and it said that the Japanese had entered Nanking, and that the Chinese people were now safe under the Japanese army. I know, of course, that Chinese troops also loot, etc., and that many of them are not beloved by the Chinese people, but the fear of the Japanese troops far outruns that of the Chinese, as does their behaviour; but probably the Japanese all think of them as models of discipline and restraint. However, there is no point to all this discursive comment, as you probably have better information than I do, and I have not yet had any personal contact with our friend the enemy, though doubtless I shall have in Shanghai, and still more if I try to return to Nanking to help Miss Vautrin out a bit, though the chances of that are not hopeful.

Remember that though this letter is printed, it is private, and though there is nothing of any special interest or importance in it, it has expressed my opinions somewhat about the Japanese, so keep it within private circulation only.

Pray for both these countries, that an honourable and just peace may yet be found. If the present war goes on the future hardly bears thinking of.

With all good wishes for the New Year, still as I write in its first month,

Yours with love,

EVA D. SPICER.

Rec'd. 12/21/37

London Mission,  
Hankow.  
December 2, 1937

Dear Rebecca:

I am afraid it is sometime since you heard from me, though I know that several letters have gone to you from others members of the Faculty. I believe Dr. Reeves has already sent you En-lan's description of wounded soldiers in transit, but I am enclosing a copy of the appeal which was put in the papers, for which she was largely responsible. It is signed as you will notice by the Hwa Chung Wartime Service Corps, but it really should have been also signed by the Y.W.C.A. in Wuchang, of which Wang Yin-an, one of our alumnae, is the secretary, and also by the Ginling Group in Hwa Chung - as it was Wang Yin-an and Liu En-lan who really got the thing going, but Hwa Chung is behind it too now.

I am also enclosing Liu En-lan's original letter to Bishop Roots asking for help, of course I mean a copy of that letter, I don't think this should be used as it stands, as the criticism of Wuhan etc. should be left out, though it is very true that there is a pitiful lack of organization here at the moment. But I daresay you have already had what Dr. Reeves sent, I am just sending this in case the other didn't turn up, or something. Better to have too many than too few.

We are expecting Dr. Wu up here any moment now, they were due to leave Nanking yesterday, but we don't know whether they got off or not, as the boat they expected to leave on did not get as far as Nanking. Poor dear, she must be feeling pretty worn out and altogether shastly. The whole situation is pretty unbearable. Students here are beginning to get pretty restless, ours have been fairly quiet so far, all waiting for Dr. Wu to come, just one has gone whose home is up river. But the students in other places are some of them very restless, and we hear that Wuhan is disbanding, but I don't know whether that is true or not. It seems a pity that the students can't be organized to do something worth while, but the problem of organizing voluntary labor, except in small groups, is one that has not yet been tackled.

Four more members of the Ginling faculty have arrived during the last ten days or so, and we are lucky in having room for them, as we had the extra bedrooms in the Anderson house. The University of Nanking have come up with about 200 students enroute for Chengtu, but heaven knows when they will be able to get there, and in the meantime they are camped all over the gym etc. at Hwa Chung, who was expecting them for two days.

I am hoping Dr. Wu will stay in the London Mission, with me at any rate to begin with, as it is more comfortable, and the problems of Ginling and the next move will not be so much on top of her. I gather she is thinking of going on to Chengtu to see about conditions there but I rather doubt whether we have enough students who could or would go there to make it worth while, however, that is not my business at the moment.

Life is beginning to be something of a strain, it isn't so much that anything has happened here much, except refugees and wounded soldiers, but it is the uncertainty, and the feeling that the Japanese are making rather continuous progress. However we shall doubtless get our second wind quite soon.

I am trying to get the Sociology Department to write up their work among the factory girls, which should be quite interesting. I don't think at the moment there is much else of interest - except of course this rest station which they have got going, but En-lan didn't want to write about that again till it had been going a little longer, then she will write again.

Pray for us Rebecca that we all have the needed faith and calm. Love to you from,

Eva Spence

0898

Rec'd. 5/23/38.

✓  
Return to R.H.S.  
Spicer

Concerning Liu Bao-ying

c/o Dr. Towers,  
Lester Chinese Hospital,  
Shanghai.  
April 30th. 1938.

Dear Rebecca,

I am afraid I have not been good about writing since I got back to Shanghai, but I thought officially that it was being taken care of by others, and I had written you about the ~~wound~~ wind up of things at Wuchang, however, I really did mean to write before this.

Just to deal first of all with the question about Enid Liu Liu Bao-ying. She has taught since she graduated from Ginling in 1929, ~~for~~ at our L.M.S girls' school in Changcow, near Amoy. Everybody speaks very highly indeed of her, I went down there myself one winter's holiday, and the verdict was completely unanimous. She was not the principal of the school, an older woman of considerable standing in the community was that, but for most of the time she was acting as the dean, and had a lot to do with the internal running of the school. She was both a good teacher and a good administrator.

It was because of the excellent service that she had rendered for eight years, that the District Committee of the London Missionary Society asked that she be given a Wardlaw Thomson Scholarship for study in England, about the only fund that we have available for study abroad. It is given only to men or women who have already graduated from some college in China, and who have done good service and are likely to come back.

It is only good for a year. She has been for this year, as you probably already know, at Carey Hall, one of a group of colleges at Selly Oak outside Birmingham. She has been studying for the Cambridge Teacher Certificate (or Diploma) I am not quite sure which it is, anyway she has passed I understand the practical exam, and will probably pass the theoretical.

If it was possible for her to get a scholarship in America, I should be very glad indeed. Once they are abroad, it seems to me that they might, if possible stay for a second year. The condition of the school is somewhat uncertain at the moment, the Educational Commissioner in Fukien has been trying to cut down the number of middle schools, and for the moment they are not allowed to take a new Senior Middle school class, her younger sister is finishing with us this term, and I know that she (Enid) has written home about her desire to stay longer. I haven't actually heard from anybody in Changchow what they think about her staying for a term or so longer, but I am sure she can be trusted to clear that with them, and the numbers are very much down at the moment, for a variety of reasons including bombs. Changchow has always been a military centre of some importance, though I don't know whether they have any soldiers quartered there now or not.

So if it is possible for anything to be arranged, I should be very glad indeed, and I would be glad to try and help towards her living expenses. I hope I have given you all the necessary information. I am sending two copies of this letter, one by clipper, and one the Empress

0899



4/30/38

32/1ms We are asking Kathleen Baxter, who is a friend of mine, her father is the Secretary of the L.M.S in China, to bring the films to New York. She sails on the Empress of Canadae to-morrow, and is ~~even~~ going fairly straight through to New York. They are copies of one that John Magee took on two separate occasions at Ginling. You will probably want to alter the order, but one film only arrived in Shanghai the middle of this week, so that we didnt have time to do anything of that kind, only just time to get the copies made. We saw several of his films while we were looking at these, have you seen any? They are very interesting. We thought that probably you would want to open with the one of the new arrivals, and then go on the life on the campus, and the classes, finishing with the graduating ceremony.

in also Life here seems rather normal, with a background of abnormality. I have again found hospitality with my mission, as I am staying with Dr Towers in the Lester Hospital. I have a pretty small room, really just meant for a passing guest, not a permanent lodger, still it is perfectly comfortable, and I am lucky to have it. Miss Evans, another L.M.S refugee as our compound in Chaoufoong Road has all gone up in smoke, at least most of it. This is the flat for the women doctors, but at the moment there is only one, so there is room for both of us.

History I am finding it very interesting indeed to be teaching history, though I am afraid I am not doing it all adequately, but my goodness how depressing! Everything that happened in the 19th century seems to be pointing to what has finally happened now, and you wonder how one could have missed the writing on the wall- of course I realise it is easy to be wise after the event. But how one longs for more prophets. I cannot help feeling that the main blame in this whole ~~business~~ attaches to the Church, (and we who belong to it of course) for her refusal to face the fact that though it was not her job to formulate political programs, it was her job to remind Christians that a purely nationalistic outlook was not and never could be a Christian attitude. She was so afraid of getting entangled in politics, that she overlooked the fact that ultimately many of these issues are moral, not ultimately political.

Well, enough of this, I suppose I should be telling you more of life in the Shanghai unit, but I know you have had a certain number of letters lately, and I am enclosing a bunch of carbon copies of my letters home( uncorrected I am afraid), which will give you my angle on things, I am afraid it is a personal rather than a Ginling angle, still of course it contains a certain amount of news, though not much I am afraid that is any good for publicity.

I have rather enjoyed this Shanghai interlude- in so far as one can enjoy anything these days, and I am haunted day and night by the thought of what may happen in ~~Europe~~ Europe before I get back there again, but I shall be glad to go up to Chengtu next term, one lives a very scattered life here, I dont think it really can be helped.

Well, I want to get some other letters written, I am sending one copy of this on the Empress, and one by Clipper, as I realise I ought to have answered a little earlier than this about Liu Bao-ying.

Dont work too hard, Rebecca, though I know it is much easier to say that than to do it. *and many thanks*

With all good wishes for all your efforts on our behalf, and love from

Wm  
P.S. Would you send the carbons to Kathleen Bond when you have done with them. Please remember me to Mrs Macmillan

0900

QUOTATION FROM LETTER FROM MISS EVA DYKES SPICER, OF THE  
GINLING FACULTY, SHANGHAI, 30 APRIL 1938

I am finding it very interesting indeed to be teaching history, though I am afraid I am not doing it all adequately, but my goodness how depressing! Everything that happened in the 19th century seems to be pointing to what has finally happened now, and you wonder how one could have missed the writing on the wall -- of course I realize it is easy to be wise after the event -- but how one longs for more prophets. I cannot help feeling that the main blame in this whole business attaches to the Church, (and we who belong to it of course) for her refusal to face the fact that though it was not her job to formulate political programs, it was her job to remind Christians that a purely nationalistic outlook was not and never could be a Christian attitude. She was so afraid of getting entangled in politics, that she overlooked the fact that ultimately many of these issues are moral, not ultimately political.

Eva Spicer

✓  
c/o Dr Elsie Towers,  
Dester Chinese Hospital,  
Shanghai.  
April 30th, 1938.

Spicer

Dear Rebecca,  
This is just to introduce to you Kathleen Baxter, who has very kindly consented to take these films to New York and deliver them to you. I think you will have already heard about the films in letters, but in any case they were taken by Mr Magee on the Ginling Campus on two occasions. He took many others as well, which perhaps you have already seen.

Kathleen Baxter is staying in New York just a day or two, I think, as she is sailing for England on the Queen Mary.

I hope all goes well with you,

Much love,  
Eva

P.S I don't know what Kathleen is doing in New York, but if there is anything you could do, if she has free time, I would be glad. Her father is the Secretary of the London Mission in Shanghai, and she has been working there in CL.S, and the NCC office.

0902



Spicer

c/o Dr Towers,

Lester Chinese Hospital,  
Shanghai.

May 8th, 1938.

I think I wrote last Saturday, on Sunday after Church I went round to Kathleen Baxter say good bye to Kathleen Baxter, (she left on the Empress of Canada last Monday) and to take a few things for her to take to U.S.A, she was spending her last week-end in Shanghai at Nellie's and Nettie's new flat, Mr Baxter was there, and he told me that I ~~was~~ <sup>am</sup> going to be asked to go as one of the delegation from China to Madras, where the enlarged meeting of the International Missionary Council is being held. They were originally planning to hold it at Hangchow, but for obvious reasons they have had to change that, and are now going to Madras. I am quite thrilled about it, as it should be very interesting, and I never for a moment thought of being asked, and I honestly think that from many points of view I am not a particularly good choice, however, that is their look out, not mine, and I do very much want to go if possible. [I talked to Dr Wu about it on Monday] and she (fortunately she had not left Shanghai), [and she is willing for me to give a provisional acceptance, and after we get up to Chengtu we can see better whether it will be possible for me to get away. Dr Wu herself is going, so we could travel together, of course it will mean flying from Chengtu to Hong Kong, unless we go the new road out from Yunnan to Burma]. Actually one would not have to be away as long as one might think. [The boat leaves Hong Kong on Nov 30th, and we get back there Jan 15th] add a week on either end for getting to Chengtu, it doesn't take as long as that, but you would have to allow it to be safe, and you have just about 2 months.

In the afternoon last Sunday the Sophomores invited me to a picnic in Jessfield Park, they called for me at about 2.15, and I got back about 6.30, so we had quite an afternoon together. The park is really very pleasant, and there were some beautiful flowers, especially the irises. We talked, and eat and talked, and looked at the animals - the peacock obliged by spreading out his tail, and it reminded me very forcibly of our walks in the Kensington Gardens at home along the peacock walk. They were very pleasant and chatty, I mean the girls not the peacocks. I had really meant to go to hear the Russian music at the Cathedral in the evening, but I did not get back till too late.

Monday was just an ordinary day, rather hectic in the afternoon as I was writing letters to get them off by Dr Wu to Hong Kong, also there were one or two last minute talks. [Tuesday I got up fairly early to see Dr Wu off at the Customs jetty, in company with many others] the last tender left at 7.30 am, however, the jetty is only about 5 minutes from here, and we always have breakfast at 7.30, so it was not particularly early. [Mrs Wood and Peter New are going down to Hong Kong with her] so there were a lot of people seeing her off too, as well as all the other people. [Dr Wu has not had much of a rest in Shanghai, I am afraid, and I doubt if she will get one during the next few months, but perhaps by the end of July she will have done most of the preliminary planning.] The rest of Tuesday was normal routine. In the evening Gladys Parker, one of the sisters in the hospital who came back from furlough last Sunday, came to supper, and we had a pleasant chatty evening. On Wednesday in the afternoon I did a bit of shopping, as I seem rather low on summer dresses, and going to Chengtu one feels that perhaps one ought to stock up a bit., and I think travelling on summer one will need a lot of materials, and the tailor was coming in the evening.

Thursday was a holiday, and in the morning I went and played volleyball, as the faculty are playing the students next week, and we wanted to get a little practice. It was a frightfully hot and sticky day, and the sudden change of weather made me almost drunk with sleep, and I spent a good bit

0903

6/8/38 - Spicer

of the afternoon sleeping, instead of writing, clearing up things etc. In the evening two friends of Elsie's came to supper, one is the secretary of the British Chamber of Commerce here, and they were both women with opinions on the situation, so we had quite a lively discussion, especially as whether it was worth trying to defend the British Empire, or whether we had better as quickly and sensibly as possible try to become a second class power.

Friday was just an ordinary day, in the evening I had a game of bridge with Dorothy Evans (and others) next door. Also we had our noon time Faculty discussion group, this is a second series, and this time we are discussing Aldous Huxley's new book- (at least relatively new) Ends and means, it really is quite a good basis for discussion, and the meeting went quite well.

[On Saturday I had tried to arrange a group in the afternoon for alumnae, but it is extraordinarily hard to find a time which will suit more than two or three, in the end only one came- but we had quite a satisfactory talk to gether. It is difficult these days not to be rather overwhelmed by the amount of organised will to power that there is, and the apparently ineffectiveness of the will to good, which does exist, but is so much harder to get going. It is of course undoubtedly easier to arouse the desire to inflict suffering on others, than to arouse people to a desire to bear suffering oneself, which is what the people of good will have to face if they are going to make any headway against the present situation.]

In the evening some of us went to a performance of Purcell's opera "Dido and Aeneas", which was being performed by the new founded Shanghai Players, a group with rather more claims to ~~life~~ an intellectual, and artistic interest in the theatre than the Shanghai Amateur Dramatic Company, which concentrates mainly on entertainment of the lightest kind. The production was quite colourful and effective, and voices were quite good on the whole, but the scenes are rather short, and the waits, though not very long, were numerous, and ~~there-~~ each time the atmosphere had to be re-created, it would have been much better if they could have kept the lights down in the audience, and played music between, so as not to lose so much the sense of continuity.

I don't think there is much else of great interest that has happened to me personally this week, in fact not much of this is of interest. The fighting on the whole seems to be going in our favour rather than against it. I forgot to mention that on Tuesday I went to the Missionary Association out at St-Je the C.I.M., Bishop Roberts was speaking on the Church and reconstruction, he is a nice sensible man, but not one of the world's great thinkers. [Harry Silbeck of the Friends' Mission is here to discuss the possibility of the Friends starting relief work in this area; there are a good many different opinions as to whom you will really be helping if you start re-habilitation work now. He reports a very good state of morale in West China and elsewhere, from where he has just come.] I asked if he had seen Li Chi in Changhsa, but he had not.

With love,  
Eva.

0904

Spicer

c/o Dr Towers,  
Lester Chinese Hospital.  
Shanghai.  
May 16th, 1938.

I think I ended on a somewhat optimistic note last week, but alas now the outlook is rather dark, and [the taking of Amoy has added to the general gloom. One of our students who lives in Chagchow is very apprehensive as to what may happen there] and I am afraid the outlook is not too good, still Mission compounds when the people ( I mean the foreigners ) are actually there seem to be fairly safe, but there seems to be a good bit of bombing going on there. [I met the Dr Wyatt of the B.M. who is reported to have been shot this morning at Hankow] with his wife and children, poor dear she certainly did not seem the kind of person who would be able to carry on very well by herself, but [perhaps they will find him, and he will recover.]

To return to the events of the week. I went on Sunday afternoon with Elsie Towers to tea with a Dr Halpern, an Austrian woman doctor who is in charge of the Psychiatric Department of the Red Cross Hospital. They are having a meeting on the need for Mental Hygiene in Shanghai on Thursday and Elsie and I are both reading papers, so we thought we would like to talk with her about it. She was very interesting, one of these very charming and clever women, with a delightful accent, both her person and her room were slightly exotic, but she is a great enthusiast, and I believe quite brilliant. She is not exactly overjoyed at what has happened in Austria, though we talked Shanghai politics rather than European ones.

I have a feeling that something happened on Monday, but I can't for the moment remember what. [On Tuesday] I had a lunch group discussion with some students, at which we were each supposed to bring our own lunch, but some of them ate first, and came afterwards, so there was a time when I seemed to be the only one who was eating. They just suggested questions, and we discussed the questions a little. In the evening I went to supper at the Foreign Y followed by a discussion of the questions that we are due to take up at Madras. It was quite interesting, though we got quite a long way off the point. But naturally they are all people who don't mind talking so there are not the pauses there sometimes are in discussions.

I remember one thing about Monday the Farquarsons, who are fairly recently married, gave a coffee party in the evening, with games etc. It was quite pleasant, and there were two quite good songs, made up for the occasion to fit the mission, which were amusing.

On Wednesday I had lunch with Mrs Bates, I always enjoy a chat with Billiath. Thursday seems to be my day for being sleepy, I again played volleyball in the morning, and in the afternoon I was so overcome with sleep that I had to lie down for a little, and again I slept for almost two hours. They were both very hot days, and I suppose it was that plus the exercise, but certainly I was almost drunk with sleep, both in the afternoon and again in the evening. Liu En-lan got an attack of dysentery on Tuesday, there did not seem to be anyone to look after her at the hostel, so she came into this hospital on Wednesday, and I have looked in on her from time to time, she seems much better, and will be leaving tomorrow.

Friday we had our Faculty group discussion, and there was L.M.S. prayer meeting, and I left undone quite a lot of things that I should have done. Florence and I are trying to get permits to go up to Hankow, they so we have been busy making out statements, getting them translated etc, but I don't know whether we shall have any luck. What happened on Saturday and Sunday is not worth another sheet of paper. Love Eva.

0905



OVER

GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York.  
May 25, 1938.

My dear Eva:

I was very glad to hear direct from you - and how I wish it were possible to sit down somewhere and talk. Talk and sleep are two things I crave most! Sounds crazy, but my hours are consistently too long for adequate sleep, and this business of being the kind of "female" I am in the kind of office run by the kind of men who run it gives too small opportunity for talk. I think very little of the "white collared worker's" job in New York. One shuttles from room to an eating place to the office and back again. I have been compelled to drop most of my home outlets and so even when I am at home and have a moment it is hard to pick them up quickly. It is heavenly at home now - roses, iris etc. at their best. It required an act of will yesterday to leave the house and porch and garden and come back.

On the other hand there is here public interest in China which one doesn't find "in the provinces". Last week the "United Council Committee" had a publicity dinner (\$5.00 a plate!) at one of the New York hotels. T. R. Jr. presided; C. T. Wang gave the best speech I have heard him give this winter; and Ambassador Gerard an excellent one. The lighter entertainment was fascinating: Eugene Chen's daughter danced (I hope they didn't think it Chinese dancing) and a group of Chinese tumblers from Ringling Brothers Circus won all our hearts by their ability. One of my first student parties in my early days in China had a similar group, and the years have not dulled for me the charm of the agility of this kind of entertainment. The "United Council" consists of several relief organizations - civilian or medical. This was the opening gun for the "bowl of rice" dinners on June 17th.

I envy you and pity you teaching history in such a time as this. Have you any library for giving them a completed unit of civilization - Greek or Roman? In some ways the latter is preferable for the present time. I wish I had Roman history more completely at my finger ends. Nothing needs more teaching here at least for this "bread and circuses" age in which we find ourselves. But whatever happens, may teaching history at Ginling go on. It gives perspective and wisdom when it is not a tool of nationalism.

Our isolationists here seem to have no notion that it is one thing to choose to stand aside - and quite another to be forced to accept isolation. This twilight era of democracy is a sad era - and sad mainly because we are soft, lack power to analyze and decisive courage, and are abominably selfish. I have not been the same woman since Eden's resignation, but I understand now better his failures. I can't believe in the abnegation of human reason to force or to the god created in man's image. The exaltation of human reason above divine command in our immediate past, has however been a potent factor in the present western world mess.

Well, I am writing of Liu Bao-ying. She wrote on March 15th. "I think I have told you that I am taking the Cambridge secondary school teaching certificate course. My practical examination took place last Friday. You will be glad to know that I passed it. I am now preparing for the theoretical examination which will take place in June.

Lately I have been making a dream and I do not know whether it is a sensible one or not. May I ask your advice on it? As I am going back to China by America in August, I think it would be a pity to pass through the great country without learn-

0906

ing anything from her. Do you think there would be any possibility of my applying for a scholarship anywhere in America, so that I could stay for a term or a year to learn something of American education? So far as I know the American type of education is more influential in the Chinese educational field than the English one. I am sure that it would be very helpful to my work in new China after the war if I could get acquainted with different view points with regard to education which plays a very important role in the bringing up of the future citizens. Please don't let me worry you with this little personal affair."

I wrote on March 29th to Miss Sturtevant at Columbia, telling her of Bao-ying and asked about scholarship help at Teachers College. Her reply did not reach me until May 14th. She forwarded a letter from a Miss McMurray which says, "I have just been informed that there will be no scholarships available to new students from foreign countries next year except perhaps those in the Advanced School, which, I believe, have already been assigned. I am very sorry because Miss Liu sounds like a very promising person."

Meantime Mrs. Macmillan wrote for me to a school of education in Cleveland, which she thought sometimes gave teaching fellowships. The answer there was also negative.

On the day I heard from Miss Sturtevant, I also heard from Bao-ying, a letter dated May 1st. She wrote, "As I have had several urgent letters from my school in Fukien to call me back in time for the starting of the autumn term, I have decided to leave England on the 20th of July. I shall go to New York by Europa and then cross Canada to Vancouver. I expect to be in America for ten days. I do hope that I shall be able to see you then.

I saw Lu Kwei-tzen during the Easter holiday. She is one of the first Eastern women students who who is allowed to work for the Ph.D. of bio-chemistry at Cambridge. It is a great honour to Ginling that she is allowed to finish the course in two years instead of three which are required of every student. She must have been doing fine work."

I have accepted this as final. To get a scholarship in America one should have in applications not later than March 1st. I would suppose from your letter of April 30th, received today, that if they want her in Fukien, you would feel she should return. Although the events in that area since you wrote, and since she wrote, may alter that. If you want me to seek further, I can. Better cable "seek", if you do. The place in Colorado to which Chen Yü-djen, Chen Li Ying, Djang Hsiang lan went, might give her a scholarship. It is expensive there.

I expect to get a letter off to Ginling and to Ruth and Yi-fang by Clipper. In case I don't, please tell them that we have \$1,033.00 U.S. pledged for scholarship money for 1938-39 (one Smith Club \$33.00, and one donor \$1,000.00). It will be paid, I think, before the end of this fiscal year. I wish it were not going to be paid until after July 1st, because this year we are still on this abominable cost system based on money raised, but we will take it when it comes.

I am so glad you are sending me your letters. I'll forward gladly to Kathleen. The envelope for Alpha arrived today.

With love, I am

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Eva D. Spicer,  
Room 512A,  
133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road,  
Shanghai, China.



5/26/38 *Specier*

71

c/o Dr Towers,  
Lester Chinese Hospital,  
Shanghai.  
May 26th, 1938.

3

I know I am going to have a good deal of difficulty in recalling what I did last week, as everything lately seems to have been overshadowed by the European situation, which now seems to permit of one to draw one breath, but not much more. I broke off last time before Saturday because of the paper. [I had a discussion group] that [Saturday afternoon; three girls I think turned up this time, and we had quite an interesting time. When one is discussing any religious subject just now it is interesting to see how the discussion always gravitates towards the question "Is it really possible to love our enemies- are we expected to do it?. etc etc". One girl (not in this group) said quite frankly that for herself she was leaving it to Jesus, she didn't think there was anything she could do about it. But I think it is significant whether they think it possible or not, they always come back to it, they can't forget that Jesus did tell them to love their enemies ] and the saying haunts them, in a way, of course not all of them. I went out for dinner and the night to Nellie's, and after Church [I bought Liu Baoodeh home to lunch and tea. She is a girl from ] an L.M.S. school in [Changchow near Amoy in Fukien] and was feeling rather weepy poor dear, [as that was just the time of the news of the taking of Amoy] and she was afraid of the danger it might mean to her home. [I did what I could to cheer her up] actually where the missionaries have stayed the commands seem to have been fairly sage. I think we had guests in for supper, I rather think John Barr came.

[On Monday] Elsie Towers and I went to an F.O.R. meeting, where John Barr was speaking, he quite interesting [on the Peace Movement in England, but obviously feel that nothing succeeds like success, and that you have to roll up large numbers, I know there is a good deal in that, but I can't help feeling that the Christian Church was quite a lot more effective in the days before it grew so large, I think you have to be very careful not to spread certain things too thin. We talked a little about the drug traffic, which is naturally on the increase, as it our neighbours pleasant little way of helping to pay the expenses of this jolly little incident.] I guess the S.M.C. police are having to do a lot of the turning of the back, and the winking of the eye, and I do think that is really too bad, I simply don't see why the other powers have got to help our dear friend Laura in that matter at any rate.

[On Tuesday evening] I went out to supper and discussion on the topics for Fedras, it was quite interesting, [we were discussing the greatest hindrances to the development of Christianity in China] and one man got quite impatient because he said we should do better to discuss it positively, not negatively, but we stuck to that point- nobody put it quite that way, but the upshot seemed to be that the greatest hindrance was not finally communism, or nationalism or any of these other new or old religions, but just a certain religious indifference and inertia on the part of the Chinese people as a whole, in which most of the enthusiasms of the west get bogged, of course much more than that was said, but there was that recurrent.

[On Wednesday I had a lunch time discussion with five students, which went quite well, they expressed themselves quite freely, and though I don't think we settled anything, I think we got certain points rather clearer. On Thursday the different women's clubs in Shanghai were holding a one day institute the subject of which was Mental Welfare in Shanghai. It has been very much [sponsored by a Dr Fanny Jaspers] whom I think I have mentioned before. Austrian, who is the head of the department of Neurology and Psychiatry, the Red Cross Hospital, and is very anxious to get more work done in

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[2]

Shanghai along the lines of setting up more clinics for Problem Children, and the not so serious cases. They had got various people to present the needs in the morning- Missie and I were speaking- she from the point of view of the needs of a general hospital, I from the point of view of college students (I was not at all good- Missie was)- We started off with a little good cheer talk by the Dean of the Cathedral. He made one remark with which I profoundly disagree, he said that in difficult times when one was inclined to feel pessimistic, there was nothing like a dose of history to cure you. It seems to me that it is just the other way round, I have been teaching 19th and 20th Century history this term, we have just got to the Great War, and it seems to me the most profoundly distressing subject, as we never learn, and make almost all the same mistakes over again, I don't mean there is not another side to it, but that seems to be the one that strikes one the most, and all because of the incurable selfishness of man, so that they will never give up a thing freely and of their own accord, but always cling on to it, generally until it is too late to accomplish the change without bitterness and violence. So go back to Thursday, there were about eight speakers in the morning, including Dr Halpern, and we really kept to the time table wonderfully well, and were through in good time for lunch. They served it there, but I had invited two friends and K.B. out to tiffin, so I had to leave then (we had quite a nice tiffin). In the afternoon they had various speeches on what was being done the morning was all on needs, and then there was a discussion on what more might be done. I didn't stay till the end of the discussion, but returned to do some work, I should have gone to the General Meeting of the hospital, but I didn't, as I wanted to get the some papers finished.

On Friday we had our usual Faculty Lunch Discussion group, and I was holding forth on Aldous Huxley's chapters on religious practices and beliefs, which I find very interesting and suggestive, though I disagree with him profoundly on certain points. In the evening there was L.B.S. prayer meeting, and in the evening I went out to supper and another discussion group, this time it was a group of religiously minded British returned students, and ex-British students, it was preceded by very delicious Chinese food. They had asked me to lead on Comparative Religions, and I had meant to prepare something but I really didn't have time, so I mainly used Huxley's material, and it was at any rate provocative of discussion. I seem to be going to too many discussion groups at the moment, I shall get quite a disease, but I expect the next term I shall live a much quieter life.

On Saturday- in spite of the badness of the news from Europe- we had a very pleasant picnic in Jessfield Park, a lunch picnic. At tea there was an. At home for these the men who are down at the moment from Nanking. Oh by the way I forgot to mention that on Wednesday afternoon I went accompanied by a little Laura whom Mrs. Williams introduced me to to make an application for a permit to go to Nanking. He took me to another place than the one I thought it should be, but he seemed to know, and we spent a long time filling in forms or at least he did, as it all had to be in Japanese, but when we got it all done it seemed that was not the right place, that was where Chinese got permits. He had another appointment, so we couldn't go on to the right place, he took the applications, and said he would send them in, but I don't think he got them there though I expect he did something with them, but it is very easy for one office to know nothing about what another one does. After the tea on Saturday, I had another discussion group with alumnae, this time four turned up, and we had quite a nice time, one had only just come from Hangchow, but I didn't get very much out of her. In the evening I went to supper with Nellie, and we went to a perfectly crazy movie, which made me laugh. At the tea I met a Catholic missionary who lives at Nanking, whom I had previously asked about all this business with the Cardinal in Austria, and the Papal broadcast etc, and he explained to me what had happened, at least according to the Catholic

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paper, and it sounded quite reasonable. It is interesting how much worse the Catholics think Mussolini Hitler is than Mussolini, I wonder. This man is himself an American Irish, a very pleasant friendly person. He was broadcasting on Sunday on the subject is the Pope a Fascist, and he seemed to think quite definitely that he was not.

[Sunday I went to the Cathedral] for a change, [where Ronald Rees was preaching on Wesley, quite good, though with the awful results of over-emotionalism before your eyes in so many ways- "heart-warming" didn't seem so much to the point at the moment as a little "head-cooling.", but how much safer to have your heart warmed about Jesus, than about Hitler or Mussolini.] I worked in the afternoon making out various lists of books that might be needed from Nanking, syllabuses etc. There were people to tea and dinner, so there was a good deal of talk, but I did get some work done while the others went to Church.

[On Monday] I can't remember anything very special about, I think I have mainly been in the evenings this week. [We had a meeting in the afternoon of students and faculty who were going to Szechuan, and decided that - D.V. - we would try and go by Hankow, as the bus trip from Kuenming (Yunnafu) to Chungking sounds pretty grim] however, [I am not sure that we shall be able to get via Hankow, we shall have to wait and see.]

Tuesday I invited Mrs Molland to lunch, I know her somewhat in Nanking, and her husband is back there now, as Postal Commissioner. She has one small daughter, and so cannot very well join him, and I think gets pretty weary being without him, as they are a very devoted couple. She is a nice person, and was at Oxford, though long after my time.

I forgot to say that on Monday I tried to see Dze-djen's brother who had been in Shanghai off, but I failed to make connections. He had called at the hospital on Friday morning, but unfortunately I was out, and K.B. had not asked where he was staying. A certain amount of telephoning finally elicited the fact that he was at the Chinese Y.M. C.A., but by that time he had left there. K.B. knew he was returning by the French mail, but they wouldn't let you go down to the tender, so you couldn't see who was already on board, and he must have got on pretty early, I was very sorry to miss him.

[Wednesday we wasted most of the afternoon going out to the Japanese military headquarters to put in our application, our former application having never reached headquarters. This time Harriet Whitmer, who is trying to go up to Nanking to stay, (Florence and I only want to go and look over things -- books etc) and had already been there took us. The man was quite pleasant and hopeful, but I don't know how seriously you can take him. In the evening I very sleepily prepared a speech for the Rotary Club to-day. I was not feeling at all inspired. My subject was "Ginling College: its Adventures and Achievements." I got it off my chest to-day. I don't think it was very good. In fact I am sure it wasn't, but at any rate I got through it, I think speaking to that kind of audience is rather difficult. I sat next to a Mr Peter Cain, who is the Trade Commissioner for South Africa in Shanghai, he is speaking at the next meeting, and came along to look see, as he is not a member. He didn't know Tip or Sydney. He was quite pleasant, but I don't think I had realised before that South Africans as well as Australians have slightly Cockney accents. He didn't look like the kind who would have had one in England. I had the President elect on my other side, and he was a pleasant easy American. I am glad to have that off my chest.

Well, I must stop.  
Love to all,  
Eva.

*Eva*  
*copy*

0910

5/28/38 Specie

547

c/o Dr Towers,  
Lester Chinese Hospital,  
Shanghai.  
May 28th, 1938.

Dear Rebecca,

This is to give you forewarning of the fact that a friend of mine Miss K.B. Evans will be in New York about June 20th-22nd (she is sailing for England on the Queen Mary) and will be dropping in at your office to deliver another part of the film of Ginling Refugees that John Magee took, and also some letters. If there is anything that you can do in the way of directing her what to see during her very brief stay in New York, I should be most grateful. She is in my mission in Shanghai, doing evangelistic work, and for the last four months we have been living together in Shanghai, both of us as refugees, as our compound in Chaoufoong Road where she lived has been half destroyed, and is quite unlivable in. We also refueed for a bit together in Hankow, but she left there earlier than I did. However, she has shared sympathetically in quite a lot of Ginling's fortunes, though of course her chief concern has been with the country churches, all of the places where she normally works are in the occupied areas.

Edith Haight met her in Ginling when she paid a visit there with her sister two summers ago, if you could get in touch with Edith, she might be glad to see her, and show her something like the Metropolitan Art Museum.

It looks at the moment quite hopeful that we should get a pass to Nanking, and Florence and I are planning to go up there for about a week if we can to look over our things. The journey to Chengtu looks as though it might be going to be quite eventful, as I don't know whether we shall be able to make it via Hankow or not, and the bus journey from Yunnanfu to Chungking sounds anything but a picnic. However, it is no use getting unduly excited about it beforehand. We are trying to make all necessary enquiries.

I am quite thrilled at having been asked to go to Madras, and I hope I shall be able to make it all right, I have given, with Dr Wu's consent a provisional acceptance.

I am enclosing a bunch of this month's carbons, I am afraid there is not that is much use for publicity purposes, but you can just glance through them, and taken anything that seems at all possible. I would be very grateful if you would let Kathleen Bond and Mrs Thurston have them when you are through with them.

I forgot to mention that Miss Evans will be staying at the Prince George Hotel, 28th Street, I think that is quite near your office. Her boat arrives on Wednesday June 15th, and when she arrives in New York depends upon whether she stops over at Chicago for a day or not.

With all good wishes,  
and love from

Don.

P.S. I am afraid I don't correct the carbons, I just send them as they are, and my typing is not expert, but life is just too short to go through all the copies as I take nine in all. I shall have to air mail this letter to you.

0911



May 28th, 1938.  
 Shanghai.  
 Western Chinese Hospital,  
 c/o Dr. Towers,

Personal &  
 Immediate

Dear Rebecca,

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 and love from  
 W.

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2190

[Page 1-?] ]  
2/16/44

Spicer

c/o Dr Towers,  
Lester Chinese Hospital  
Shanghai.  
June 21st, 1938.

As I expected I did not write while I was in Nanking, and I didn't get it done as soon as I returned, so I am afraid that again almost two weeks has gone by.

As I think I wrote last time we did not get away to Nanking until Thursday, I spent the extra day teaching, and getting off some quite important letters, I don't know what I should have done about them if we had gone up on the Wednesday. [The journey up started very early, but went fairly peacefully. Claude Thomson and Florence, and a Mr Koo of the University picked me up a little after 5.15 am; it was simply pouring with rain. The station we left from was a little further out than the normal station, and there were steps to climb up and down, but fortunately there were some coolies on the job, so we did not have to carry all the luggage ourselves. We got first of all into a carriage full of soldiers; one of them had his sword out to cut something, and looked quite fierce; however, [When we had got all our things stowed away, they came along and told us that that was not for civilians; I can't see why they could not have told it us a little bit sooner; so we had to move all our things along to a very full car. There are only two coaches for civilians- third not to say fourth class. The soldiers though not beautiful- strange how ugly most Japanese are- were quite friendly on the whole, and some of them even helped to move our things down. The coach was very crowded when we started, but people got out at the various stations on the way, and there was some extra room when we finally arrived at Nanking- but [It took us a long time to get there, over 12 hours; the last time I left Nanking by train for Shanghai, it took me just under 5 hours in the Capital Express. The city and country just outside Shanghai are rather pathetic, the houses are all half burnt, and quite empty, and at first the country looks very uncared for and unkempt, and not much planted, though a field here and there is sown, and you see hardly man, woman, child or beast. However, as you get nearer Soochow the country gets more and more normal, and looks fairly well sown and planted; in some fields they were transplanting the rice. What we saw was on the whole born out by the latest survey they had made in Nanking, which was not quite finished, but in the districts that they had surveyed, it was felt that perhaps as much as 90% of the land was under cultivation now.]

[We stopped at every single station, generally for quite a long time; at all the smaller stations there was not much sign of life, except a few Japanese soldiers, and sometimes some children. When there were any children they always besieged the soldiers- and got things like empty bottles and cigarettes; a feeling for children seems to be one of the Japanese soldiers' more admirable characteristics. At the bigger stations- Soochow, Wusih etc there were a good many Japanese soldiers in evidence, and a few more passengers, but not much many, on the whole the cities looked pretty dead and sad, and you could never forget that you were in an occupied area. [We arrived in Nanking a little after 7. They line you up in a long line, and search you as you go through the barrier, at least They searched all the Chinese; they didn't search us, though they seized our permits as soon as we came through the barrier to copy into a little book, and pushed you about rather when you are not exactly where they think you ought to be. They are very much flaunting their authority about the place,

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in a way that would be difficult to bear, if you had to put up with much of it. Plummer Mills came down to meet us. You more or less have to be met, as there are no cars or carriages for hire, and it is Sabbath Day's journey in a rickshaw, you have to ask your friends for cars etc. [Outside the city there is a good deal of burning destruction, mainly done by the Chinese themselves, as part of the defence program - but on the road up to Ginling, there is not much destruction to be seen, except the Ministry of Communications, again destroyed by the Chinese themselves, but it looks fairly deserted as compared with what it was a year ago.]

[It was darkish so we couldn't see much of the Ginling campus but next morning it all looked amazingly normal. It is wonderful how well they have kept it with all those refugees there; it was trampled about a good bit at one time, but Minnie and Mrs Tsen have been busy getting it in order again. The only outward signs on the campus that all is not as usual is that there is much more barbed wire round the lawns, in order to keep the refugees off some of them, and also that along the covered ways and in other places there is much washing of various kinds hung out to dry, which looks a little strange. They have closed all the ~~camp~~ camps in Nanking, but they have about 700 ~~girls and~~ women under 30 on the campus still attending a kind of a summer school, the real purpose being to give a place to women who have lost their male relatives and are absolutely destitute, and also to such girls and women who live in those districts of the city which are still considered to be unsafe, owing to the proximity of the soldiers.] the Japanese soldier seems to have a rather ~~inordinately~~ inordinately large sexual appetite. [It has been very hard to keep the numbers down, as everybody wants to come, as they all feel much safer there than elsewhere, and it is also much pleasanter. However, they are keen to get the people ~~the~~ back to their homes, so they are doing their best to keep the numbers down. These girls are living in the Recitation Building, and the Central building, they just sleep on the floor and bring their own ~~bedding~~ bedding, there is the kind of smell you would expect - you know stale humanity and too much of it, - though they are really kept fairly tidy, and they do a lot of washing. In the dormitories which are ~~now~~ empty, the smell has gone, but the lower parts of the walls are still pretty dirty. They say when there ~~was~~ the greatest crush they were sitting on the stairs, without even room to stretch out. Now they got through those days I don't know; just forming up the rice line for over 10,000 must have been some business.] A [They had the opening exercises of the Summer School on Saturday. It was a cheering sight to see the Chapel Auditorium full of girls, really quite tidy looking and quite well behaved. They sang most heartily. It was mainly giving out of notices - many of them things they were not to do. Minnie was not entirely satisfied; she thought they were too negative, but they were given out in good spirit, and Harriet with translator made quite a nice little speech on the matters of Hygiene. The Dean of the Summer School - a Miss Wang - seemed to have a very pleasant way with her in the notices that she gave out, and she introduced the teachers. There is not a very heavy time table, as there is not a very large staff of teachers, every student has two classes a day, and three subjects in all, the subjects vary, but all study Bible - the other subjects are such as history, mathematics, English, Chinese, I think there is also some hygiene and singing. Minnie is hoping from this school to select the most needy 100-200 women to start the industrial school next fall. The students vary - I mean in the present summer school - from illiterates to girls in Senior middle school. I don't think hardly any of our college students are in Nanking, but there is at least one former Freshman, and I think she is going to help with the music.

But if Ginling looks fairly normal, and quite beautiful, I can't say as much for most of the rest of Nanking. In the safety zone, which is mostly the area round Ginling, there has not been much destruction, but



Specimen 6/21/38

all the houses are occupied by refugees- or empty- and along the streets there are all sorts of little booths, mainly stored with loot. The population of Nanking is mainly living by selling matches, other small articles and loot to itself; and you feel as though there is no normal healthy life flowing through the city.

We went on Tuesday rather further afield. Dr Rosen the German representative took us in his car outside the city and round the south part of the city, where the main business section is- or rather was. You can't go outside the city <sup>with</sup> without a special permit, or with one of the official representatives of other countries, as they are provided with a gendarme to protect them, or more accurately to observe all they do, they take copious notes. Dr Rosen has all along been very friendly with the group in Nanking, and strangely enough the most outspoken in his criticism of ~~the~~ our friendly neighbours. [The public buildings outside the city- such as the Ming Tombs, Dr Sun's tomb, the Memorial for the soldiers, Beamless Hall, Pagoda etc] are not damaged, though the animals leading up to the Ming Tombs were painted green by the Chinese by way of camouflage, and Dr Sun's tomb has been muffled in a kind of a bamboo cage, also part of a camouflaging procedure, though it looks reminded me rather of the figure of Strasbourg in Paris with her eyes bound while she was in German hands- the tomb looked as though its glory had been muffled while the Rising Sun was flying over Nanking. But all the houses have been destroyed, or are in the process of being destroyed, for the Japanese are taking no measures at all to prevent the people looting at their leisure. We went over that tallish house on a hill that had been built as a residential mansion. I don't think it was ever actually lived in. The wall on one side had been badly shot away by a big shell, but the main structure was still fairly all right, though of course all the glass and some of the tiles had been crushed and broken, and there was the carcass of a horse in the main reception room. But there you could see the process of destruction going on, as there were poor Chinese carting away the wooden panelling in the rooms, that would all go gradually, and then the stairs, and gradually everything that could be removed would be removed. [The park, of course, is not being kept up, and there are weeds and- growing up everywhere, though it still looks lovely, but when you think of what it was before, it is a very melancholy spectacle, a bit like the garden in Sleeping Beauty would have been before the Prince came.]

We very nearly got stuck in the mud of one of the roads coming back, which would have been a pity as the gate shuts at 7 pm, however, we didn't. [On the way back we drove down Tai Ping Lu, and other of the main streets, Tai Ping Lu is a wreck, there are hardly any whole shops, and such as there are are mostly occupied by Japanese; beer shops are very prominent among them. That whole The whole of that part of the city looks derelict, and would make you weep. There are a few Chinese to be seen, but mostly Japanese. We passed the Y.M.C.A building on our way back, which has been burnt, and also the State Cinema Theatre, the latest and most up-to-date, which has been completely gutted.] It was very good of Dr Rosen to take us, and I wouldn't have missed that drive and walk for anything, but I can't say I returned from it feeling very cheerful.

[I have gone rather ahead of the days, in trying to tell you something about the city as a whole. On Friday we spent most of the day going over books and papers in our offices.] I tried to just look through everything, as I knew I would not be back for two years at least, as we shall be up in Chengtu next year, and then I am due for furlough- I didn't have much more than time to look through things, but I was able to pick out what was most important to take up to Chengtu, if we can get any luggage up there.]

0915

Specimen 6/21/38

- Q On Friday evening there was a meeting and supper of all the missionaries in Nanking, quite a number of women missionaries had come up just the week before, including Harriet Whitmer, so that there are quite a group now. They wanted to discuss various problems- relief, education etc- so as to have some common policy and ideas. It was quite an interesting meeting to attend, as it gave one some idea of the present situation in Nanking. The country round is better than they had anticipated, but the city is in a pretty bad way, as there is really no source of income. Commercially it is cut off from other places, except what people can bring on foot- and all the wholesale business of the city is in the hands of the Japanese. At the moment people still have a few reserves yet, and they are managing to scratch a living somehow; food is cheap and the weather warm, but they all dread to think what it will be like next winter, and they are husbanding their resources for that time. The Japanese military, of course, accept no responsibility for the civilian life, and the puppet government is without prestige or ability; their policemen are not armed with as much as a stick, so that practically speaking the city is without police, and though the conditions are not as bad as they might be in some places, there are a certain number of armed robberies.
- Q Educationally [They plan to open a few schools of various sorts, and they hope, I think, that perhaps they will not be interfered with much. Minnie is planning to open the Practice School for Girls, but I don't think there will be a mission middle school for boys.] The hospital is going to have some difficulty in carrying on, as previously they met a good deal of their expenses by what the patients paid, but the number of free patients is increasing weekly now, and by next winter it is doubtful whether there will be any but free patients left in Nanking; and yet it was never more essential to have the hospital open, as there is no other in Nanking for Chinese.
- Q One of the men was very much concerned that nothing was being done for the Japanese, and wanted to try and get hold of some Japanese missionary or Japanese Christian to come and work among the troops, and give them some place to be decent in, if they wanted to be decent. At the moment the only places provided for the Japanese soldiers are beer halls, brothels, and now, I think, one cinema. Another of the men resent said at the beginning of the "incident" the National Christian Council of China Japan had asked to be allowed to send along ministers with the troops, but had been refused. I think it is interesting that an army trying to be as up to date as the Japanese should have nothing in the way of social welfare for their troops. They do have a couple of Buddhist priests- or monks- along with them I think, but they mainly concentrate on burying the dead, not helping the living, though I have always understood that there was a Young Men's Buddhist Association in Japan modelled on the lines of the Y.M.C.A., and I should have thought that might have done something. Certainly the Japanese army needs all the encouragement to be decent that it can get. I am just reading a book by Chamberlain called "De an over Asia", it was finished last September, so that the incident had begun but not developed to its present proportions- on the whole it strikes me as being a fairly fair objective account of Japan's plans and ambitions, but in several places he refers to the morale and discipline of the troops as being very good; I wonder whether he would or could write that now. This is not a full account of the meeting, but will give you some idea of some of the questions that came up.
- Q On Saturday we spent another day in our offices, and in the afternoon, feeling slightly sick, I had to lie down. I think it was because I had gone out without a hat in the middle of the day previously. I am slightly sensitive to sun. In the evening Minnie, the Isen and Mrs. Twinem had a farewell party for John Mage who is leaving Nanking on furlough. He is the one who has taken all the movies-1300 ft in all.



Speciel 6/21/38

Among the other guests was Dr Rosen the German representative, a very amusing man. He also is going home- for reasons, I am afraid, not unconnected with the present anti-semitic drive in Germany (though out here that is quite confidential), I think there is Jewish blood in the family, though it is also a very old diplomatic family, as they have been in the diplomatic service for three if not four generations. His mother was English, and he was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford just for one year 1913-14. He is most amusing on all his experiences with our friendly neighbours. On Sunday I spent most of the day working in my house, clearing out drawers etc. The Forsters of the American Church Mission are going to move into it for the summer, about which I am very pleased, as I like to think of it being lived in. But I was glad that I was able to go through everything before they came, I feel much happier now about leaving it for two years (or whatever it is) with all the drawers cleared out, and things put more properly away, though it did also give me a little heartache to leave it, the sitting room especially looked so friendly and welcoming, still I am lucky that it has not been hurt. I had to preach on Sunday afternoon at the English speaking service, but I had actually they didn't ask me until the Saturday, as they thought that Bishop Roberts would be there, but I had thought it was possible that they might ask me, so I had taken up the Broadcast address that I had given the previous Sunday, I didn't think many (if any) of them would have listened in, and I did adapt it a little, and I had to spend a certain amount of time going over it, and getting my mind round it.

Monday we spent mainly on the library books, going through both the boxes in which they had packed things away, and the shelves, and trying to select a minimum for Chengtu, a very difficult proposition. At tea time Annie read us some of the her diary of the part just before the city fell, it was very interesting going over that with her, and asking her questions. She really is a marvel what she has managed to do. In the evening I worked again on my house. On Tuesday we spent another morning with the books, and then went to lunch with Dr Rosen, where we met a Lieutenant from the Aphis, and also Mr Jefferies, the British Consul. I was glad to meet him as we had not done anything about letting him know we were there or anything, however, he didn't seem to mind, I think he was glad to leave us to manage our own affairs. Dr Rosen has a very good gramophone attached to the Radio, and an excellent collection of records, so we had quite amusing conversations and very good music. He also very kindly lent us his car to go to the Japanese Embassy to see about our permits. We had taken them the day before because but the right official was out, so we had to take leave then and collect them on Tuesday. Remarkable to say nothing more needed to be done to them, and we collected them on Tuesday without any fuss. Coming back a sentry stopped the car, had a look at all the chauffeur's papers, and also a long look at Florence and myself, he didn't seem to like the look of us very much, and I didn't think much of him either, but after a long stare he let us go on. There was a German flag on the car, and also an announcement that it belonged to the German embassy in Chinese characters, I don't know why he stopped it, mainly boredom I should think. After that Dr Rosen took us for the drive and walk that I have already mentioned.

Tuesday we spent tidying up all the mess we had made the other days, packing etc. We had hoped some of the boxes could go down on the gun boat that was leaving the next day, but they couldn't. However, we left them all tied up and packed ready to go when they could. We went out and did a certain amount of saying good-bye, though when we called at the Buck house, where eight of the men live, they were all out except Claude Thomson with whom we came up, and he was on his way to the American Embassy over a little incident with a Japanese sentry. However, Searle, Lewis Smythe, and Plummer Mill came over to say good bye that evening.

0917



Specimen 6/21/38

[Getting tickets to leave is quite a business, as the train leaves at 6.30 (7.20 Tokyo time, which is what the Japanese keep so silly), and they don't sell any tickets until that morning, and there is quite a rush on the train, and you may go down and not get one.] However, Minnie very kindly got a military acquaintance of hers to reserve two tickets, and as we also had Dr. Rosen's car and gendarme to accompany us to the station at 5 am the next morning - Thursday - we really got on quite all right, though the Japanese are certainly not doing anything to make travelling easy for the civilians. There was a long long line of Chinese waiting to buy their tickets but I am afraid the Japanese gendarme inserted me into the head of the line. Mary Winem suddenly decided to come down with us - she had another arrangement about her ticket, which didn't work, however, right at the last moment she got a ticket all right, and as we had been keeping a place for her she was right. [The journey down to Shanghai was longer - over 14 hours - and more crowded, the train was even fuller than when we came up, and kept on getting fuller and fuller at each station, but otherwise it was all right, though very tedious, and I was glad when we finally arrived in Shanghai.] We had difficulties in getting coolies, but we did finally meet the man who had come to meet us from the International Guides Bureau with a car, and I got back to the Hospital not long after nine.]

I am very glad for many reasons that we were able to get up, and it was good to see Mrs. Tson, Blanche, Minnie and others, but Hankow is certainly a city to make your heart ache, especially when you think how full of life and energy it was a year ago. The Japanese seem to have accomplished nothing but the sheerest destruction, and I can't believe there is much hope for the future, unless they and their influence are cleared right out. I don't mean they should not be allowed legitimate trade, but that as long as their policy is directed by their militarists it holds nothing but the chill of death for the Chinese people, on whose behalf they claim to be fighting. (Thursday June 23rd)

[Minnie we hope is coming down to-day for the commencement exercises] etc, but I don't think Blanche and Mrs. Tson will come out for the time at any rate, it galls them too much to have to go through all the process involved - and the recognition of Japanese authority, and being pushed about by them etc. I can't say I blame them.

I am afraid this letter was not finished quite when it was started. Since I have been back I have finished up my teaching, done exams, and a good bit of talking about this journey to Chungtu, which seems to get harder and harder, the word we had yesterday from Harriet Myers at Kunming was not encouraging, but Hankow looks pretty impossible now, and it seems hard to get definite word on the Huchow-Kweiyang trip. However, it is just a question of going on. Saturday afternoon and evening I spent with Nellie Murray, as she has left for her holiday on Sunday, and I am due to have left Shanghai before she comes back, and as she is due for furlough next autumn, I shall not see her for at least a year.

[ON Sunday there was the joint Baccalaureate Service for the Christian Colleges in East China, it was held at Moore Memorial Church, Dr. Cheng Ching-yi was speaking, and it was really quite an impressive service.] Since then there have been the ordinary end of term activities.

Oh one little surprise - three belated Xmas presents turned up from Hanko, Xmas Cake, still quite eatable, chocolate, also eatable, and 3 pairs of silk stockings, and I didn't have to pay duty on any of it, so I was very glad to get them.

Well, I must stop now, and get this letter off.

Sorry there has been a delay of just over two weeks,

Much love

Eva.

0918

February - June 24, 1938

and the seven Dwards, which I enjoyed, but which I am sure would have given me the nightmare when I was young - then tea- and then we went into six shops looking for rugs for Wilary- but I didn't see anything I really liked I went later - On Monday I think it was to a more and expensive shop and found what I liked, it is sad how the more expensive things are the nicer.

[In the evening I went to a meeting which was part of a semi-week-end retreat- we had supper, and the Rufus Jones talked followed by discussion and some time for quiet.] I stayed the night out with Ruth and Florence, as they lived near where the meeting was held, and [there was no other meeting the next morning, and again in the afternoon,] that is why I said Sunday was busy. [After supper I had to broadcast, I had done most of the preparation on Friday evening, but I had to finish it off rather hastily on Sunday evening afternoon and evening. The L.M.S is responsible for every Sunday 8.30-9 pm.] There is a Christian Broadcasting station in Shanghai, but not a very powerful one, when the National Christian Council want to broadcast news about the Churches, they go to another one.

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[To-day we hoped that we should get out pass and tickets and  
 everything for going to Nanking; we have got the tickets all right, but  
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 I think it will have be to Kuenming, or in the last resort the air. I mean  
 the route to Chengtu, the route to Nanking is still by train, though very  
 slow and uncomfortable.

I am not taking my typewriter with me, but next letter I will write while I am here, though I doubt if we shall have much time to go over books, papers etc, and get out things for Chengtu.

Well, good bye, love from,

*[Handwritten signature]*

and attend

0919

Half of the time before.

Tuesday - June 24, 1938

When K.B. left Gladys Parker moved in here from the sister's flat so we are three again. Thursday and Friday were more or less uneventful I think. [On Friday we had our last Faculty Lunch Discussion group, and this time Dr Rufus Jones took it.] He and his wife are a nice solid elderly couple. [He is a very well-known Quaker in America, and we had asked him to speak on the Practice Of Meditation] but apparently ~~nebe~~ he had not been told, however, he spoke quite pleasantly and informally. We have taken it in turns to provide the lunch, and this time there was mein-which I am afraid people out of practice would with chop-sticks would find quite difficult, however, he and Mrs Jones were very good sports about it.

[On Saturday Nellie had an afternoon outing- lunch- then Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, which I enjoyed, but which I am sure would have given me the nightmare when I was young- then tea- and then we went into six shops looking for rugs for Wilary- but I didn't see anything I really liked I went later - On Monday I think it was to a more and expensive shop and found what I liked, it is sad how the more expensive things are the nicer.

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[On Monday there was yet another meeting, this time the F.O.R. There was a Japanese there, a delegate from the Friend's Yearly Meeting in Tokyo, he had also been present at the meeting on Sunday afternoon, and had spoken quite remarkably. It can't have been exactly easy to sit through the discussion on Monday evening, but he seemed to bear up very well.]

[To-day we hoped that we should get out pass and tickets and everything for going to Nanking, we have got the tickets all right, but unfortunately the man whom Claude Thomson had trusted to get the tickets- a man in the Japanese consulate- had not been able to deliver the goods. The military will do nothing at the request of the civil authorities, and they seem to wish to make the train journey as difficult as possible. So we have put off going for one day] as there is some doubt whether we should get the tickets, even if we went at crack of dawn to-morrow (you have to be there by about 5 am) and [if we put it off till Thursday, we can get it through an International Guides Bureau.] The route via Hankow looks worse and worse, I think it will have to be to Kuenming, or in the last resort the air. I mean the route to Chengtu, the route to Nanking is still by train, though very slow and uncomfortable.

I seem to have had a lot of last minute instructions- things to be done, so that I am not sorry to have an extra day.

I don't expect I shall write while I am in Nanking, as I am not taking my typewriter with me, but next letter I will tell you about our visit, though I doubt if we shall have much time to go sight-seeing, our main job is to go over books, papers etc, and get out a few essential things for Chengtu.

I want to go of course, and yet I rather hate the too.

Well, good bye, love from,

Wm

0920



III  
London Mission,  
Hankow,  
Aug 3rd, 1938.

{ Include [ ]  
{ Mimeographed in Sept. 1938.

Dear Rebecca,

Herewith a rather dull general letter, the last part of which covers the journey, I am sending it along, though I don't think it is worth much, and I know that Florence has covered the ground more adequately. It seems mainly a journey of delays at the moment, but patience is as thing it is relatively easy to have in hot weather, just to sit seems quite a pleasant occupation.

I would be grateful if you would send this on to Edith Haight and Kathleen Bond, when you have just looked through it.

I am sorry we could not get any pictures of our arrival in Wuchang, but 2 am in the morning is not the best time for taking pictures. [I think very soon I shall take a vow of poverty and become a Franciscan-monk with only the clothes I stand up in, it would be just wonderful not to have any luggage, that is the great nightmare when travelling, not bombs or anything like that.]

[I feel quite at home here, as we are installed in the London Mission Hankow where I lived part time last fall. There was an air raid this morning, but not many wounded, and it was not from where I was - a very noisy air raid. It was mainly concentrated on the air field, and of course it is not known what damage has been done there.]

Well, I want to get this letter off. I was very glad to hear that you and Miss Evans had made connection all right. We are enjoying seeing some Nanking people here - like Anna Moffet, and it was good to see Catherine again. If only our boat will get itself repaired all will be well.

With all good wishes, and love

Don

Rebecca wants it for  
Ginling files

0921

Unconnected

Include

]

London Mission,  
Hankow,  
July 31st, 1938.

[I am afraid it has been a long time since I wrote any general letter, I think the last was just after I got back from Hanking. I have written to my family since then, but nothing in the way of my general letter. Life just seemed rather too busy, though I should find it hard to say exactly why.

After Florence and I got back from Hanking, the time was taken up with a few last classes, and then exams, corrections, and the usual end of term doings.

The end of term was one function after another. Minnie was Vautrin was fortunately able to come down from Hanking in time for all the end of term festivities. We started the final festivities with a Senior Class Day program, which was held on Friday afternoon out at McTeiryre, it was quite simple, but quite effective, and was largely modelled on Smith College Step singing etc. In the evening the Seniors invited the Faculty to dinner.

[On Saturday morning there were the Commencement exercises- which were held jointly by the Seven Christian Universities and Colleges now operating in Shanghai. It was quite an impressive ceremony, especially at the start, it could hardly help dragging abit at the end. It was held in the Grand Theatre, which has been leant for the purpose, and music was provided by the band of the Fourth Marines (American). The Faculty and ~~and~~ Graduating classes of all the institutions processed in. Some people had felt that it was rather asking for trouble to have such a large ceremony of purely Chinese colleges- but in spite of the fact that the platform was decorated with the Chinese National Flag, and the American flag, as well as the banners of the seven colleges and that the Chinese National Anthem was played at the beginning, and followed by a patriotic hymn (to the tune of God Save the King), all passed off peacefully. The Japanese have not yet begun interfering with education in the settlements. The rest of the proceedings were what you would expect- prayer- speeches of various kinds- the main speech was by W.W.Yen- and the granting of the diplomas. As there were so many present they didnt come up to the platform for their diploma, but the head of each college just read their names out, and they stood up, the only exception to that were those who were receiving the medical doctors degrees, they came up to the platform for their hood. It all went through very smoothly, though our exit from the hall was something of a scramble.

[After the Commencement was over, we had the Faculty-Senior banquet at the Foreign Y.M.C.A which was just next door - the room was just large enough for us all, we could hardly have got in another one I think, but you get a greater sense of fellowship when you are a good many in a small room. The subject round which the speeches ~~centered~~ were was "Roads", which seemed appropriate to the occasion, as we were all feeling very much on the go, and Liu An-lan made a good toastmistress.

[That afternoon the Seniors gave a farewell tea to the Sophomores, which I attended, and went on from there to Hanking re-united to see some of Mr Magees pictures at the American School with his explanations. Minnie also spoke a little.

[On Sunday there was a singing Alumnae meeting, at which quite a large number turned up, and where Minnie spoke, and showed the picture,

0922

2

Spicer

Ginling

that Mr Magee had taken- just the ones of Nanking- [I have had them duplicate not any of the atrocities.] It was a good meeting, and Minnie spoke well. [The rest of the time in Shanghai, which was just over a fortnight was taken up with continued arrangements over the journey, we were still not quite certain which way we were to go, though we finally eliminated the Yunnan route- and decided that it must be either Hankow, or from Hong Kong to Wuchow, up the Pearl River, and then across Kwangsi, Kweichow and Szechuan by bus. We continued to make arrangements both ways, though the difficulty of taking luggage that way made us hope that it would be possible to go by Hankow. However, we had to leave it uncertain until we arrived at Hong Kong, and got final word from Hankow as to what we should do. Besides all the letters, conferences etc, there was packing to be done. The things that Florence and I had got out from Nanking were not final brought down from Nanking till about two weeks after we got back, when the British and American navy is very kindly acting as freight carrier you have to wait until it is convenient for them to bring it. We decided that after consultation that the best way to send the books was by parcel book post to Kunming, and then have them forwarded from there. You cant send by book post direct to Chengtu, but it is possible to do it this way, and works out cheaper than freight, which is very high indeed to Chengtu. It meant quite a lot of packing up and taking to the post, but the girls helped, and they were through it in about four days. I cant say I did much of that, though I was round the place a bit. I meant to help more but over the last weekend in June I was knocked out for two days by a bout of tummy trouble, and even when I was up and about I didnt feel too energetic. I think may be I went to too many Chinese feasts, as there were quite a lot given after the Commencement exercises by various alumnae etc- mainly in honour of Minnie, but the rest of us were bidden too. So you see life got quite filled up, and there were people to see before saying good bye to Shanghai etc, though there were a lot of people I should have done something about that I never did succeed in getting round to see, but I did see a few people at various meals.

7th Nov 1947

Also of course there is one's own packing to be done- so that although life seemed about as full as one wanted, if not a little fuller. [The day before we were due to get on board- that was July 12th- there was a whole day conference of the delegates to Madras, so I had to keep that free. It was quite interesting, though I think we rather tried to cover too much ground, and the interest rather lagged in the afternoon, as it was a pretty hot day. We got onto the invariable subject of work in occupied areas- and whether or not Christian schools could really square it with their conscience to have their principals denouncing the Central government, and upholding the new regime, when one knew their heart was not behind it. It seemed as though it would be impossible to build up integrity of character under those circumstances, and that it was really a moral not a political issue. I doubt if many Chinese principals in this part of the country would be willing to do it, but in the north things are different, and apparently many of the principals are doing it, for the sake of keeping their schools open, and giving their students the chance of an education, which if they closed down they might not be able to get. It is all a ver



difficult question, but obviously the Church is in real danger of falling back on the preaching of an other worldly gospel in order to avoid the issues of the present situation. It is extraordinarily difficult to know what is the right thing to do; you don't want to be purely political, and certainly don't want to preach in a kind of ecclesiastical vacuum, which seems something of a danger. I saw a report of a mission of leading Japanese Christians that had been sent over to Peiping to take a look over things, and possibly to start some Christian work from Japan in China. It doesn't seem as though it would be a very good thing time at which to begin such work, but ~~the~~ even the best of the Japanese don't seem to have much idea of how the Chinese feel about it all, and I don't think they can quite rid themselves of the idea that they really do have a perfect right to be in North China.]

However, that whole question is too complicated to get into now, but it does present very difficult problems.

[The Empress of Japan - on which we were going to Hong Kong left early on Wednesday morning, but we had to get on board the night before. I went down on the 4 pm tender with most of the girls, and saw our luggage safely esconced in the cabin, and then returned for a leisurely dinner with Elsie and Gladys, and later Elsie saw me on to the 11 pm tender.

*Contributed with notes* I felt quite sad that my time in Shanghai was over. I had settled into a sort of pleasant little routine there, and I enjoyed staying at the hospital, but with Elsie and Gladys, but the journey had been looming over us for so long, that in a way I was glad to get started on it, and the thought of the two days on the boats, when we couldn't possibly make any plans or change of plans was very blissful. Florence and I had tried to get third class bookings, but we couldn't, so we travelled in luxury in Tourist or second class. The Chinese faculty and students were travelling open third, but they were apparently allowed the run of the ship pretty well, and didn't fare so badly, though their cabin - they were altogether in one large one - was pretty hot, especially the first night before the ship started.]

It was a very pleasant two days, and the sea was as smooth as glass, though mainly owing to the fact that I was somewhat weary, and that my stomach had not quite righted itself, I was a little sick the first day, but even that didn't prevent me enjoying it. We sat at a table with an Italian opera singer - large and dark - who had been endeavouring to teach the Japanese to sing - to which task she was returning after a brief holiday in Italy. She didn't seem very enamoured of the Japanese, and had no opinion of their powers to sing - she seemed to think they lacked both the vocal organs and the musical ear, and the emotion, but admitted they had great persistence and keenness, and thought they might ultimately succeed. They seem to have what amounts to almost a passion for western music.

We arrived in Hong Kong very early on Friday morning, and at once we began to get instructions - before I was out of bed I got a letter from Dr Wu and Catharine Sutherland (Dr Wu was in Hankow on business) saying that we had better come that way. We also heard the rather cheering news that they were now running a through train from Kowloon to Hankow twice a week, so we should not have to change at Canton. The train that should have left on Thursday was still sitting in the station owing to a collision on the line, but when we telephoned up we found we couldn't get reservations on that, so it looked as though we should have to wait until next Monday. Florence and I went up to the London Mission to stay with Miss Shilston in one of the houses on Robinson Road, they are higher than the hospital, and have a really lovely view over the harbour - owing to furlough holidays etc Miss Shilston was alone, so that Florence and I had a large room each to ourselves, and felt very luxurious - each room had a bath attached. Most of the students went to True Light Primary School, but some of them and the faculty were staying with friends and relatives.

We arranged to meet at the ~~China~~ Hong Kong Hotel to make arrangements at 3 pm that afternoon. When we parted at the boat we thought we were going by Hankow, but at noon I got an air mail letter from Miss Sutherland saying that we had better not come by Hankow, as it was almost impossible to get passages past Ichang, so that Dr Wu recommended us to go round by Whohow, and overland by bus. So when we met at 3 pm we told them the news, and then repaired to the China Travel Service to talk over plans. We made reservations for the boat going to Yuchow on Tuesday, and decided to send one telegram to the Provincial government of Kwangsi asking them to reserve a bus, and another to Dr Wu to ask for a military pass, which people seemed to think might be necessary for the bus journey through three provinces, if we were not to be searched all the time. When we had made all these arrangements, and Miss Hwang had gone off to send the telegrams, Florence and I returned to ~~the~~ our abiding place, and shortly after a telegram arrived from Dr Wu telling us to come via Hankow, as she had ~~passages~~ passages for us, presumably through passages for Chungking. We couldn't do much that night, but we did send off a wire to Dr Wu telling her that we had got the wire, cancelling the wire we had already sent that day, and assuring her that we would come via Hankow. So next morning we all met again at the China Travel Service and changed our plans again, cancelling the boat reservations for Yuchow, and making tentative reservations for the Monday train, and if that was not possible the Thursday train, they said they could not tell us about the reservations until Monday, so we arranged to meet there on Monday morning and find out.

Sunday we spent pleasantly away from the China Travel Service. In the morning we went to the Cathedral, and in the afternoon we drove out with some of the Alumnae to see Mrs New - a graduate of Ginling, and classmate of Dr Wu, who has not very long ago lost her husband, and is down in Hong Kong resting after a very strenuous winter of refugee work with her only son. She was staying at St Stephen's College, which is quite a way out round the island it was a lovely drive, and a beautiful place when we got there. I should also have mentioned that on Saturday evening we had a very pleasant - if somewhat noisy (because the restaurant itself was noisy) - alumnae gathering - there were about 30 present including present students and faculty, and after dinner Florence and I tried to tell them something about our visit to Hankow, and the present plans for Ginling.

On Monday we met again at the China Travel Service, and found we could not get reservations for Monday, so made them for Thursday, but we could not yet buy the tickets. Florence and I shopped provisions and odds and ends most of the morning. After tea we went up the Peak in the tram and had a nice walk down. Miss Shilston took us, and on our way home we ran into Mr Boxer who took us for a drive in his car. Hong Kong has really lovely views, and it was very pleasant seeing sea, and mountains and trees again after months of Shanghai, in which one was practically a prisoner. I really enjoyed that evening, as I thought we were all set to go to Hankow on Thursday, and for the moment there was nothing to worry about. However, our daily visit to the China Travel Service (not all of us went every day, but Hwang Dzun-mei and I were always there) on Tuesday revealed to us the fact that the train was not quite certain, they would not sell us tickets for it, as it had not yet got in. On Wednesday morning there was the news of a rather bad air raid in Hankow, and I began to wonder whether we ought to take the students that way - however, although there was no news of the train on Wednesday, we got an air mail letter from Dr Wu, in which she told us that even with the air raids and everything she thought it was best for us to come, and certainly the difficulties of the bus route did not seem any less as we examined it more closely, especially the problem of luggage, and in spite of all efforts to keep it down, we seemed to have mountains of it.



They held us out hopes on Wednesday that the train might go on Thursday, so we prepared for it, and got all packed and everything, but when we went in the morning, they said no it wouldn't not be going before Friday. As extra time had been given us - Florence and went with some of the people for the mission to a movie - not a very good one really - though I have liked the Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy before. On Friday we were greeted with the word that the train would not leave till Saturday - a good deal of time was taken up with writing or wiring our change of dates to people in Hankow. Finally on Saturday they said the train was in, and would leave on Saturday afternoon at 4 pm. We had to be there early, as we had a lot of luggage to see through customs, most of us and our luggage was at the station by 1 pm. Actually it was a little unnecessary early, as the customs procedure did not begin until 2 pm, on the whole we got through that pretty well, as they did not open any of the heavy luggage (my heart sank when I saw how much we had), and only of a few of the hand pieces. I struck one snag, as apparently I should have had a pass for my radio which, I did not have, and they would not let me take it. However, I left it with the Miss travel people and asked Irene Moody, who was down seeing us off to see what she could do about getting the pass, and pushing the radio onto Hankow. Finally we are all settled in our compartments - our party consisted of 17, six faculty, nice students and two friends. Dr Sydenham, Irene and Marjorie Moody came down to see us off, and also Dr Sydenham, and Marjorie and Dr Sydenham very kindly went off and got us ice cream, which cooled us down nicely. Dr Sydenham left before the train started, as she had an appointment to keep. Irene and Marjorie got out of the train, we were all hanging out of the train saying good-bye, and the whistle had actually gone, when suddenly a rumour flew down the train, confirmed only too soon by an official that the train would not leave then, but would wait until Monday. I never felt so collapsed in all my born days - we seemed to have been getting ready to go for so long, and there we were with all our bag and baggage, the girls had done up their bedding rolls, most of them were in the van, what should we do? Fortunately, when we interviewed the foreigner in charge of the station, he was quite willing that any one who wanted to should stay on the train, so eight did, three faculty and five students, and that meant that we could all leave our things in the compartments, and just take what we needed for a night or two. Actually Miss Shilston, who had been our hostess was leaving that evening on her own holiday, but we telephoned her up before she left, and she arranged for our supper and breakfast, and the rest of the meals we had round with other people in the mission, so we were all right. In order to drown out sorrows, we went with the two "oodies" to a perfectly mad movie called "A Yank at Oxford", and then returned home. On Sunday we spent a good deal of the time entertaining the faculty and students who had stayed on the train to baths, as naturally they didn't have much in the way of washing accommodation, they said that the train had not really been bad, and not as hot as you might have expected. We had lunch with Miss Ward and her household, and supper with Mrs Hughes and Dr Sydenham, and went to the Cathedral afterwards. Bishop Hall was preaching, and when I have had heard five his addresses I have always liked him very much, and thought he had a lot to say, but there is something about the sermon in an Episcopal service which always seems like a P.S., and it seems to effect all the clergy somewhat, so that it never seems to have real meat and preparation in it, and often even the best of men seem to give you a sense of a rather casual talk, tacked on as an afterthought to the main service. I daresay the Free Churches make too much of it, but I think the Episcopal Church undoubtedly errs in the other direction, I had heard him speak on quite a lot of different occasions before, but I had never heard him preach in an ordinary service, and it was rather a disappointment, though

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I must admit he looked very tired, and everybody says he is overworking, and he probably hasn't sufficient energy for preaching.

On Monday I tried to see what could be done about the radio, but apparently it could not be got in Hong Kong, and the China Travel said they would see what could be done about getting it from Canton, so I left it with them and Miss Moody.

This time nobody came to see us off, but the train- to our great relief left at the time it said it would. I think I forgot to mention that the reason why it was delayed two days, was that the Japanese had got two bridges I think, and it would need about 30 hours to repair them, and the train always leaves in the evening in order to go through the dangerous section by night.

For the first two nights and day everything went very smoothly, Florence and I had wondered whether we ought to go up to Canton to get an interior travel visa, but actually they never asked to see our passports at all, they asked who we were when we crossed the border, and in Changsha, but a simple answer and a name card seemed all that was necessary. We also received a very polite letter from the manager of the line, as Dr. W. had got somebody from the Ministry of Communications to wire.

Awantung is supposed to be the most dangerous province for bombing, but we went through that quite calmly, in some places you could see a little damage, especially at the stations, and one bridge we went over seemed to have been damaged, but I think the worst bridge we went over at night, so couldn't see anything. The scenery was lovely on Tuesday, and the weather really quite cool, though it warmed up rather in the afternoon and that night was pretty warm. We arrived in Changsha about 8.30 am on Wednesday, and it looked as though we might be in Hankow almost up to time, as according to schedule the train was due about 10 pm. One of our faculty members left the train at Changsha to see her family for a few days, and found (I learnt afterwards) that her house had been bombed in one of the recent air raids, though none of the family had been injured.

About two hours after we left Changsha we were told that there was an air raid on ahead, the train stopped, and we left the train, and scattered in the fields. We found quite a pleasant spot with trees, and we even washed our feet in a running stream, in which the water was almost warm, and it was quite pleasant, though it gradually grew very hot. We finally took refuge in a farm house for the shade. The people were very pleasant, and seemed quite undisturbed, I don't think the Japanese generally bomb the actual train, and I don't think they had bombed in that neighbourhood much at all. After a little over two hours the engine roared very loudly, and we all made our way back to the train, some people had not left the train, and some had gone back again, but most of us had stayed out, though not all in one spot. We then went on for an hour or so, and then halted again at a very small station, where they said we should wait until the next day, as the line ahead had been quite seriously damaged, and they could take time to repair it. However, we moved on from there in about an hour or so, and came to Yochow where part of the bombing had taken place, though they had got the actual track a little way outside Yochow, and it was there the repair took the longest time. At Yochow they had got the platform, and some of the station buildings, and the street leading from the station to the town was practically in ruins, and some of the houses were still smoking, but two out of the three lines were still quite usable. They said that about 80 had been killed and wounded that day in the air raid earlier in the day we had seen six aeroplanes flying in the distance, but I don't know whether they were Japanese or not.

We waited at Yochow until about 1.30 pm the next day, and it was quite the hottest night I have ever spent in my life, there didn't seem a breath of air inside the train, and the fans only went round and round.

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so  
went, but that didn't help things much. I managed to lie fairly still, which seems essential, but it was rather like trying to sleep in a hot house. We waited next morning in entire uncertainty as to when we should be able to move on, but at 1.30 pm the train started, about ten minutes outside of Yochow we went over the place that had been bombed, they had got the line fair and square, there was still an enormous hole there, and the lines were all twisted back, they must have laid the new lines round the hole, we simply crept over it, the train hardly seemed to be moving at all, but we did get over it all right, and proceeded without event. We had one more wait before we arrived in Wuchang, for another train to come by. We passed over another damaged piece of track near Hsiening, but it was too late at night to see anything.

Catherine Sutherland met us at about 1 am at the first Wuchang station, but didn't come on with us. We arrived at the final station some thing after 1.30, it was quite a business getting all - even of our so-called hand luggage to the ferry. At first there seemed no coolies in sight, only large numbers of the Chinese army, and civilians sleeping all over the station, you literally had to pick your way over them. Gradually more coolies materialised, and we did just get all the luggage on to the ferry in time, but we had quite a business settling with the coolies, as we had had to take them on at different times, but didn't exactly know who had carried how much, so that they would not carry our things off the ferry. However, Wang Dzun-mei discovered that the ferry had been moved up river from Nanking, and that the ferry men were all from Nanking, so that on the strength of being fellow refugees they very kindly helped us with the luggage. When we got finally on the banks of Hankow, there seemed hardly any rickshaws, and nothing else in the way of conveyances - I walked on ahead to telephone from the London Mission for a car or something, but before I got there, a telephone message had arrived to say that all was well, and after about another half hour the whole party plus rickshaws with baggage arrived. The streets of Hankow seemed very quiet, and although perhaps 2-4 am is not the time one would pick to arrive, yet on a nice dark night it has at least the advantage of being a very safe time as far as air raids are concerned, and is also quite cool.

The servant in Miss Moody's flat had very thoughtfully provided bottles and bottles of cooled water, which we greedily drank, and we also had a snack of something to eat, before we settled down for the night or rather morning - it was quite light by the time I had had my bath and got into bed.

[We are very well off for a place to stay here, the faculty are sleeping downstairs in Miss Moody's flat, and the students are upstairs in the flat that has been in use for the women teachers at I Hsun.] Florence and I are eating here, Liang Sz-du, Irene's servant is doing for us, and the others have occasional meals with us - but they have made arrangements at St Paul's to have their meals there, and it is only about 5 minutes away, so that isn't so bad. [We have all got beds! there is running cold water, and it is a relatively safe part of the city - the houses and the walls are all decorated with the Union Jack - for whatever that is worth, at times it seems as though the British flag was more of a target than a protection.]

We began getting busy about our bookings on Friday, and went to see Mr Hollington Tang - through whom Dr Wu had got them - on Friday, and he took us round to Butterfield and Swire on Saturday - the places seem all right, three reservations for foreigners (we have to travel saloon class) and 30 deck passages - the only trouble is that the boat is laid up for repairs, and owing to the shortage of labour they are proceeding very slowly. They originally said the boat would go about Aug 8th, now they say Aug 16th, and I don't think there is any guarantee that it will actually

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go then. However, there is nothing to be done about it, I don't think there are any through passages to be had except on Government boats, and we are much better off waiting here than in Ichang, which is crowded to overflowing. All the people I have talked to seem to think that Hankow is safe for at least another six weeks, and many would put it over two months or more. I am sure B & S will do their best to get the boat repaired, and in the meanwhile I think the only thing for us to do is to wait patiently. There are lots of letters etc one can write, and I think we shall be able to get some work for the students to do at the Red Cross godown, and perhaps the work party- so I hope the time will pass pretty quickly. The time seems to have gone very quickly since we arrived, though except for a few calls, church etc I should find it hard to say what exactly I have done. Of course in this rather hot weather (though it hasn't been at all unbearable since we arrived here) one can always do a good bit of sleeping, especially in the afternoon. The Andersons and Ginger- who went up to Kuling- arrived back in Hankow on Friday- the same day as we did. They had returned by way of the railway from Kiukiang to Nanchang, at least it wasn't from Kiukiang itself but a place about 40 miles up the line- the Chinese were tearing up the track behind them as they went, then they went to Changsha, and so back to Hankow. Part of the way they travelled in a steel lined car, which must have been as hot as hell in this weather.

We are hoping to go over to Kuchang to-night to see Catharine- we meant to go yesterday but it rained. To-day is now Monday Aug 1st, I started this letter yesterday.

I trust that our wait in Hankow will be fairly uneventful, so I expect to write the next instalment of this letter on our trip up to Chungking, perhaps as we got through the gorges.

My love to all of you,  
Eva.

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## GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Letters from Eva Spicer  
August 11 - September 3, 1938  
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August 11, 1938 - We have been trying to do a little useful work while we are here, and I have been to the Red Cross Godown three mornings, where the eighth consignment of the Lord Mayor's Fund has just arrived - we began unpacking that yesterday. (We spent most of yesterday moving drugs from one shelf to another, as they were re-organizing the system.

We had a Chinese meal on Tuesday evening with an alumnae, who is now doing Physical education work with factory girls. Madame Chiang is doing her best to remove both the factory-machinery and all - and the girls too, as she doesn't like the thought of leaving so many young girls here, but out of 2,000 in the factory where our alumnae - Djang Yin feng by name - is working, only 200 were willing to leave their families and go. So I don't know how successful they will be in their endeavor to move industrial enterprises.

Two of the alumnae who were present at this meal had been working with the wounded soldiers in the winter in Nanchang, and the country near, and had very much enjoyed it; they found the soldiers so responsive and so eager to learn.

There is a great difference of opinion in Hankow as to how long it will be held, some say that if the Chinese really put their backs into it, there is no reason why it should ever be lost! Other people seem to expect it to fall in about six weeks, others say October or thereabouts. Of course the trouble with Russia may make a difference. Everybody agrees that if Hankow falls it will create a very serious problem for the Central government - how serious people again differ on - some think that it would mean the end of the Central government, but others think that Chiang could weather even that.

August 17, 1938 - I wrote last during the air raid on Thursday. It turned out to have been quite a bad one. They got among other places the Hwa Chung Compound, a building that was used by the Boy Scouts, just opposite the building where I had my office when I was teaching at Hwa Chung in the fall, also fell quite near St. Hilda's where I visited often when I was here. Of course the worst part of these raids is the tremendous loss of life and the wounded. They dropped the bombs in fairly crowded districts. One of the worst places was along the Han river; apparently they were aiming at some boats which were removing some of the machinery from factories that are being dismantled in Wuhan. They may have got some of the junks, I think they did, but they also got a lot of poor people who live in that district.

On Friday we had another air raid, about the same time - they all mostly seem to come about noon - this one was just as bad as the day before, and as far as Hankow was concerned rather worse, as they dropped bombs in the Japanese concession, and on the Ping Han railways, not the Hankow station itself, but a little way down the line, the numbers killed and wounded were pretty high again, and I think the cities felt decidedly nervous. They thought they were warming up for the worst one of all on Saturday, the day on which the war in Shanghai started last year.

On Monday we started the day quietly and went through the noon hour without anything; however, there was one from 5-6, not a bad one, as they concentrated mainly on the air-field, we were in the Lutheran home at the time, and that is a fairly solid building. On Tuesday we started with a warning just after breakfast, about 9 am, but that time went without any bombs being dropped or guns fired. However,

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around noon we had a real one, I think the bombs dropped as near to here as they have ever dropped. We could see the clouds of smoke very clearly. I am afraid it was another bad one as far as human life was concerned.

Life really hasn't been quite as full of air raids as this account sounds, as after all, the longest of them only lasted about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and you can go on doing other things, though when the deep hush descends over the city after the rush of feet and cars when the siren sounds, and you hear the gentle hum of the aeroplanes growing louder, it seems almost impossible to <sup>go</sup> on typing, because you do want to listen, even though you don't, and the typing makes quite a noise. If I have not something like folding dressings on hand, I have found that playing patience is a very good occupation, there is enough to keep your mind occupied a bit, and yet it doesn't need very much intelligence. All the group are wonderfully good, and there are none of them that show the slightest sign of any lack of self-control, though I don't suppose they like them. No one would.

Florence and I had tried to see Mr. Durdin of the New York Times on Monday, as he wanted to ask us a few questions about Nanking (it was ~~nt~~ an interview, just a friendly chat, because he knew people there) but he was busy looking at the air raid just then, however, we went on Tuesday, and chatted pleasantly for an hour.

August 23, 1938 - The official sailing hour of the boat was 7 a.m., but they didn't actually leave until about 8:30, most of the time in between was taken up with the inspection of tickets. They are trying to prevent the boys on the boat from selling places at high prices to people, in an entirely unauthorized manner. So they go as carefully as they can through all the passengers to see if they have an official ticket; if they haven't they try to get the passenger to identify the boy who sold the place, and they arrest the boy. I think they generally let the passenger stay on board. Then there are stowaways and other excitements.

August 27, 1938 - We are due to arrive in Chungking today, sometime this afternoon I think. I must own that I have a lazy nature, and shall be quite sorry to leave the relative comfort and peace of the ship, and take up the strenuous business of seeing to luggage, or rather helping to see to luggage, making inquiries about buses, and generally getting a move on for the next rather tiresome bit of the journey. It is only a two days bus ride to Chengtu, but apparently it is quite a business getting seats on the bus.

The boat left Ichang early next morning, and we were up good and early to see the Gorges. They have Chinese pilots who have been on the river since they were born, and who know nothing but the river. The river was running very fast indeed, and the Captain said that only a very skilled pilot could have brought the boat up. They had to keep clear of the main stream altogether, as otherwise, the boat could have made no headway at all, and that meant hugging the bank wherever possible, and of course that can't always be done because of the rocks, etc. so we did a good bit of tacking from side to side. The pilot is apparently quite <sup>un</sup>able to explain anything, his apprentice learns by doing, but he knows the river almost intuitively. We had apparently another quite difficult day yesterday from Wanshien on up, as the river has risen again, and there was one rapid that they were not quite certain whether they would be able to make or not, however, they did. The captain said that nobody who knew the consequences could have brought the boat safely through, but the pilot just knew the river, and wasn't thinking about the consequences.

Since we have got into Szechuan we have seen a lot of half-timbered houses, that give a very Tudor appearance to the landscape, there are many more trees in Szechuan than in many other parts of China, hence the much greater use of wood for houses.

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September 1, 1938 - Well, we didn't get off as soon as we had hoped, Dr. Wu had the promise of a bus from Chunking to Chengtu, but at the last moment they could not make their promise good. So that we were greeted by the word that there was no immediate prospect of leaving Chunking. However, we should hardly know ourselves on this journey if we didn't have to wait.

Katharine Boeye, who used to be in Nanking at the Methodist Girls' School there, met us and very kindly took off all the students and Chinese faculty to her school, which is situated some way outside the town. They got away first, and the three of us (Catharine Sutherland, Florence Kirk and myself) waited until we had seen all of the luggage (93 pieces) off the boat. It was being handled by the Canadian Mission Agency, and I don't know that we really did much good, but anyway we felt as though we were doing something.

Gordon Jones and his wife (he is the Canadian Mission Business manager) live here. It is something in the nature of an hotel for transients, and people drop in for odd meals. There is also a radio, and we have listened eagerly each night to the news from Hong Kong and Manilla, I must own that the news from Europe rather makes my insides turn over within me, but I am still hoping that perhaps Germany will stop and think when she sees the weight of opposition piled up against her. There was a Dutchman in last night, and he seemed to think that they wouldn't fight, but you can't really tell out here. I must own that at times like these one feels frightfully far away in a place like this.

Chunking is the most inconvenient city for getting about that I have yet met. Everything is a long way from everything else; it is so much up and down that the rickshas are very slow, the buses are terribly full, and most irregular, and you more or less can only get on at a station or two before the terminus, ride to the terminus, stay on there for the ride back.

September 2, 1938 - We seem to be making some headway of the transport problem; some of the girls have already got away, and we have the promise of a bus some time within the next week, no one quite knows when.

We have seen quite a lot of people, Florence being a Canadian, and most of the missionaries here being Canadian, people have been anxious to see her. There are also a lot of our alumnae here, and we have been to one alumnae party, had some here and visited some of them. Chunking is just as full as it can be, mainly I think of the rather better class refugees, as the poorer ones do not get as far as here.

September 3, 1938 - We have made better time for getting away from Chunking than I expected to. Most of the party left on a bus this morning, and in view of the fact, that when we arrived Dr. Wu's carefully laid plans had fallen down, and that we were starting more or less from scratch, I think Hwang Dzun-mei has done very well. She has done very well. She has done it all here by sheer dogged sticking to it. She really is a very good person for a trip like this, competent and completely unruffled. I have never known her very well before, and it is interesting to see how many qualities she has.

There are six members of the faculty still left, and one student.. There are various reasons why the faculty are bringing up the rear, sufficient, I think, but not worth going into here. We hope to get off in various ways within the next week, though I may have to wait till the beginning of the week after for a seat on the Canadian truck going to Chengtu to take the Canadian children to school, when I should be acting as a chaperone.

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One feels terribly far away from things here, and the European situation is of the variety that makes one want to be on the spot. Doubtless one will get accustomed to living by the radio news, and what one can get out of the Chinese newspapers, but I have never lived out of reach of an English daily before this.

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FROM MISS EVA SPICER

Written in Chengtu - September 24, 1938

CAMPUS NEWS  
PREVIOUS TO BEGINNING OF FULL COLLEGE PROGRAM

Florence Kirk and I arrived in Chengtu on September 13th, just two months after we left Shanghai. Most of that time was spent waiting. So far as the actual travel was concerned, we did fairly well. Florence and I were the last to leave Chungking, and were very lucky to come in a private car with an alumna and her fiance, so we really had a very comfortable journey, and were able to enjoy it rather than endure it. I will enclose the last of my general letters.

Life on this campus in many respects is rather like life in the Nanking community - I mean for teas, discussion groups etc. But the Chinese are less to the fore than down river, it has naturally taken longer here to develop the Chinese leadership. Don't comment on this anywhere, as we have to walk very warily in commenting on the situation, as there is a very high degree of provincial and local consciousness; and while the foreigners all seem perfectly charming and welcoming as individuals, I think that perhaps as a group it inevitably extends to them too. How hard it is for any of us to behave well as a group, I am sure those of us who come from down river have much of that consciousness of being different too, and help to create problems. When we have helped the self to overcome the self in service of a group, it is so hard for him to see that group in the right proportion. I quite understand how Jesus said that loving God was the first commandment, but it is not easy to get that vital love of God which really puts all else into the right place.

The news from Europe last night looks ghastly, and one hardly knows what to hope for. War would be ghastly, and yet to go on giving way when it is fear of war and not conviction seems bad too. I suppose that if England, France, Russia and the United States could really get together, and tell Germany to stop - and then set about economic adjustments and gradual disarmament, it might be possible to get out of this present impasse, but I don't suppose there is much chance of that. Chamberlain seems to have exhausted every honourable, not to say dishonourable, way of keeping the peace. I wonder what the personal effect of his interviews with Hitler was on him. It is fortunate indeed that there are several radios on this campus, and there is a daily mimeograph of the radio news of the night before, otherwise we should be very cut off. We can get London direct quite clearly, also Manila and Hongkong, so we might be worse off. The British Broadcasting Company announcer has a very calm voice, and the way in which they present the news seems to be fairly objective - certainly there is nothing in his announcements to stir the passions. I am afraid the same is not true of the German announcers. God, what a world! I suppose we deserve it because Versailles was a crime. If we could only admit that we were in the wrong, and sit down and start again, but that seems impossible.

We seem to have been rather overshadowed in a personal way since we got here. Just for your own information, one of the students who had come with us all the way from Shanghai, ~~she had been just an older sister with the~~ ~~in Shanghai and married a very nice girl as well as being a good student.~~ We had a memorial service for her Saturday a week ago. Then yesterday Li Dz-djen and other

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members of her family arranged a memorial service for Li Dz-chen, the youngest of the family and a Ginling graduate of 1929. (She came to college before Dz-djen). She had been for eight years at Hwaiyuan, for most of the time principal of the Girls' school there. She had been planning to go to America for study in the fall of 1937, but in May when she was being examined she found that she had a stomach ulcer, and had to give up her plans for the time being. She rested and was in Hwaiyuan hoping to get out to Shanghai or Peiping for treatment, but couldn't get out, and got weaker and weaker and finally died. She died in July, but the family didn't get word of it till August. It was supposed to be cancer. The family naturally felt very badly at the separation. She was a very good and capable person, and it seems a terrible waste, but I can't say that I think it is a bad world to leave as far as she is concerned.

October 2nd. I am afraid two weeks has elapsed since I last wrote. The tempo of life seems to have got faster and faster, this is mainly due to the fact that not only have the Ginling preparations for the opening of our Freshman month got under way, but also that the Hwa Si people have been very kind in asking us to join certain of their groups, and that the combination of the two comes to a good deal. Also when one is settling into a new place there are bound to be things to buy, and a few domestic arrangements to make.

I moved into our new dormitory (which is just next to the Library and the Women's College compound) last Wednesday week. I am eating two meals a day, breakfast and supper, with the Faculty of the Women's College, and lunch in this dormitory - two foreign and one Chinese meal. This dormitory is really pretty good considering how quickly it has been built. It is three sides of a quadrangle - the dining room and the common room occupy most of the bottom middle part, and the faculty have their rooms above that section, while the students occupy the two wings downstairs and up. They are sleeping in double decker beds, so that there are four students in each room. We expect to house about 110 students, eighteen faculty, and a few odds and ends from other institutions. The furniture in the faculty rooms was fairly reasonable I think, for the bed, desk, bureau, chair, washstand the price was \$20.50, which at the present rate of exchange is quite a lot under a \$, of course it is not the most artistic and beautiful of furniture, but still it is serviceable and workmanlike. For hanging space we have a fixture attached to the wall, around which we can drape our own hangings. We also have a wicker chair, I have added (or am about to add) a bamboo bookshelf at \$2.40 and an extra cupboard. I say I have added; it would be truer to say Dz-djen has added, as she has done the main part of the shopping and bargaining. We have had two shopping expeditions together looking for material for curtains, covering for the wardrobe, also such necessities as a lamp shade, mirror, some nails, a thermos etc. Such things as mirrors, thermoses, etc. are purchasable but expensive as they mainly come from down river. Cotton stuffs are also much more expensive here. We have electric light, but no water laid on, so it all has to be carried, also up to date the proper bath tubs have not arrived, so one's washing is largely restricted to the basin; and I must own a sponge bath does not make me feel as clean as a tub bath. We are going to try community living, faculty and students settling their regulations together, though I suppose some will be different, so we shall have to make an effort to live as we should. Living at such close quarters, I think we have got to have certain common agreements, such as quiet hours, and it seemed as though it would be better to go in thoroughly to the scheme rather than half and half.

When we were in Shanghai we had rather wanted to change our curri-

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culum so as to make it less departmentalized, and perhaps looking rather more to the rural side of life than we had. However, we can't do much at that, as the Government is prescribing the curriculum for all colleges - but we thought that at any rate as we had a month spare with the Freshmen (they are here from October 1st, and the upper classes don't start until November 1st, as they are all at Military Training, so we can wait until then to start regular classes with the Freshmen) we could try and get them a little more curious and aware of the actual situation around about them. So we are planning special activities for this month. The various committees - which were really working committees in connection with that is what has been taking most of the time for the last ten days, as we had to set up the program fairly quickly.

The first week is more or less like what we have had in the past at Ginling for Freshmen Week, getting acquainted with the campus, having physical examinations, general lectures of various kinds, talks on the history of Ginling etc. But the second and third week we are dividing into four groups - and trying to take up special problems and questions under the guidance of the Faculty. The four fields are: Educational and Cultural; Social and Economic; Health and Recreation; and Rural. Of course the last includes all the others from one point of view, but we are planning a short trip into the rural centre nearby, so that it has to be separate. We are hoping to go to Hsintu, where some of the work formerly done by Jimmy Yen in Tingsien is now being done. All members of the Faculty are serving on one group or other, and we have had a lot of committees setting up programs. I don't know how successful we shall be, but I think it will have helped the Faculty a certain amount. The idea is that having been stimulated with visits and questions they will come to their ordinary courses with more alert minds, not content just to absorb, but wanting to see the bearing of what they are studying on concrete situations. Also the Faculty is supposed to do more in the way of correlating their courses, both with other courses, and with the problems studied.

This then has been the main background of my life, but in addition there have been various Hwa Si activities. There is an all-Faculty prayer meeting every Wednesday evening, which at the moment is centering on topics relating to Madras. I had to lead it last week. I have also been twice to a Discussion group. We started with disarmament, but we have left that to discuss What is the Use of Nationalism. The general background seems to be that of the chaos of the world, and what is the way out. I also went to an enlarged executive meeting of the F.O.R. I am afraid I have the meeting habit rather badly. Socially there have been a dinner, a tea or two, etc., and the Saturday before last one of the leading Chinese generals in this city invited all the foreigners in town to lunch. He was indeed a man of faith, as in spite of the fact that it had rained almost every day that week, and looked extremely like rain that day he had all the tables spread out of doors in a rather lovely bamboo grove. It was true that the bamboos were thick enough to shield us from a little drizzle, but not from a real downpour. However, his faith was justified; though it seemed almost impossible that it should not rain, it did actually refrain, and we had our lunch in peace.

Most of the foreign community of Chengtu is missionary. (The largest mission here seems to be the Canadian United Church, but the American Methodist, Baptist, and the English Episcopalian (Church Missionary Society) and English Friends are also here.). There are a few aviators, and one or two business men - but very few compared with the missionary community, which is pretty large owing to West China Union University, which has a rather large proportion of foreigners I think, than most down river colleges; though of course having a dental and medical school as well as the others it naturally is a large faculty in any case. The General's dinner party was a good opportunity to learn a good many of the foreign

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community. We had a few characteristic Szechuanese dishes, which are very hot and peppery, but for the most part the dishes were of a nature that even down river people could well appreciate.

Our Freshmen came officially last Saturday, and we have been having quite a strenuous time with them since. I with other members of the Faculty have escorted them out on two expeditions - one to a place of historical interest - Wu Ho Sze - where an emperor famous at the time of the three kingdoms is buried. The courtyards of the temple are quite picturesque, and there are some lovely trees. In one of the courtyards there is an orphanage for children who were left destitute by a bad famine in Szechuan two years ago. The other expedition was to a Technological Institute for the training of mechanics for the repair of aeroplanes, guns etc. The girls seem more interested in machine guns, bombs, and the parts of the planes than in anything else up to date that they have seen.

I also accompanied them to visit the upper classmen who are in military training, it is being held in the place where the old Manchu palace was, and which is now being occupied by the Szechuan University. The courtyards are again picturesque, but the buildings don't amount to much, and I think are mainly modern, and not the old buildings, though the style is old. The girls are having mainly lectures on nursing, hygiene, anatomy, etc. and I guess they get pretty bored, as there is no practical work, and they have seven lectures a day. I had visited them once before, but both times the visit was a rather hurried one, as we arrived rather late, the first time because our Faculty meeting had lasted longer than we expected, and the second time because we had lunch before we went, and it is hard to get a largish group under way.

One day I went round the Museum with them. I don't mean I was taking them, Dr. Graham, the curator of the Museum was doing that. I have also listened to a good many lectures in Chinese, from which I did not always get very much, though sometimes I understood most of it. The Museum I mentioned belongs to West China Union University, and is quite a good one on Chinese art. There are also a good many things from Tibet.

We now seem to have moved into the wedding zone. On Thursday I went to that American and apparently also Canadian institution, a shower, for a girl on the campus who is to be married in two weeks from today. She is a daughter of some relatives of Florence's, and she is marrying a man in the University of Nanking. Today I went to a wedding of one of our alumnae of the Class of 1933, to which I was adviser. She is a Christian, but not a member of any given church, he is, I think, not a Christian, so they had a purely civil wedding ceremony at which Dr. Wu presided. The audience behaved pretty well during that time, and the speeches afterwards seemed quite amusing, though I couldn't follow them all, you have to know Chinese very well to get the full flavor of such speeches. The Bridegroom looked over-determined for my taste, but I believe he is a very able man, and Lin-mei has a good disposition. Next Saturday there is another wedding, also of the Class of 1933, and also marrying a member of the University of Nanking faculty (the first bridegroom was one too), but that will be a Christian wedding, which is better, I think.

We have had quite an excitement this week, as two nights running thieves got into the house. The first night (Tuesday night) he got into Dr. Wu's room by a ladder, and cleared her hanging place of about four dresses and three coats, then he moved the ladder on to Dr. Reeves' room, and must have slipped her flashlight and spectacles into his pocket, but when he began collecting a blanket or two from

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her chair, she awoke, made a movement, and he left hastily by the window, so she didn't lose much. The next night a thief again got into the room of one of the Chinese teachers, and she realized that he was behind her bed, and screamed and screamed, and screamed. I never heard such blood curdling yells. I thought somebody was at least being murdered. However, it frightened him away, and that time he didn't get anything. Thieves are apparently pretty bad in Chengtu, and we are fairly unprotected at the back, as there is no wall. Other people rather lost sleep over it, but I can't say I did. Both times I went back to sleep quite peacefully.

Another small excitement was an air raid warning on Tuesday morning, but they only gave the first signal, never the urgent, and the all clear went in about three quarters of an hour; they were giving us the warning because the planes were at Chungking, and apparently bombed the aerodrome there.

I have done a certain amount of listening to the radio, you get London remarkably clearly, and there is mimeographed report every morning of the main item of news from the night before, so that you get the main items through that. Florence and I have undertaken to do it on Thursday night, and it really is quite a business. You start listening in at 7:30 p.m. to get the Chengtu English broadcast which gives you the news, correct and incorrect, about China, then you try to get Manila at 7:45 p.m. and finally London at 8:30 p.m. After that you have to compile what you have taken down very hurriedly and scrapily (as we are not shorthand writers) in a proper form, and decide how much you can get on one legal length stencil, which takes quite some calculation. Florence and I did it last Thursday for the first time, and it took us solidly from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., though I suppose we shall get quicker as we get more accustomed to it. I feel it may become a burden, but I am glad to have the news every other day, so I feel one should be willing to cooperate.

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Received in N.Y. 12/5/38.

you might be so good as to write them to Bertha, she is living with [1]  
Marion now, and her address is

"Pembroke"

14, Dawson Place,

London.W.2.

My brothers' business firm cable address  
is Spimundo London.

I don't expect we shall have to worry you, but I thought I would be on the safe side. Sept 24th, 1938.

Very many thanks,  
Yours with love,

Wm

Would you send the general  
letter on to Edith Knight  
please?

Dear Rebecca,

You must have thought it rather strange that I wrote you somewhere on the journey (I cannot remember where) a brief personal note, and said nothing whatever about your letter of May 23rd, which related mainly to Enid Liu, but which had various other personal matters in it.

The truth of the matter was that I think Ruth must have forgotten to give me the letter when it arrived in Shanghai, she wrote back that she had found a letter for me among her papers that she was going through on the boat, and was not sure whether she had never given it, or whether I had given it her to read, I think it must have been the former, as I am sure I never saw it before. She sent it up to Chengtu, and Dr Wu finally forwarded it to me at Chunking, so I had not seen it when I wrote ~~your~~ my last letter to you.

I am sorry, though I think probably it would have been too late to do anything about it anyway. I am not sure what I should have done, as I do realise she is probably rather badly needed in Fukien, though things are so upset there that I do not know how much she will be able to do. In any case there is nothing now that I can do, so that is that. I have heard indirectly that she has arrived at Shanghai, so I presume by now she will be back in Fukien.

Thank you so much for all the enquiries etc that you made, I do think it would have been a very good plan for her to have a second year in America. If they have worked for a long time, and have paid all the money for going abroad, I am always rather inclined to think that two years is better than one, but there is no point in thinking further about it.

Florence Kirk and I arrived in Chengtu on Sept 13th, just two months after we left Shanghai, most of that time was spent waiting. So far as the actual travel was concerned, we did fairly well. Florence and I were the last to leave Chunking, and were very lucky to come in a private car with an alumna and her fiancé, so we really had a very comfortable journey, and were able to enjoy it rather than endure it. I will enclose the last of my general letters.

Life on this Campus in many respects is rather like life in the Nanking Community- I mean for teas, discussion groups etc. But the Chinese are less to the fore than down river, it has naturally taken longer here to develop the Chinese leadership. Don't comment on this anywhere, as we have to walk very warily in commenting on the situation, as there is a very high degree of provincial and local consciousness; and while the foreigners all seem perfectly charming and welcoming as individuals, I think that perhaps as a group it inevitably extends to them too. How hard it is for any of us to behave well as a group, I am sure those of us who come from down river have much of that consciousness of being different too, and help to create problems. When we have helped the self to overcome the self in service of a group, it is so hard for him to see that group in the right proportion. I quite understand why Jesus said that loving God was the first commandment, but it is not easy to get that vital love of God

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which really puts all ~~this~~ into the right ~~prop~~er place.

The news from Europe last night looks ghastly, and one hardly knows what to hope for. War would be ghastly, and yet to go on giving way when it is fear of war and not conviction seems bad too. I suppose that if England, France, Russia and the ~~United States~~ ~~U.S.A.~~ could really get ~~to~~ together, and tell Germany to stop - and then set about economic adjustments and gradual disarmament, it might be possible to get out of this present impasse, but I don't suppose there is much chance of that. Chamberlain seems to have exhausted every honourable, not to say dishonourable, way of keeping the peace. I wonder what the personal effect of his interviews with ~~Chamber~~ Hitler was on him. It is fortunate indeed that there are several radios on this campus, and there is a daily mimeograph of the radio news of the night before, otherwise we should be very cut off. We can get London direct quite clearly, also Manila and Hong Kong, so we might be worse off. The B.B.C. announcer has a very calm voice, and the way in which they present the news seems to be fairly objective - certainly there is nothing to stir the passions in his announcements, I am afraid the same is not true of the German announcers. God, what a ~~what~~ world. I suppose we deserve it because Versailles was a crime. If we could only all admit that we were in the wrong, and sit down and start again, but that seems impossible.

However, there is no use in going on discussing it at this long range, but my heart turns over within me at the thought of what may happen. My sister Grace's eldest daughter was married this summer - such a nice man, such a happy wedding - and I suppose she may be a widow before she has been married a year. I have two or three nephews of fighting age - one of them has very decided Communist leanings, but I suppose if we were fighting on the same side as Russia for Czechoslovakia he would enlist. I find it hard to see how the population in any of the European countries over forty will be able to get through the next war without complete nervous prostration, because they will know all too well from the beginning what they are in for to some slight extent. No sober minded people could contemplate it for a moment, but then I suppose the Germans are not.

We seem to have been rather overshadowed in a personal way since we got here. Just for your own information; one of the students who had come with us all the way from Shanghai committed suicide. We have no real clue to ~~the real~~ all the causes, though we have various suggestions. She had been just one term with us in Shanghai, and seemed a very nice girl as well as being a good student. We had a memorial service for her Saturday ~~and~~ a week ago. Then yesterday Li Dze-djen and other members of her family arranged a memorial service for Li Dze-chen, the youngest of the family and a Ginling graduate of the 1929 (she came to college before Dze-djen). She had been eight years at Hwaiyuan, for most of the time principal of the Girls' school there. She had been planning to go to America for study in the fall of 1937, but in May when she was being examined she found she had a stomach ulcer, and had to give up her plans for the time being. She rested, and was in Hwaiyuan hoping to get out to Shanghai or Peiping for treatment, but couldn't get out, and got weaker and weaker and finally died. She died in July, but the family didn't get word of it till August. It was supposed to be cancer. The family naturally felt very badly at the separation. She was a very good and capable person, and it seems a terrible waste, but I can't say that I think it is a bad world to leave as far as she is concerned.

Well, I must stop. Oh by the way, should war break out, and for any reason - I can't quite think why but just to meet eventualities - it was easier to get letters via America with an American stamp, you would be willing to forward for me from the New York office any letters that my family might send, wouldn't you? - or cables? If you think of any special instruc

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Ginling College,  
West China University,  
Chengtu.  
Szechuan. Oct 2nd, 1938.

I am afraid two weeks has elapsed since I last wrote. Life-seems-to The tempo of life seems to have got faster and faster, this is mainly due to the fact that not only have the Ginling preparations for the opening of our Freshmen month got under way, but also that the Hwa Si people have been very kind in asking us to join certain of their groups, and that the combination of the two comes to a good deal. Also when one is settling into a new place there are bound to be things to buy, and a few domestic arrangements to make.

I moved into our new dormitory (which is just next to the Library and the Women's College compound) last Wednesday week, but I continued to eat my meals with Elsie Priest until Tuesday, that meant quite a lot of walking. Now I am eating two meals a day (breakfast and supper) with the Faculty of the Women's College, and lunch in this dormitory- two foreign and one Chinese meal. This dormitory is really pretty good considering how quickly it has been built. It is three sides of a quadrangle- the dining room and common room occupy most of the bottom middle part, and the faculty have their rooms above that, while the students occupy the two wings downstairs and up. They are sleeping in double decker beds, so that there are four students in each room. We expect to house about 110 students, eighteen faculty, and a few odd and ends from other institutions. The furniture in the faculty rooms was fairly reasonable I think, for the bed, desk, bureau, chair, washstand the price was 20.50 dollars, which at the present rate of exchange is quite a lot under a £, of course it is not the most artistic and beautiful of furniture, but still it is ~~seve~~ serviceable and workmanlike. For hanging space we have a fixture attached to the wall, around which we can drape our own hangings. We also have a wicker chair, I have added (or am about to add) a bamboo bookshelf at 2.40 dollars, and an extra cupboard, as I seem to have too many things to put them away in what I already have. I say I have added; it would be truer to say Dze-djen has added, as she has done the main part of the shopping and bargaining. We have had two shopping expeditions together looking for material for curtains, hand covering for the wardrobe, also such necessities as a lamp shade, mirror, some nails, a thermos etc. Such things as eg. mirrors thermoses etc-are purchasable but expensive as they mainly come from down river. Cotton stuffs are also much more expensive here. We have electric light, but no water laid on, so it all has to be carried, also up to date the proper bath tubs have not arrived, ~~then~~ so one's washing is largely restricted to the basin; and I must own a sponge bath does not make me feel as clean as a tub bath. We are going to try Community living, faculty and students settling their regulations together, though I suppose some will be different, so we shall have to make an effort to live as we should. Living at such close quarters, I think we have got to have certain common agreements, such as quiet hours, and it seemed as though it would be better to go in thoroughly to the scheme rather than half and half.

When we were in Shanghai we had rather wanted to change our curriculum- so as to make it less departmentalized, and perhaps looking rather more to the rural side of life than we had. However, we can do much at that, as the Government is prescribing the curriculum for all colleges- but we thought that at anyrate as we had a month spare with the Freshmen, (they are here from the Oct 1st, and their upper classes don't start until Nov 1st as they are all at Military Training, so we can wait until then to start regular classes with the Freshmen) we would try and get them a little more curious and aware of the actual situation around about them. So we are planning special activities for this month. The various committees- which were really working committees in connection with that, is what has been taking most of

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OCT 2

(2)

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The first week is more or less like what we have had in the past at Ginling for Freshmen Week, getting acquainted with the Campus, having physical exams, general lectures of various kinds, talks on the history of Ginling etc. But the second and third week we are dividing into four groups- and trying to take up special problems and questions under the guidance of the Faculty [most likely to know something about it], though in certain cases we are rather lacking in specialists. The four fields are Educational and Cultural, Social and Economic, Health and Recreation, and Rural. Of course the last includes all the others from one point of view, but we are planning a short trip into a rural centre near by, so that it has to be separate. We are hoping to go to Hsintu, where some of the work formerly done by Jimmy Yen in Tingsien is now being done. All members of the Faculty are serving on one group or other, and we have had a lot of committees setting up programs. I don't know how successful we shall be, but I think it will have helped the faculty a certain amount. The idea is that ~~having tried to stimulate their minds with visits and questions~~ they will come to their ordinary courses with more alert minds, and not be content just to absorb, but ~~want~~ <sup>ing</sup> to see the bearing of what they are studying on concrete situations. Also the Faculty is supposed to do more in the way of correlating their courses, both with other courses, and with the problems studied.

This then had been the main background of my life- but in addition there have been various "wa Si" activities. There is an all-Faculty prayer meeting every Wednesday evening, which at the moment is centring on topics relating to Madras. I had to lead it last week, which was a week earlier than I originally expected to, but it was just as well that it was, as I had more time last week than this to prepare, as we have begun the Freshmen program now. It went off all right I think, except that right at the beginning Catharine fainted, and made rather curious noises, however, there were plenty of doctors in the group, so she was carried off, and we went on. She had sprained her wrist, and I think it was mainly the pain that caused the faint. I have also been twice to a Discussion group which is discussing I am not quite certain what. We started with Disarmament, but we have left that to discuss what is the use of Nationalism, ~~and~~ The general background seems to be that of the chaos of the world, and what is the way out. I also went to an enlarged executive of the F.O.R. I am afraid I have the meeting habit rather badly. Socially there have been a dinner, a tea or two etc; and the Saturday before last one of the leading Chinese generals in this city invited all the foreigners in town to lunch. He was indeed a man of faith, as in spite of the fact that it had rained almost every day that week, and looked extremely like rain that day he had all the tables spread out of doors in a rather lovely bamboo grove. It was true that the bamboos were thick enough to shield us <sup>from</sup> a little drizzle, but not from a real downpour. However, his faith was justified; though it seemed almost impossible that it should not rain, it did actually refrain, and we had our lunch in peace. Most of the foreign community of Chengtu is missionary. There are a few aviators, and one or two business men- but very few compared with the missionary community, which is pretty large owing to West China University, which has a rather larger proportion of foreigners, I think, than most down river colleges; though of course having a Dental and Medical School as well as the others it naturally is a large faculty in any case. It was a good opportunity to learn a good many of the Foreign Community. We had a few characteristic Szechuenese dishes, which are very hot and peppery, but for the most part the dishes were of a nature that even down river people could well appreciate. The largest mission here seems to be the Canadian United Church, but the American Methodist Baptists, and English Episcopalian (Church Missionary Society) and English Friends are also here.

✓ The General's dinner party

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There have been two other gatherings of rather a sadder nature, though, very different in detail. One of the students who had come all the way with us from Shanghai died under rather tragic circumstances just three days after Florence and I got here, and we had a brief funeral service for her. Then on Sunday a week ago Dze-djen and other members of her family had a memorial service for the youngest sister who died in Hwaiyuan in Anhwei last July. The family naturally felt very badly about it, as had she been able to get out to get further medical treatment she might have been saved, and also no member of the family was with her at the time of her death. She was a really good person, and it was easy to find plenty of true and good things to say about her, and she was of the kind of people that I am sure would be ready to die whenever it came, but even so of course an occasion like that cannot but be rather a sad one. They had several ~~spee~~ people speak on various phases of her life, I spoke very briefly on that last summer in Kuling, and her religious life. There were two sisters, one sister-in-law, and many nieces and nephews representing the family, and then of course quite a fair number who had known her either at school or college.

Our Freshmen came officially last Saturday, and we have been having quite a strenuous time with them since. I with other members of the Faculty have escorted them out on two expeditions- one to a place of historical interest- Wu Ho Sze- where an Emperor famous at the time of the three ~~emperors~~-was Kingdoms is buried. Only unfortunately they will not let you into the tomb, you can only see the top of the mound and the trees from outside. The courtyards of the temple are quite picturesque, and there are some lovely trees, but the buildings as whole are not such as to thrill you. In one of the courtyards there is an orphanage for children who were left destitute by a bad famine in Szechuan two years ago, most of the orphans were out doing some kind of drill, I think, but the ones that left looked as though they had hardly recovered from the famine yet, they were pathetic little specimens; and I must own the place as a whole though very picturesque struck me as being pretty dirty, especially the bedding. The other expedition was to a Technological Institute for the training of mechanics for the repair of aeroplanes, guns etc. The girls seemed more interested in machine guns, bombs, and the parts of planes than in anything else up to date.

I also accompanied them to visit the upper classmen who are in military training, it is being held in the place where the old Manchu palace was, and which is now being occupied by the Szechuan University. The courtyards again are picturesque, but the buildings don't amount to much, and I think are mainly modern, and not the old buildings, though the style is old. The girls are having mainly lectures on nursing, hygiene, anatomy etc, and I guess they get pretty bored, as there is no practical work, and they have seven lectures a day. I had visited them once before, but both times the visit was rather a hurried one, as we arrived rather late, the first time because our faculty meeting had lasted much longer than expected, and the second time because we had lunch before we went, and it is hard to get a largish group under way. I went round the museum with them one day, I don't mean I was taking them, Dr Graham the Curator of the Museum was doing that, but I accompanied them, as we wanted faculty to be with them, I have also listened to a good many lectures in Chinese, from which I did not always get very much, though sometimes I understood most of it. The Museum I mentioned belongs to West China Union University, and is quite a good one on Chinese art, they have a good many things also from Tibet.

Saving-sta-

Freshmen



OCT 2

1938

(4)

Having begun with an ~~eco~~ of funerals, we now seemed to have moved into the wedding zone. On Thursday I went to that American and apparently also Canadian ~~shower~~ institution a shower (which seems to me rather a racket for getting you to give several presents besides the wedding present) for a girl on the Campus who is to be married in two weeks from to-day (which is now Oct 8th) this letter having gone on for some time. She is a daughter of some relations of Florence's, and she is marrying a man in the University of Nanking, so I suppose I have some slight connection with her, and I have been invited to the wedding, but I don't really see why I should give more than one present. To-day I went to a wedding of one of our Alumnae of the Class of 1933, to which I was adviser. She is a Christian, but not a member of any given Church, he is, I think, not a Christian, so they had a purely civil ceremony at which Dr Wu presided, the audience behaved pretty well during that time, and the speeches afterwards seemed quite amusing, though I couldn't follow them all, you have to know Chinese very well to get the full flavour of such speeches. The bridegroom looked over-determined ~~from~~ for my taste, but I believe he is a very able man, and the Lin-mei has a good disposition.

Next ~~see~~ Saturday there is another wedding, also of the Class of 1933, and also marrying a member of the University of Nanking faculty (this bridegroom was one too), but that will be a Christian wedding, which is better, I think. We have had quite an excitement this week, as two nights running thieves got into the house. The first night (Tuesday night) he got into Dr Wu's room by ladder, and cleared her hanging place of about four dresses and three coats, then he moved the ladder on to Dr Reeves' room, and must have slipped her flashlight and spectacles into his pocket, but when he began collecting a blanket or two from her chair, she awoke, made a movement, and he left hastily by the ladder, so she didn't lose much. I got up more to go to auntie than any other reason, and she called me, and gradually most of us got up, but there wasn't anything to do. The next night a thief again got into ~~the room of~~ the Chinese teacher's room, and she realised he was behind her bed, and screamed and screamed, and screamed, I never heard such blood curdling yells, I thought somebody was being murdered at least. However, it frightened him away all right, and that time he didn't get anything. Thieves are apparently pretty in Chengtu, and we are fairly unprotected at the back, as there is no wall. Other people rather lost sleep over it, but I can't say I did. I went back to sleep both times quite peacefully.

Another small excitement was an air raid warning on Tuesday morning, but they only gave the first signal, never the urgent, and the all clear went in about  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour, they were giving us the warning because the planes were at Chungking, and apparently bombed the aerodrome there. I have done a certain amount of listening in to the radio, you can get London remarkably clearly, there is mimeographed report every morning of the main item of news from the night before, so that you get the main items through that. Florence and I have undertaken to do it on Thursday night, and it really is quite a business. You start listening in at 7.30 pm to get the Chengtu English broadcast which gives you the news - correct and incorrect - about China, then you try to get Manila at 7.45 pm and finally London at 8.30 pm. After that you have to compile what you have taken down very hurriedly and scrappily (as we are not shorthand writers) in a proper form, and decide how much you can get on to one legal length stencil, which takes quite some calculation. Florence and I did it last Thursday for the first time, and it took us solidly from 7.30 pm to 11 pm, though I suppose we shall get quicker as we get more accustomed to it. I feel it may become quite a burden, but I am glad to have the news every other day, so I feel one be willing to co-operate.

In between these various things I have been writing a lot of little notes asking people to do this and that, and then sometimes writing and thanking them for having done so. I have purchased a bicycle, as the distances on this campus are so great. Well I think I will stop here for the moment.

0945



London Mission,  
Hankow.

Oct 18th, 1937

Dear Rebecca,

We have been asked by Dr Wu and Minnie to supply you with material for publicity. So I am enclosing a long, not very interesting account of our doings up to date in Wuchang, it will give you the general background and conditions of our life here, and you can pick out anything special that you want. We will try to write all the more interesting things that happen to us hereafter.

I just began this when the warning went for ~~the~~ an air raid, to be more exact the second warning, so the lights went out, and I was not able to finish it. There was a rather noisy five minutes, I think it was mostly anti-air craft guns, but I think there were a few bombs dropped too, though I don't think they can have been very near. I am at Hankow at the moment. This part of the city- the old British concession is supposed(?) to be relatively safe, we just stayed where we were and closed the shutters, you can't dig out in Hankow, you strike water too soon.

I think all things considered life is going pretty well for the Ginling group at Wa Chung, the conditions are crowded, but every body is awfully good about it. Fortunately all the faculty are quiet sleepers, and we don't think wake each other much at night, my camp bed creaks when ever I turn over in it, but otherwise the room is remarkably quiet.

I want to get this off to-night, so I will stop now. There is so much one might say if one began, that I won't even begin, but as I have been appointed the person responsible for collecting news to send to you, I shall probably be ~~quite~~ sending you quite a few letters of various kinds. I must own it is rather nice to have a place in Hankow ~~in~~ where I can keep my clothes, and take a bath, though I would be quite prepared to live ~~there~~ all the time if at anytime it seems really better. But I am doing teaching here, and if I hadn't been living here, I don't think I should have got ~~whole~~ hold of the house, as the Mission people this side of the river, were much more sympathetic than the other side- for various quite adequate and understandable reasons.

It is a nightmare of a war, but daily life continues much the same as usual in the most amazing fashion, at least if not the same as usual at least a new routine forms itself into which one seems to fit oneself as though one had never done anything else. I cross the river quite a lot, and rather enjoy it when the weather is good, and the ferry is not too crowded, but I expect it will be pretty cold in winter.

Well good-bye, all good wishes, and love  
from *Joan*

P.S. Dr Taylor said he had seen something of you during his furlough, it was good to have direct news. Where is Mary these days? Has she finished her book, is she back at Wellesley. I think it is probably rather a good thing that Mrs Thurston is in America just now, and not China, I am afraid her spirit would be very much in revolt against a good deal that is happening.

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LETTER FROM EVA D. SPICER OF THE GINLING COLLEGE UNIT  
AT HWA CHUNG UNIVERSITY, WUCHANG, CHINA

Written October 18, 1937 - Received New York via China Clipper November 1, 1937

The Ginling Centre at Hwa Chung, the University in Wuchang, is rather like Topsy in that it has "just growed," rather than having been carefully planned out in all its details. It began by Djang Siao-sung, professor of psychology - Ginling 1926, University of Michigan Ph.D. 1935 - and Chen Pin-dji, professor of biology - Ginling 1928, University of Michigan Ph.D. 1935 - who were already in Hankow, being asked by Dr. Wu to get in touch with the students in Wuhan to see what their opinion was, and also to make connections with Hwa Chung, through Dr. Hsiung - formerly professor of physics at Ginling, and now at Hwa Chung.

Dr. Djang and Dr. Chen gathered the girls together, and found that if it were possible for Ginling to arrange for them to be guest students at Hwa Chung, that would be the arrangement that would appeal to them most. Most of the girls who came that first day lived in one of the three Wuhan cities - Hankow, Wuchang, and Hanyang - and their families would not approve of them going to such a danger zone as Nanking. At this stage I was added to the original group of three, as I had already come down from Kuling, and was staying with friends.

Having got the opinion of the students, we got in touch with Nanking; and it was decided to approach Hwa Chung. Dr. Hwang Pu, the acting president, was most kind, and said they would be willing to take up to 30 Ginling students as guest students. The students already here were about half that number, so we then had a busy morning sending out telegrams to girls in this district, saying that it was possible for them to study at Hwa Chung, and urging them to come by the day of registration, which was only two days ahead. We sent telegrams to such places as Ichang, Shasih, Siangtan, Changsha, Anking and Wuhu; and succeeded in getting in touch with most of the students then resident in the Central China area, which is not one of Ginling's main centres, as we draw more from Kiangsu, Chekiang, and the south.

When the first day of registration came, it seemed that we should have almost 30 students, but not more than the number Hwa Chung had said they could take. However, then came our first surprise, which involved a considerable change of plan. We had understood that up to 30, our students could be accommodated in the Women's Hostel at Hwa Chung, but it seemed that Dr. Hwang's heart was larger than his buildings, and they announced on the first day of registering refugee students - and we were by no means the only refugee students waiting to be taken in - that they could only house 20 women students all told, and there were a good many other women students besides ours. We alone had already over that number, and we had wired them to come, so it seemed necessary to try and find somewhere for them to live, and to start a Ginling Hostel.

It is one thing looking for hostel accommodation, when the possible area of location is a large one, and you can refuse to take the students if you cannot find the accommodation; but it is quite another thing when the locality is strictly limited - we wanted to be as near Hwa Chung as possible

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for reasons of safety and economy - and when you already have the students waiting to be taken in. I knew that my mission had a vacant house, as Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, representatives of the London Missionary Society at Hwa Chung, had not returned this semester, and the house though not on the campus, was only about a five minute walk, and quite convenient. However, when I first asked about that, I met with a decided negative. Dr. Hsiung heard of a Chinese house to be rented, and though it was just possible, it was not good, for it seemed as though it would be impossible to get the requisite number into it, and nothing else at all near was available.

That evening we - Djang Siao-sung, Chen Pin-dji and I - felt rather depressed, and wondered what kind of arrangements it would be possible to make. However, others encouraged me to go ahead, and make further efforts to get the Anderson house, which I did, and was successful. The next thing was to get the house ready for habitation, and to secure servants. Each girl was told to bring her own bed - camp beds could be got for about 4 dollars - and fortunately every Chinese girl always does bring her own bedding and wash-basin. Setting up a hostel in China is certainly much easier than it would be in the West. We were also fortunate in having friends. Miss Wang of the Y. W. C. A. in Wuchang, a Ginling graduate, secured servants for us, and lent us two dining tables, some smaller tables, and benches - other pieces of furniture, tables, beds, etc., were lent by other Ginling alumnae living in the Wuhan area; so that apart from cooking, eating, and toilet utensils we did not have to buy much. How much simpler to buy a pair of chopsticks than a knife, fork and spoon, but even so, of course, the cost mounted up somewhat.

We had secured the promise of the house by Saturday. On Monday we cleaned the house, put away the furniture we felt it safer not to use, distributed what was left so that each bedroom had one chest of drawers, no one could have more than that, and generally got the house ready for use. On Tuesday we finished the preparations more or less, and Dr. Djang and Dr. Chen, having worked hard to get the place ready, moved in; and on Wednesday the servants and the students arrived. Classes at Hwa Chung were due to begin that Thursday, September 16th, so the students were able to go to the hostel the evening before that. We were very lucky in having friends near. Dr. Hsiung gave us the hospitality of his house for meals, and helped us in so many ways that I don't know what we should have done without him; and also Miss Ginger and Miss Lenwood of the London Missionary Society, who live next door, gave us their help and hospitality.

We were pretty crowded, as there were 20 students in all, five in each room, and at first three faculty in one room, perhaps it would be truer to say two and one half faculty, as I was sleeping part of the time in Hankow. I am doing some teaching there at the London Missionary Society Girls' School, as well as helping in the English department in Hwa Chung. Each of the upstairs rooms had a room attached for washing, but the faculty was on the ground floor, and we had to make a bathroom out of a bit of the passage by means of a cupboard and a curtain. We had three tables for food in the living room and used that as a combined study, dining-room and living room in one. Sixteen of our students had originally secured places in the Hwa Chung Women's Hostel, but when they heard that we were getting a hostel, they took away six of those places, which enabled women students from other colleges, which did not have hostels, to get in.

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Having succeeded in registering 30 students, and having secured and started a hostel, the Ginling-Hwa Chung group seemed well-established, so it seemed to the people in Nanking that it might be used as a centre for one or two of the departments. It became quite naturally the centre of the biology department, as four of the seniors already here were majoring in biology, and Dr. Chen Pin-dji was here, and able to help them with their theses, as well as teach an elective course in Parasitology in the Hwa Chung Biology Department.

The College was thinking of the possibility of starting a centre for sociology and geography in Siangtan, or, if that was not possible, in Wuchang, so our next arrival from Nanking was Dr. Lung of the Sociology Department, who came to look over the situation, and decide whether to stay at Wuchang, or move to Siangtan in Hunan, where the promise of buildings had already been secured. About seven of the Juniors who had already registered were sociology majors. It so happened that most of the sociology students had their homes in one or other of the Wuhan cities, and were not anxious to go away. Also there was no word of Miss Chow, our newly appointed member of the department, who was up at Peiping at Peiping Union Medical College; and it seemed as though it would not be wise for Dr. Lung to go ahead by himself, or even with the help of Miss Dzo Yu-lin - Ginling, 1936 - an assistant in the department, not then in Wuchang, but easily get-at-able in Changsha. So they came to the decision to stay in Wuchang, in spite of the buildings available in Siangtan.

The next word we had was that the Geography department was also going to be centred at Wuchang, and on Friday Miss Liu En-lan, and four more students arrived from Nanking. I am afraid we did not give them a very good welcome, as that day we had our first and so far only real air raid. That day the first warning, the second warning, and the planes themselves came in very rapid succession, as it was a cloudy day, and the Japanese planes flew high above the clouds, and were not noticed till they were almost here. We were most of us at the time in the Ginling Hostel, and as we had no trenches or dug-outs available, we stayed where we were. Hwa Chung had begun, but not finished, dug-outs for the students on its campus, which of course were available for our use when we were there, but they had not then come to any decision about digging them for the out-lying hostels. There is a hostel for men refugee students also. Since then the warnings have come often enough to make people feel that more precautions are necessary, so that now trenches are being dug in front of the refugee hostels. I am sure that it will make us feel safer, and be safer; but when you have no special place to go to, it is rather pleasant just to stay where you are, as you can go on doing what you were doing, which you cannot in a dug-out. On that first raid only one or two bombs were dropped in Wuchang, and not near us, though we could hear the thud; the main damage was in Hankow and Hanyang, and as most of the bombs fell in a poor residential district the loss of life and limb was high. The raid was not a long one as it only lasted a little over an hour.

Another arrival about the same time was Mr. Chen of the Chinese department. One of Hwa Chung's Chinese teachers had been unable to return, and they said they would be very grateful if we could send one of our Chinese teachers, which we did. Mr. Chen, like Miss Liu, was impressed with the lack of preparations against air-raids in Wuhan as compared with Nanking. It is, of course, very true, but not only has Wuhan had relatively few even attempted

attacks, but in Hankow at any rate the digging of dug-outs is a real problem, as one strikes water only a foot or so below the earth. In Wuchang it is more possible to dig, and since the one real air raid, the authorities have certainly been busier; though the weather has been so bad, that the half finished dug-outs are more like ponds than shelters.

During this first week of classes, we had not only been concerned with the questions of the sociology and geography departments, but there was also the possibility of another move. The house which we were then occupying was decidedly small, especially with the new arrivals. Moreover, the owners of it were expected back in January, and we might - though we hope not - have to stay here all year. There was another house on the opposite compound, which was larger, and which would be available for the whole year. So within ten days of settlement in our first hostel, we moved to a second. The house is decidedly larger, not so much in the number of the rooms, though there are one or two more, but in the size of them; and it is not nearly in such a good state of repair as the Anderson house, which had just been done up. This on the whole is an advantage - except when the roof leaks - as it is less responsibility, and we really can do very little damage to this house, even if we tried quite hard. With 25 students, and several faculty living in an ordinary private house, there is bound to be some wear and tear. This house also had some furniture, though not so much, and the dining-room was decidedly larger, so we could put in the four tables that we now needed. The faculty are also better off, in that we now actually have a sitting-room. We are living on the ground floor in the room that would normally be the living room, opening out of that is a small room which was used as a study, and again opening out of that is a little room, made out of part of the veranda. It has an old sink in it, and makes a quite convenient bath-room, but we have to divide it into two by a cupboard and a curtain, in order to make a room for the amah.

At this stage there were four faculty in residence, and Miss Li Dze-djen also paid us some visits, but she had temporarily taken a job at St. Hilda's, a middle school for Girls under the American Church Mission about 20 minutes from Hwa Chung. Miss Dzo Yu-lin had also arrived from Changsha, but at first was living with a friend in Wuchang. Our next arrival was Miss Chow from Peiping. She got the wire Ginling sent through the American Embassy, asking her to come, and had arrived after a nine days' journey. The journey, though long, tedious, uncomfortable and crowded, had not been as bad as it might have been. She seemed in good spirits, and, though I am sure she had come from comfortable living quarters at P. U. M. C., seemed quite willing to occupy the fifth bed in the Ginling faculty bed-room.

Miss Chow and Dr. Lung got busy planning the work of the sociology department. They are giving two additional courses to those offered by Hwa Chung, are giving help to Dr. Chen of Hwa Chung in the courses already organized, and are also arranging practical work for our students, for which Hwa Chung makes no provision. They have been fortunate in securing the co-operation of the Y. W. C. A., through Miss Wang, a Ginling graduate and major in sociology and also of the General Hospital of the American Church Mission. The Y. W. C. A. has an Industrial Centre for factory girls in some of the cotton mills here, and our students are doing some work there for the course in Community Organization; while the American Mission Hospital is giving them certain cases for the practical work in case studies. Miss Dzo

Yu-lin is helping in the oversight of the practical work, and is also undertaking the housekeeping of the hostel, which up till then Dr. Djang had been nobly doing, as well as being the Chairman of our group, with all the responsibility that that involved, and teaching an elective course in the psychology department in Hwa Chung. There are now six beds in the faculty bed-room, and we are debating whether there is room for a seventh or not.

The geography department has also organized itself, as Miss Liu is giving one course in Hwa Chung, which offers only one course in geography, in its Economics Department - they had a visiting teacher for this, but she was delighted to hand over the course to Miss Liu - and two courses for our own students. We have moved out of the Anderson house, but the mission has allowed us to retain the use of it for this term. So the sociology and geography department have each taken one room downstairs for a study, and the third room is used for a class-room.

With the biology, sociology and geography departments centred here, the next problem was that of the music department. We had three music majors registered, but as Hwa Chung's music teacher, coming out from America for the first time, was delayed and has finally stayed in Hong Kong, there was no music at all available. We had been in communication with Mrs. Yeh at Changsha; Miss Sutherland, who was still in Nanking, had also spoken and written of the possibility of her coming up. Finally after some telephoning, and a good deal of writing backwards and forwards, Miss Sutherland has arrived. She was most welcome, not only for herself, as a person, and as a teacher of music, but because she brought with her forty pieces of baggage, most of which contained winter clothing for the students here, which they had left, according to their custom, in the Ginling attics for the summer. They are most of them feeling pretty hard up, and were not desirous of buying more, so they were delighted to see it arrive. Miss Sutherland must have had quite a time with it, as the British boats no longer dock at Nanking, but have moved up the river out of the danger zone, and she and the luggage had to be hoisted on board.

As Miss Sutherland is going to help teach Hwa Chung students, who have already registered for music, the Hwa Chung authorities found accommodation for her on the campus, as they had done for Mr. Chen, and she is at the moment staying with the Kemps. But she is anxious to join the Ginling Hostel, and if she slept on the veranda there would be room. I hardly think another bed could be put inside, and the drawer space at the moment is nil. We have one cupboard, which has hanging accommodation on one side, and shelves on the other. The boxes of the faculty are either piled discreetly behind the sofas in the sitting-room, or else piled on top of each other, covered with a white cloth, and used as a table in the bed-room. There are bed-rooms available in the Anderson house, of which we are using the downstairs for class rooms, and we have thought of moving half the faculty and a few students over there. But it would mean extra expenses in various ways - heat, light, etc., and nobody, with the rather drastic cuts in salaries, is feeling very well off; so up to date we have not moved.

The students have organized themselves and have a chairman and secretary, and some one in charge of each room. The faculty are dividing up amongst themselves on different days the responsibility for giving permissions. Very much the same rules are followed as in Ginling, but the



students who have homes in this area go home frequently over night. With the possibility of air raids at any time, one does not like to refuse a student permission to be at home if she and the family so desires. We have a short prayer meeting every night after supper taken three times a week by students, and twice a week by faculty. On Sunday there are services at Hwa Chung and in the neighboring churches.

The girls are, and faculty are, of course, taking part in the various war-time organizations that have been organized by Hwa Chung. In addition through the Y. W. C. A. we have bought, and are making as a group, garments for the wounded soldiers.

Living conditions are pretty crowded, as you can see, for faculty and students alike, and the fact that all the water has to be carried does not make things easier. But everybody realizes that under present conditions we are lucky to have a place in which to live, a library in which to read, and laboratories and class-rooms in which to study, and while we think with longing of our beautiful and convenient quarters at Ginling, and hope to be able to return there before long, we are trying to take all that comes to us of life's minor inconveniences in a good spirit, and are grateful to Hwa Chung for their hospitality. We give them not only gratitude but some help in the curriculum, as Miss Liu, Dr. Lung, Dr. Djang, Dr. Chen, Mr. Chen, Miss Sutherland and myself are all helping in some way in their teaching schedule; either by helping with courses already started, offering additional electives, taking students for whom they had no teacher, or teaching some of the extra divisions, as in English, which have had to be formed as a result of their influx of refugee students.

This has been mainly self-centred as it dealt with the problems of the Ginling group, not with China at war. But it is just one example of the adaptation and adjustment that is needed to carry on even a small piece of one institution under conditions of a war, which strikes not at one place in China, but everywhere, and keeps everybody in a state of tension. A war which is so unjustifiable in its aims and procedures that it is hard at times to believe that it is really true. However, it is, and all we can do is to try and carry on where possible, which takes up much of our time, and also try to do what we can in the general effort that is being made to bring relief to the wounded and suffering.

We will try later to send shorter articles of rather a snappier nature. This I know is rather long and dull, but it will give you the main background of our life here.

0952

Rev. Dylis Spence  
Care of London Missionary Society  
Wuchang Hankow, China

OVER

150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York  
December 21, 1937

Dear Eva:

Your air mail letter of the second, with its enclosure of En-lan's letter to Bishop Roots, has just come. I have not received that copy which you said Dr. Reeves would send me of "The wounded in Hankow," but I received a copy last Thursday from En-lan herself. This I wrote of to En-lan in a China Clipper letter yesterday, but I will repeat to you in the hope that one or the other will get to you. Edith Haight is giving us a day a week in the office, and she copied it on Friday and we sent it out to a group of strategic people, including the C. Vice-Consul, the president of the C. Women's Relief Association (a very fine woman), the C. doctor who is the chairman of the C. medical relief group, to Frank Price and to Mrs. Macmillan. Yesterday both the Vice-Consul and the doctor 'phoned me, thanking me for it. The former is a very fine man and knows En-lan. He is exerting himself to try to raise one thousand Mex. a month for this project, getting it to her through the Bank of China. The doctor's group is going to try to send her of this amount one hundred U.S. a month. Of course this money may not be raised. It seems terrible here the difficulty we have in getting money together when our hearts are just breaking over this situation.

We seem to be in the midst of another depression here. People also feel the situation as one that is very remote. It is accounts such as En-lan's that will help I know in civilian and medical relief. I came over early this morning to the office to read through the material again before deciding whether I would have it mimeographed and send it out to our Smith units or whether I would send it first to The Nation. It needs wide publicity. The doctor is trying to get it into the Times. They phoned yesterday to find out wyo had w ritten it and wither it was authentic. I do not see it in the paper this morning however.

We are terribly anxious about Dr. Wu's save arrival with you. I trust some of you wrote as soon as she got there to tell us. The bombing of the boats at Wuhu came too close to her day of travel up the river to make us easy or comfortable about her here.

We have, I think, a complete list of Chinese staff here, sent us by Dr. Wu some time ago in relation to the salary cuts. We are just as anxious about them as we are about the foreign staff. Will you let us know about their safety and also about the safety of their families? Minnie's name, of course, has been figuring in our papers. The break up of Nanking was so much worse than we had anticipated that I do not know whether we would have had the courage to allow her to face it without a strong protest if we had realized how bad it was going to be. We felt until we heard only thankful that she was willing and able to stay, and terribly proud of her. Our papers report all Americans in Nanking safe, and Elsie's cable confirms this. The papers also report the looting of the Ginling faculty houses. At first I thought possibly that meant the University of Nanking homes, but if Steele's description in the Sun is to be believed, it seems probable that it was ours.

We realize that decisions probably have to be made for the future in China, but there is a great deal of thinking being done here, although it is not very coordinated at the moment. It centers around the three questions--where, how, and who? Your own intelligence will enable you to fill out the questions. One feels absolutely as if one were up against a brick wall in this situation, and yet I am convinced that, broken hearted as we all are, we must not yield and break ourselves. Somehow, sometime, if we don't, this

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evil vice in which we find ourselves will crack.

I am going through the motions at long distance of getting my home ready for the annual family Christmas party. It seems rather a mockery, and yet it is a blessing that I have it to do. My nephew was married this fall so that we shall have with us this year a new member of the family. She is an attractive girl, and we are learning slowly, in the way of families, to like her and to respect her.

With love,

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0954



GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA

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2827-1829

Excerpts from letters from Eva D. Spicer  
of the Philosophy Department of Ginling College  
February 1st, 1938 through March 7th, 1938

February 1st

The time in Hongkong seemed all too short. I went on Thursday, the 27th, to see the group of Ginling alumnae and new Faculty, who are teaching in True Light School, which used to be in Canton, but has moved temporarily to Hongkong. They have a nice airy large private house. We had an alumnae luncheon after that, not a large gathering, but very pleasant, and they were interested in the letter I had from Minnie Vautrin. Though it was quite old by then, still it was the first direct word they had yet had from Nanking since it had been taken. Wu Mou-i, who used to teach at Ginling, and has been this year at Wuhan University was there. She may be going back up to Huchang and on to Szechuan, she was waiting for word from the University.

On Friday evening, January 28th, we went to the beginning of Macbeth, which was given by the students of Hongkong University, in aid of some war relief funds. It really was fairly well done, though they were a bit slow, and I don't think the staging was the most artistic possible, even with the rather limited resources that they had. But the English of the Hongkong students is certainly several cuts above ours. We had to leave just before the end of the 2nd act, as the Conte Rosso on which I was going left at 11 P.M.

The journey took just two days and three nights. The boat is quite a large one and there is nothing particularly in evidence of Mussolini and his works, though I must own I felt a little guilty travelling on an Italian boat.

Getting off the boat was the most lengthy proceeding that I have ever known. We came up along side the wharf at the end of Chaofong Road, where the remains of the L.M.S. compound in Shanghai still are, but of course you couldn't land there. That is one of the districts that is out of bounds. So all the people and the luggage had to be transferred to a tender in order to go a few hundred yards up the river to the Customs jetty. There were very few Chinese coolies in evidence, whether it was because they are not allowed in that region, or whether it was because it was China New Year, I don't know, and getting the luggage off took a long time. It didn't take long to get the luggage through the customs. There was no passport examination at all; the Chinese are not allowed to do it, and our "friendly neighbors," the official title which they have informed the Chinese they are to be called in Soochow, have fortunately not yet got round to it, so at the moment anybody can enter Shanghai.

I came out here to join Florence Kirk and Ruth Chester in their apartment, which is in the French Concession. It is quite a pleasant apartment, with bedroom, and living room, just divided by a curtain from one another, (not really that, as there is not enough of the curtain to pull across without leaving a gap one end or the other or the middle,) a breakfast nook for meals off the sitting room, and bathroom and kitchen. There is a sofa arrangement in the living room, which makes two beds, and Florence and I sleep there, Ruth in the bedroom. It would be a very comfortable apartment for one person, quite comfortable for two, but really rather crowded for three. However, I am staying here for the moment, as rents are very high in Shanghai, and I can look around at my leisure. It is quite a journey down town each day too, though you can probably make up a car with other people at least for the journey in the morning. Anyway Ruth and Florence are very nice persons to be with, and they are bearing with me nobly, as they were here first.

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We spent most of the day talking, and in the evening we went, at least Florence and I did. - Ruth was in bed with a flu-cold - to a meeting of Nanking people and others, where a German, who has recently come from Nanking was scheduled to speak. When we got there he hadn't turned up, but we told Dr. Price that we had heard that George Fitch, who has been active on the Safety Zone Committee, had just arrived in Shanghai, so they got him along to speak. He had already written a long account of his experiences during the first month or so, and many of the people there had read it, so he didn't go into that so much, but told of more recent developments. Apparently the Japanese are wanting all Chinese to leave the safety zone, and return to their own homes in the city, by Feb. 4th. They are promising that the soldiers will be confined to a given area within the city, and that protection will be afforded. But the people and the foreigners there are somewhat sceptical about these promises. On more than one occasion the Japanese have made promises, which they have broken within the next hour.

I am writing fairly freely, as I am going to post this in the French Concession, and they say there is no censorship of the mails there. I hope it is all right. Ruth has told me that we have to be careful what we say in the Y.W. buildings where we have taken offices, as there are some of our friendly neighbors round the place, who seem to be on the watch and on the listen for anything they can hear.

There were a lot of questions asked on Monday evening. I asked who was the supreme authority in Nanking at the moment, and he said they wished they knew. Apparently there is no final authority, the Consular and embassy people have no control over the soldiers, and the officers have no control over the men, so altogether it is very bad. They have registered every one in Nanking, and now no Chinese is allowed to go in, and no Chinese is allowed to go out. They would let the foreigners out willingly enough, but they would not let them back. The man who was down said that he had only come after he had had a promise that he could go back again (he has come down for dentistry). He came down in the Boo, and expects to go in an American gun-boat. We are all very interested to see whether he does get back again. Heretofore foreigners who have left places under Japanese control have had the greatest of difficulties in getting back. I don't think any of the other foreigners will leave, at any rate for the moment, as I think they still feel there is a good bit that they can do to help the unfortunate Chinese. The Japanese have not yet let them get any more rice, and they are getting rather short of that. Also they are in desperate need of more doctors and nurses, and there are both waiting in Shanghai ready to go up, but the Japanese will not let any in. They say the Japanese nurses and doctors can look after them, but they are doing nothing for the Chinese at all. And then they publish wonderful accounts in the Shanghai papers of all they are doing, which are not only sheer lies, but the exact opposite of the truth. They are really being sources of death and destruction; they have looted most of the shops, and then burnt them.

School doesn't start till February 17th, but as I may have to teach history, which I haven't done for some time, I think I had better get to work on some reading and preparing.

On Friday, February 4th, I was buying some things to send up to Minnie Vautrin at Nanking. The Boo, a British gun boat, was going up on Saturday, and as gun boats are at the moment the main method of communication between here and Nanking, and they are kind enough to be willing to take things for us to the foreigners in Nanking, we were getting things for her - oranges, ovaltine, chocolates etc. We also sent up some novels, though that was not one of the things she asked for.

Friday was Ruth's birthday, and Florence had invited in for the evening Lilliath Bates, and Margaret and Claude Thomson. Of course we talked Nanking a good

bit of the time. Lilliath was quite excited because she had heard that the high-up Japanese who had been sent out from Tokyo to inquire into things in Nanking, because of the persistent reports of continuous outrages I suppose, was a man whose mother she had met in Tokyo - she was in Tokyo till about the third week in January - and whose wife had been to the Christian Girls' School, and was supposed to be a very fine man, so she had hoped that things might be a bit better.

On Sunday there was Church, and in the afternoon we were at home to the girls, if any of them wanted to come. Six came altogether, and we read them most of Minnie's account of the first month, which had just come that week. I am afraid I haven't time to copy it, it is pretty long, but I will try to do it, or get it done some time this week and send it <sup>to</sup> those of you that I don't think will see it otherwise. Minnie certainly is an amazing person, and she and the others are doing a very good job. Women refugees are apparently a good deal easier to handle than men.

We are getting ready another installment of things for Nanking as the American gun boat is going up on Thursday. Among other things that Minnie has written for is bird-seed, she says there is a famine among the birds in Nanking. You would hardly have thought she would have had time to notice things like that, but that is very characteristic of her. Mrs. Tsen, the Chinese matron, says that the refugees on the campus have given Minnie a Chinese name which means "Living Buddha", or rather "Living Goddess of Mercy". Certainly her presence among them has meant that much.

She wrote me a letter last week, in which, among other things, she said that - up-to-date - my house was one of the few in Nanking that had not been molested or entered.

Minnie is busy making plans - or rather talking about - opening an industrial school for the women in Nanking who have lost their husbands, and all visible means of employment.

The censorship in the North of China must be very strict, as the University of Nanking had letters and telegrams from one of its Board Members up there asking why they had left Nanking, and telling them to go straight back there at once. As though anybody could go back to Nanking, let alone young able bodied men students!

#### February 16th.

On Sunday, February 13th, we went to lunch with four of the Chinese faculty, who are living in one room, and eating there too. They are at present doing their own cooking, and they provided us with quite a good meal. It was marvellous how much they could do with the very limited cooking space they had.

Yesterday morning I went to visit one of our alumnae who is working in the office of that section of the Red Cross which provides clothing and bedding for the refugee camps. They have quite an establishment there, as they do all the cutting out, though not the actual sewing - that is taken elsewhere. But by cutting it out there, it is possible to keep a very careful check on it all, and that is very necessary.

I had word from Li Dze-djen last week, that her youngest sister who had been in Hwaiyuen, which has just been taken by the Japanese, was trying to get out to Hankow; they must have left the week before the Japanese did get there. She, the sister hasn't been at all well, and they are afraid now it is cancer. So Dze-djen was leaving Ichang, and going down to meet her sister in Hankow. If they can't get the treatment needed there, they may come here.

The consignment of green beans that they sent up to Nanking last week for the people suffering from beri-beri is having difficulty being landed.



February 20th.

Wednesday evening I went to have supper with Florence and Ruth. We went over to call on Lilliath Bates, who has moved into the American school, which is being used as a kind of camp for refugee missionaries. She and her younger son are sleeping in one room, use a double decker bed, and the whole dormitory is given up to all kinds of missionaries. She gave us some more news of Nanking.

On Thursday morning I went to the American Embassy to collect mail from Minnie from Nanking, which we had only heard about the previous evening. It contained, among other things, quite a list of things that she wanted in order to start work of various kinds among the refugees, New Testament, Lessons on Hygiene, wool, knitting needles etc, so I spent a good bit of the morning getting a good many of the things, as we thought they had to be in the British Embassy - they were going up by the Cricket - that afternoon.

In the afternoon I acted as a major adviser for the Sociology and History majors, as we were registering on Thursday and Friday, February 17th and 18th. That kept me busy all the afternoon. I can't say that I know much about Sociology, but there didn't seem to be anybody else who knew much more. It's rather a hit and miss kind of education that some of the students are getting, but still we are doing our best under the circumstances. There are six institutions who are co-operating on this scheme - St. John's, Shanghai, Soochow, Hangchow, Ginling, and the University of Nanking. The only one among them all that has a library available and laboratory equipment is St. John's. They don't think it is quite safe to open on their campus, because of the proximity of our friendly neighbors, but they have easy access to their campus, and the foreigners are living out there. They are being very generous, and sharing all they have with the rest of us.

Friday morning I tried to do some reading in the Faculty Room in the building where St. John's holds its classes, and where the library is. There is certainly nothing beautifully academic about these buildings where all of us are now holding out. There is a big building on Nanking Road called the Continental Emporium, which is mainly an office building. We are in a building on Yuen Ming Yuen Road - where the Missions Building is and also the British Consulate - which belongs to the Y.W.C.A. They have their buildings on the top floor. It is new, pleasant and clean, but still it is an office building, not an academic one, and we have got to be as unobtrusive as possible. Friday afternoon there was again registration. After that was over I went to a meeting that the Y.W.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A. were holding to meet two young Americans, on the staff, I think, of the World's Student Christian Federation, who are visiting China. They have just had a brief visit to Japan. They both spoke and were quite interesting, though not encouraging as regards the conditions on Japan. There seems complete unification behind the government, and what little questioning there is, is quite unexpressed.

On Saturday, the 19th, we had our first assembly at Ginling in Shanghai. I should think between 40 and 50 girls were there. Ruth Chester took it, and was very good. It is rather a job teaching two courses that you have not taught before, starting from absolutely scratch, with not a note about anything.

They hadn't succeeded in landing those green beans in Nanking the last I heard, but they were still hopeful of so doing. They have finally allowed one other doctor to go up, but they won't give any other permits.

February 27th.

Although I wrote a letter last Sunday, I did not get it off until Friday, as some one I know was then going down to Hongkong and I thought it perhaps better

to send it by him, though I have no evidence or suggestion of any kind of trouble yet.

We started classes on Monday, and I have done some teaching this week, but I seem, one way and another, to have missed more classes than I have taught. The time table is still in a very fluid state, and you are apt to have a class set for a time that you have not yet noticed, and so miss that. Or else it is changed, and the students do not see it, so that you are there, but they are not. Or half the class turns up, and the other half have a conflict and cannot come, so again you do not have a class. Also in addition to the general fluidity of everything and everybody at the present moment, I attended a two day conference on Wednesday and Thursday. It was a group of more or less representative people - I was just representing Ginling - though it was overwhelmingly representative of this part of the country, which had been called to discuss the various problems facing the Christian Church at this moment. There were men there who had been recently in almost all the different parts of China, such as Szechuan, and Central China - Yunnanfu - North China, and of course, East and South China. The man from the North was especially interesting; apparently the towns are more or less conforming outwardly to the new regime, but in the country districts all kinds of mobile units are active, and there are many stories of their exploits - some quite amusing. But the terribly tragic side to it all is that every time any of the mobile units score a success, there is a terrible revenge taken on the unfortunate people who live in that district, so that their fate is indeed an unenviable one. But at the moment - except in East Hopei - the new rulers have certainly not got control of the whole area, and are unlikely to be able to get much in the way of economic returns for some time to come.

The problem about the "occupied areas" is that on the one hand people are naturally eager to get back to their stations and to their work among the people who are still there, especially when there is so much in the way of relief to be done; on the other hand many people feel that to do all we can to start the work again is to help things to return to normal, get the people more settled, therefore taxable, and generally to help - though of course indirectly - that of which we do not approve. Some people felt that it was not for any loyal Chinese to return to any of the occupied areas; others felt that some Chinese people had to be there, and it was better for decent leaders - Chinese and foreign - to be there to help them, than to leave them to the mercy of 'friendly neighbors' and the Chinese who would be helping them. Whether it would be better to go back, make your protest when the time came, get arrested and possibly shot - or possibly something worse - or just stay away all together I do not know. But I am sure to go back, and then let them dictate to you the terms under which you should teach, would be to betray not only China, but even worse the Christian cause. This I am afraid the Church has been doing in many places, in some places where it did not realise it, by believing that religion has nothing to do with politics.

The problem in North China - except in one or two cases - seems to have been settled along the line of least resistance; in East China at the moment it is almost impossible to get back, especially for foreigners, and Chinese are not very anxious to get back, as there is very little safety or order restored. Even in those towns which our neighbors have occupied for over two months people still live in fear of robbery, wounding, rape, and even death at the hands of our friendly neighbors.

We got letters from Minnie yesterday; she had got the things we sent up last Saturday. She sounds amazingly normal and sane for a person who has been living under the strain that she has. Mr. Rabe, the German who was chairman of the International Zone Committee up in Hanking, has just come to Shanghai, on his way to Germany. Minnie writes of the various groups who have been giving him farewell parties. She says they still have about 3,000 women and children on the campus, mostly young women, as it is so unsafe for them to go to their homes, and they are starting various classes with them. She says that on February 21st she rode in a ricksha, the fourth she has

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seen since December 12th. They do get a little off the campus now, but she and Mrs. Twinem still stick pretty close to the campus for fear of untoward events.

March 7th.

It was as warm as early summer last week, and now it is snowing.

This last week a committee tried to plan for the religious life of Ginling, which isn't so easy, as it is almost impossible to find any time when you can have anything. The girls are scattered both in their times and places. However, we have settled on having a brief ten minutes prayer service every day just after 12, as a certain number of them are there then, and we are also trying to organize one discussion group on week-days, which we are getting Dr. Lautenschlager to take, at any rate for the first three weeks. He and Gardiner Tewkesbury are both here for a month to do Religious work among the various schools and colleges. But it is quite a puzzle trying to find any time that is possible. They had a meeting - it was called a retreat but that is not really the proper name - yesterday, Sunday, from 4:30 - 8 PM. It was for anybody interested of the Christian faculty members of the schools and Colleges. 4:30 - 6:30 - talks by various people - Dr. Y.C.Tu, T. L. Shen, Dr. Miao, and Dr. Lautenschlager and Mr. Tewkesbury, the latter two were both quite good. Then we had supper together.

I saw several Ginling alumnae there - Tsai Doh-wei and Chen Doh-djen. I was also sitting at the same table for supper as Miss Kessler. I saw Hwang Wen-yu who is teaching in the Southern Baptist School, and saw but did not have time to talk to Dziang Sin-bao, Li Ming-dju, and Chiu Li-ying.

On Tuesday Nanking missionaries had a dinner at the American School in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Rabe. He is the German who has been acting as Chairman of the International Safety Zone Committee in Nanking; he came down from Nanking the week before last, and is going home to Germany, and will, I hope, tell something of the behavior of their friends in the Orient. He has a very pleasing personality, and gave a very pleasant little talk after dinner, mainly paying tribute to all his American colleagues in Nanking, many of whose wives were there. He said about Minnie that he would never forget Miss Vautrin at the head of a group of girls and women whom she was leading past Japanese soldiers to the relative safety of Ginling. He said "It was a man's job, but Minnie did it." He was rather interesting in the reasons he gave why he stayed in Nanking - business interests, personal friendship with his Chinese business associates, who were very keen for him to stay, general friendliness to the Chinese people - he has been here 30 years - etc. and finally he said "As you know I am a member of the National Socialist Party - he was wearing the Swastika - and as you know they are soldiers of Peace, and I wanted to prove it." I could wish that the whole party was as good soldiers of peace as he. Anyway, I hope the fact that he is a member of the party, will make them inclined to believe that what he says in Germany is true. All the people from Nanking - Searle Bates, Lewis Smythe etc. speak very highly of him, and it was a help I think, having a German as Chairman of the Committee. The Japanese, I gathered from something he said, were both surprised and a little hurt to find a German there trying to prevent them from doing everything they wanted to. He said in private conversation afterwards that some of the Japanese asked him if the German soldiers did not do the kind of thing that the Japanese had been doing. He said he answered them that some of them had, but they had been punished by being hung, not even shot. He was of the opinion that the discipline was very lax, and if the Japanese officers had made a determined effort to stop things, they could have. In this connection I also heard this week of an Anglican Bishop from Japan who simply refuses to believe that the disciplined Japanese troops could have behaved like that. I suppose it is natural; we have all been so impregnated to believe that atrocity stories are just made up for war-propaganda.

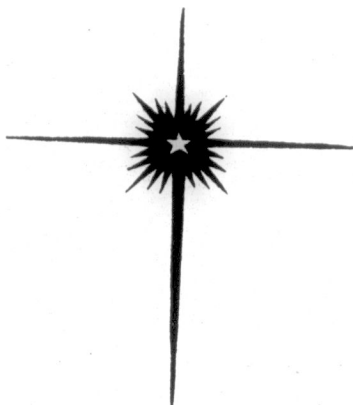


I also attended a meeting of the Fellowship of Reconciliation on Sunday morning. There were three Chinese attending the meeting, P.C.Hsu, who is a quite thorough going pacifist, a Mr. Chen, whom I don't know, and Liu En-lan of our faculty. She, I should say, depended rather on her mood whether she was a pacifist or not. The rest were American, British and Canadian. It really was called to revive the F.O.R. in Shanghai and China, and try and do something now. There is certainly plenty to be done. I cannot imagine a time when there was more reconciling to be done, or to be frank, less chance, humanly speaking, of doing it. I don't think it was a too unsatisfactory meeting, though the discussion was apt to be a little discursive, and there was a marked tendency to try and justify this particular war, that is as far as the Chinese part in it was concerned. Also I should say we tended to be more interested in trying to stop this particular war in a manner favourable to the Chinese, than to be equally concerned with trying to effect the necessary change of heart in Japan to effect anything like a real reconciliation. The Americans all felt that a good deal could be done to bring pressure on Washington not to make the proposed cotton loan to Japan, and not to make any loans at all. I hope if any of you, British or American, can do anything to bring pressure to bear on your governments to follow something like a non-co-operative movement with Japan, you will do so. But the governments are not too good, and the armament firms are worse; still anything that you can do, do. Speaking of China's needs, there is another thing I might mention; there is beginning to be a shortage of funds for the relief work. Apparently the drive in America was not nearly as successful as they had expected, and now of course with the floods in California, and the need for relief there, they are not likely to get much. The British fund has been carrying the main burden up to now. The Chinese have given very generously. At the very time when funds are getting lower there is a problem of housing. About 26 of the landlords of the houses in which refugees have been housed have asked that they should leave, largely, I think, because under refugee use the property does deteriorate very quickly. There isn't much place for them to go, and they may have to build match sheds, which as the summer is coming on wouldn't be so bad, but would cost quite a lot. So this is just to say, if you can give any more, or ask anybody else to give, the need is growing more rather than less urgent. Conditions are still so unsettled that it is difficult for many of them to return home.

Saturday I had classes in the morning, and in the afternoon I invited the class of 1937 to tea; eight out of the nine that I had invited came, and another one came whom I didn't know was in Shanghai. Actually she never graduated from Ginling, as she married before she had finished- Li Chi-hsia, for those who are interested - so I think it was quite a successful party. We went through the members of the class, and there were seven whom nobody knew where they were, as they had been in the war area, and nobody had heard anything of them. One of the Faculty, Hsu Chao-piao turned up in the Ginling office this morning; she had come from a village near Yangchow, and they had been robbed of 3,000 dollars by bandits on the way. I am afraid that whoever wins will have to take a long time to restore anything like order in the country.

Things are settling down in the Ginling group somewhat, though time tables still seem a little subject to alteration, and various efforts are being made to change certain courses and teachers. By the end of this week, I think all will be settled. I have succeeded in dropping two students who elected the Ancient History course, and am now coaching Yi Dji-ying in that. They really would have been an impossible trio to run together. You can ignore differences in a large class much better than in a small one. Ruth is looking rather tired, but I hope the heaviest two weeks are over, and that she will be able to catch her breath a little. Living and working this way, you don't see much of the girls except actually in class.

[Christmas, 1938]



But, alas! as we stand this Christmas, in the blind horror of war, we can but see in the Jesus lying on the hay the very Jesus Who would die on the Cross in blood and pain. We could not believe in any God that was not crucified. Nothing short of the Crucified would suffice. God must bleed with us if we are to hold our faith in Him. He must be with us in this dire business. He must know it all. We could not bear a God, just now, who stood aloof from this terrific hour, and was not one with us in all this suffering. Yes! It is the Crucified, and only the Crucified, in whom we can believe. Nothing less than that counts just now. We will still sing our Carols, with frail quivering voices, round the dear Child in the hay: but the tears are in our eyes as we sing: and our hearts are already at Calvary, watching the blood-drops slowly fall from the pierced side. Yet, as Mr. Rawlinson has said in a sermon of peculiar power, Mr. Wells has made a strange misjudgment in supposing that the Crucifixion of God would suffice, if it stopped at that. The Crucifixion, to avail us now, must have in it the certainty of power, the assurance of victory. This is what the Name of God means. God is that which shall be All in all. God is that which must prove itself supreme and ultimate. God is the Almighty, in the true and only sense of that great word. In Him, through Him, by Him, Judgment is brought out into Victory. He is life's final Justification, Consummation, Crown. He is not God if He is not this. He takes the road of the Crucifixion by which to reach His goal. He surrenders; He bows to the storm: he gives Himself away: He lays Himself under the feet of those who pass by: He shares every suffering and every ignominy. But this is not to be in vain. By this He will break the tyranny of wrong: by this He will open the prison's doors: by this He will redeem humanity: by this He will verify His God-head. For God is our hope—our unconquerable hope, which stands when the mountains shake and are cast into the sea. That hope is our life.

Christmas Greetings

HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND

from

Eva Pykes Spicer, Ginling in Nanchang.

1965

Rebecca Guert

Rebecca Guert

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Spicer

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I.M.C.  
Madras Christian College,  
Tambaram,  
Madras

Received N. Y. 2/18/39.

I think I sent off a rather hastily ended letter on the boat just before we reached Colombo, I posted it on the boat. We had a decidedly tiresome and tiring landing. The boat got into Colombo just after midnight, and we had to present ourselves there and then for passport examination, though none of us had any intention of landing till next morning. [However, we had no alternative.] We all assembled in various stages of undress and sleepiness in the First Class smoking room, and waited to be dealt with. The Chinese had to wait till the last, because some fool of an assistant in the consulate at Shanghai had given them all their visas for India only, and not Ceylon, apparently not realising that Ceylon and India are two different countries. It so happened that their first two passports he looked at had both been done in Shanghai, and were both wrong, so he told all the Chinese to wait till the end, though actually many of them, including Dr Wu, who had got hers done in Kunming, were quite all right. As you can imagine once in port, even though not at the side of the wharf but out in the harbour, a boat ceases to be a very quiet place, and I don't think either Mr or I slept very much that night. We had a fairly early breakfast, and various people came out to meet us. Delegates to the Conference had been arriving in Colombo for some time, and they were pretty full up already. They had hoped to be able to pass the China delegation on that same night on the special train, but it had not been possible to make the arrangements, so they had to find room for us, which was obviously something of a problem. All the men delegates they sent out to a boys' school belonging to the Methodist Mission, which was passable, but not I imagine too good, the women they were able to accommodate in private homes. Mr or went on that night, as the chairmen of sections etc were having a preliminary week-end conference at Tambaram, two of the other women delegates ~~were sent on~~ went on too, for various reasons (there are seven women on the China delegation, four Chinese, and three foreigners) so that just left four, and we were all put by the English Baptists. Three in the house of Mr and Mrs Scarce, and I stayed next door with Miss Evans, and we were considerably more comfortable than the men.

We spent the morning seeing to various business matters, some going to the police station to get their passports put right etc. Mr Baxter and I with another man - Mr Hankin - went out to Mount Lavinia for lunch, and I spent the afternoon dosing on a sofa. In the evening or rather late afternoon there was a welcome meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Hall in Colombo, when the various delegation were introduced to dwellers in Colombo. Dr Wu spoke for the Chinese delegation - and there were a good many other speeches, mostly quite short and fairly to the point. The largest number of speakers were from the Continent of Africa, but all from different countries, mostly Africans, of many different shades. ~~At the~~ The Africans also sang - the national anthem of Africans in South Africa. It really was quite a thrilling meeting, and gave one a very strong sense of the reality of the Christian fellowship around the world. After the meeting we went home with our hosts and hostesses.

The whole of the next day the China delegation spent in motoring to Kandy, a motor drive of about 75 miles. It was a lovely drive and a lovely day - we stopped on the way at a small zoo, where we saw a dancing elephant, a tea factory, and the Botanical Gardens. The main sight at Kandy, which is a pretty little town situated on a lake, is the Temple of the Buddha's tooth, and I must admit from every point of view that was a disappointment, architecturally and every way else.

On Saturday morning I went to meeting of the Christian Endeavour, in the school of which my hostess was principal, the very charming Sinhalese

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vice-principal also lived in the house. The meeting was conducted in English, so I could understand, and the little singhalese girls were very attractive. I went over the school afterwards, everything is very simple, they sleep on the floor on mats, and they eat on the floor with trays, and they don't have to bother at all about cold weather, that strikes you about all the buildings in Ceylon and South India they can concentrate entirely on making the house as cool as possible, this is their coldest time of year, and it is pleasantly warm, without being at all hot, unless you get right out into the sun at noon day. [I also wrote a few letters on Saturday morning, and in the afternoon Mr Baxter and I went to a cinema.]

The train left at 8.25, and rather marvellously there seemed to be room for all of us, it was pretty shaky, and I can't say I had the best sleep I have ever had on a train, still of course I slept quite a bit. Miss Frame, a girl from Canada, and an African woman from South Africa were in the same compartment. We got to the ferry between Ceylon and India early the next morning. [It only lasts for about two hours, but I must admit I was sick four times. However, though sick I managed to be up and about in between, and the agony was soon over.] That day and night I shared a compartment with the African woman, and learnt from her a good deal about the iniquities of the treatment of African in South Africa, she was quite controlled and moderate in her statement, but you could see she felt very deeply.

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Dec 3/38

Evans - Journey to Madras.

S.S. Conte Verde, ~~Singapore~~  
Near Hongkong,  
Dec 3rd, 1938.

Received N.Y. 2/1/39

I think I sent off the last general letter from Haifong. We left Haifong that evening, the boat was quite comfortable, and the first day out passed off all right, especially as we spent most of the evening anchored off Hainan Island, but on the Thursday the boat moved quite a bit, and I was very sick and sorry for myself, so were most of the men. There were six of them by that time, as we had been re-joined by Mr Wallace Wang who had been detained in Kunming because of suspicions about a map that he had been carrying for someone else, he had come down from Kunming on the slow train the following day with Mr Wang Wen-han of the Y.M.C.A. Three of us ~~sat~~ <sup>ate</sup> dinner, all the rest were lying down, but I might as well have eaten none for all the good it did me, and the length I kept it.

I was very glad indeed to get into Hongkong, which we did early on Friday morning. I spent most of the morning getting off the various parcels ~~etc~~ that I had been given, and was lucky about running into the two people for whom I had packages in Hongkong.

Mr Chirgwin was still in Hongkong, he was leaving for India the next day (Mr Chirgwin is the general secretary of the London Mission), and Elsie Rogers was also spending a day in Hongkong on her way through from Shanghai to Europe on the Rawalpindi. I was very glad indeed to have an opportunity of seeing her. I attended the meetings that the Mission was holding in the evening, and also the Communion service which they Mr Chirgwin took at the end.

I spent most of my time in Hongkong doing shopping, reading, and writing a little, though not as much as I had hoped to, and seeing people. I went out a certain amount in the mission, also on Sunday afternoon there was a meeting of the alumnae, of which there is quite a large group in Hongkong now, many of them teaching in schools that have moved to Hongkong from other places in Kwantung, some of them just married. I also saw two groups of alumnae separately, one on Tuesday, and one on Wednesday. Also two ~~new~~ Chinese, <sup>former</sup> faculty of Ginling, asked Dr Wu and ~~me~~ <sup>us</sup> to lunch on Tuesday Monday, when we had very delicious Chinese food, and on Tuesday the Anglican clergy, mainly it seemed chaplains of the army and navy, but headed by the Dean of the Cathedral asked the Madras delegates and the House of Bishops, which happened to be meeting in Hongkong at that time to lunch at the Hongkong Hotel. It was quite pleasant, and R.O. Hall, the Bishop of Hongkong was there and did the introductions quite pleasantly. He is very busy just now, as indeed many people in Hongkong are with the question of the refugees.

I quite enjoyed my time in Hongkong, though it is rather a depressing place in some ways, as there are a great many defeatist rumours round the place. Apparently the Chinese are getting more and more fed up with the attitude of the British government, which is quite understandable, and don't feel at all friendly to us; and as the Japanese don't love us either, we shall be out of luck whoever wins, I certainly do think these days we are falling heavily between two stools, we don't feel like stomaching all that the Fascist powers do, and therefore we won't go in full with them, on the other hand our government seems unwilling to throw in our weight on the other side, so I should think that very soon we should be the most friendless of all powers.

We had a very Fascist send off from Hongkong, this boat has quite a large detachment of Italian soldiers on it, and the Scharnhorst happened to be in the neighbouring berth at Hongkong, so there was a great playing of bands, and nailing of blue and fuchsia as the boat drew out, and there was a Japanese on the Scharnhorst waving a Japanese flag, so the 'ripae Anti-Comintern pact was well to the fore. I sometimes wonder why the British ~~all these boats to call at their ports~~ but of course there isn't any way to



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12/3/38  
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these boats to call at their <sup>ports</sup> ports, but of course there isn't anyway of stopping them when we are at peace.

I think it is really rather inconsistent of the delegation to Madras to be travelling on this line at all, when they disapprove so heartily of much of Mussolini's policy, but the dates are very convenient, and also there is the question of expense. The Second Economic class is much the cheapest class on this run, and none of the other boats have it, and it is quite possible, if it were not that there ~~presence~~ <sup>are</sup> a good many soldiers makes the boat rather full it would be perfectly comfortable, though the menu is pretty limited, there is no choice, you just take what is given you, and it is quite good, though I think one would fairly quickly get tired of it. Or ~~in~~ and I are very lucky as we have a four berth cabin for just the two, I think almost all the others are four or three in the cabin.

The first 24 hours out there was a good bit of motion, and I could quite easily have been sick, though I wasn't, and they had to keep the portholes down below closed, which made it very hot, but after that it got much smoother, the portholes are now open, and I am feeling quite perky. Wu is also feeling much better, and rested most of the first day, and we have both slept in the afternoons as well (I seem to have an endless capacity for sleep these days).

We are having meetings of the whole delegation every evening from 5-6.30 pm, when they are very kindly lending us the first class smoking room, which is much quieter and captier than ~~any of~~ the one sitting room in economic, being right at the front of the boat, <sup>where</sup> the water makes a great noise.

We are also having meetings of the various sections during the day, so though we are not meeting every day, we generally have meetings at least twice a day, and some groups seem to meet all the time.

There has been a book circulated by the International Missionary Council by a Lutheran, Braemer, called The Christian Message in the Non-Christian World, which is somewhat Barthian in its point of view, and to which almost all the Chinese members of the delegation, and many of the foreigners are quite opposed, so that there is quite a lot of discussion going on about that - there is also, needless to say, discussion on the relation to the Japanese and how much or how little concrete discussion can take place at Madras. No concrete discussion seems to ~~make~~ be somewhat unrealistic, yet any concrete discussion is quite likely to lead to a head-on conflict.

We are due in at Singapore this evening. I have a college friend there - Cicely Williams - I wrote to her saying that I was coming through on this boat, and I had a radio to-day asking Mr Wu and ~~myself~~ <sup>us</sup> to spend the night with her, which should be pleasant. I can't quite remember when I saw her last, I didn't see her last fortnight, so it was either in 1927 or 28, or I may have seen her on my short visit home in 1930. It will be very pleasant to see her, and also very pleasant to sleep on shore, though I have been sleeping very well on board.

We don't seem to get any radio news on this boat, at least I haven't seen any, so that we are feeling a little out of the world, at least at the moment.

all good bye for the moment,  
love from  
Eva.

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Spicer

S.S. Conte Verde,  
between Singapore and Colombo  
Dec 6th, 1938.

Received N.Y. 2/18/39

I think I wrote the last letter just before we got into Singapore. We were due in there about 6 pm on Saturday evening, so they changed our daily meeting until to 3 pm, so we could have it undisturbed. In order to educate ourselves in conditions of different parts of China we had reports from about ten different people from all the various sections of China, which was quite interesting. Dr Wu gave a report on the People's Conference. We did dock not long after 6, and I saw Cicely quite early on, she had not changed at all, except that there was a certain amount of white in her hair, but we were not allowed to embark until the people who were landing permanently had been dealt with, which meant waiting about 1 hour. Chen Mei-yu a graduate of Ginling, and a Secretary of the Y.W.C.A came down to meet Dr Wu. She had arranged to take us round Singapore in the morning, but not to stay the night, so we arranged that we would telephone as to exact time, and that Dr Wu should go with them in the morning, but that I would stay with Cicely. We [the] motored [back] to Cicely's house, stopping on the way for Dr Wu to buy some material, as she is rather low on dresses, and forgot to have any made in Hongkong. Shopping in Singapore is rather expensive.

Cicely has a rather pleasant bungalow, with nothing in the way of glass windows, and the sitting room has very little in the way of walls at all, it is mainly open space. After dinner and some conversation Dr Wu started to write some letters, but got sleepy and went to bed, Cicely and I, however, continued talking until after 2 am, we had lots to talk about including many mutual friends, her work and mine. She has been in Singapore about two years, and before that was on the Gold Coast in West Africa, so she has had quite varied experience. The next day while I was still asleep the telephone bell went, and Dr Wu went to answer it, and I became thoroughly awake as I listened to Dr Wu trying in vain to convince the person the other end of the telephone that it was she who was talking. She said "This is Dr Wu, I am Dr Wu, then she tried it in Chinese, but all in vain, so finally she had to leave it, and except a message for herself. Apparently Miss Chen Mei-yu (for it was she the other end) is a little hard of hearing, and I suppose never thought for a moment that it would be Dr Wu who answered it in the first place. In any case it proved quite impossible to convince her, and Dr Wu and I both got the giggles over it. I think perhaps if she had put the telephone down, and gone away, and come back again, she might have got it across that she was who she was. She came round quite shortly, but as we hadn't yet had breakfast, she went away, promising to send the other to pick Dr Wu up, and we had breakfast at leisure. After breakfast Dr Wu departed with her friends, and Cicely and I made our way to the hospital where she is in charge of the Babies' and Children's wards - and I went round with her. There were some pretty pathetic looking specimens. The majority of the children who come to the hospital are Chinese, as the population of Singapore is 85% Chinese, and the Malaysians are very conservative about sending their children to hospital, but there was an occasional Malayan and Indian child. Most of the diseases are basically caused by malnutrition, and Cicely is very anxious to get more work done along Health Education and preventive methods, she has a scheme on foot, but the Government is pretty slow to move, I hope she succeeds in getting it going. We continued to talk more or less the whole of the morning, except when she was actually going her rounds. We went home to an early lunch, and then back to the boat, which had announced that it would sail at 1 pm, however, actually it did not leave until 2 pm, so Cicely

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stayed talking with me. It was very pleasant indeed seeing nicely and talking about old friends and new work.

Dr Wu spent a rather more orthodox morning of light-seeing-Botanical gardens, reservoirs etc- and finished up with lunch at the Y.W.C.A. where she had Chinese food, and many kinds of fruits. Among other she saw there was Li Bao-djen, who is working on one of the Chinese papers in Singapore. She is staying on her way back with a former Chinese friend from Michigan.

Having stayed up late on Saturday night, I ~~event~~ had a good long nap on Sunday afternoon, after the boat finally sailed. We had a service at 5 pm instead of the usual meeting, the worship of which was led by Bishop Curtis, and the address given by Dr Reihelt, mainly on Christian meditation.

Monday I started so started the second group of sectional meetings, Dr Wu and I are both in the one on the Church and the International Order. Miss Tseng Bao-suen of Changhsa is the Chairman, and Searle Bates the secretary. We have had two discussions, both quite good, and this evening we made a brief report to the whole group, which seems not to have been quite what it should have been, or at any rate it raised far too many issues for discussion in the short time given. We discussed this morning the paper prepared by the Committee on International Relations of the Federal Churches in America for consideration at Madras, which asks the world Church to commit itself to the renunciation of independent sovereign power on the part of the national states, and the establishment of a Federal World government as being in harmony with the will of God. It really is quite a good paper, very clearly and convincingly put, I think most of the members in our section agreed with it.

Yesterday afternoon we were discussing particularly relations with the Japanese delegation, and whether we should have joint meetings or not- there was every kind of opinion expressed- there seemed some doubt as to how frank the Japanese could be, and what was the use of the meeting if frankness was not possible. No resolution was passed, but the main feeling was that while every opportunity should be taken of meeting and talking with them individually and in small groups, a joint-meeting-where the advisability of a joint meeting should wait on events- the judgement of the executive Committee of the China delegation, and the leading of the Spirit of God.

To-day we were discussing what help the Younger Churches still need from the Older Churches- it was quite a well contributed to discussion, but the difficulty always is that far more questions are raised than can thoroughly be discussed, or any conclusion arrived at.

The evening before last I indulged in a little bridge, last evening I spent all the time typing various brief reports some for myself, and some for others. In the afternoons both Dr Wu and I continue to take long naps, though we are both sleeping well at night, and I must be getting between 8 and 9 hours every night, as well as an hour or so in the afternoon. Dr Wu wakes up rather earlier than I do, but she generally goes to sleep sooner, so I think she is getting some thing of a rest too.

The sea is remaining beautifully calm, but the weather is pretty warm, and even with the porthole open, one gets very moist while dressing. However, as regards weather, we have very little to complain about. We took on some extra passengers at Singapore, including some delegates- Chinese and India- from Malaya for the conference, with the result that the smoking room is more crowded than ever. They have had pictures twice since the voyage began, the first night when they gave "Fire over England", a story of the days of the Spanish Armada from the English point of view, seeing that it talked a lot about English freedom, and the persecu-

(not finished)

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ack 1/8/39 (GVER)

Delivered by  
for Mr Albert  
also to the postman

14 Dawson Place  
London W2

Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 1938

Dear Rebecca

Eva has sent this to me  
to forward to you I suppose she thought  
it might get to you a little sooner, but  
it has taken since Nov 30 to get here  
however I will send it on as soon as  
possible but I took the opportunity of sending  
a note as I was meaning to be so busy  
before Christmas life seems to be so busy  
these days that it is difficult to get all the  
letters written that one wants to. It seems hard  
to wish people a happy Christmas with the  
world in such a state as it is but one can  
wish that the new year will bring peace &  
have faith that peace will come.  
We have been very fortunate in hearing from  
Eva almost weekly during the last 18 months  
& I think the Chinese postal service is marvellous  
as I do not believe we have missed one letter  
that she has written. We did have an interval  
of 5 weeks between the time she left Chungking  
& got to Chongtu or rather I think I was off  
she got to Chongtu but then 3 letters came  
in about 3 days. Her journey from Chongtu  
via Kunming & Harbin to Hong Kong seemed  
a very tiring one but I hope she had a  
peaceful voyage from Hong Kong to Colombo  
without any pythons or cyclones.  
I was very fortunate to have taken in  
trips when I did see as much of China  
It is terribly sad to feel that all the  
places I visited in China & I went to  
a good many are all in Japanese hands

0973

now except Hong Kong OCT 12 1938  
we have all been very interested in reading  
the letters etc that have been sent from  
the printing office in New York. How  
wonderful miniature Vanities has been.  
I am hoping to see Lin-tu-han sometime  
in the Christmas vacation. I believe she is  
spending part of it in Cornwall & I do not  
know when or whether she will be able to  
come to London.  
I found it very hard to settle down after  
my 15 months tour round the world  
in fact it took me a year to do it &  
even now I would willingly push up  
my things & move off again but I do  
not think I can do it at present.  
I have two rooms with my own  
furniture in Maun's house & it is  
a very pleasant arrangement as I  
am quite independent. But I can have  
companionship when I want it.  
There is also another room with 6 or 8  
furniture so she will be able to make  
her headquarters here when she comes  
on furlough & use my sitting room.  
In her last letter she says she may possibly  
be furlough for a year. We do not know  
if we quite agree with that plan.  
Mauda her husband <sup>children</sup> have been in  
England for two months but are leaving  
again on Saturday for the States. They are  
going across to California by train & then  
buying a second hand car & making  
back & taking a boat from New York  
to Cape Town.  
With very best wishes for Christmas  
the best year from your very sincere  
Bertie & Mrs. Sherr

GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from letters written by Eva D. Spicer of the Department of Philosophy of Ginling College.

December 8, 1937 - Hankow.

.....There is news from Nanking today, which seems fairly reliable which would seem to say that the Chinese are not going to fight any more at Nanking, and that the Japanese are going in there this afternoon. I can't bear to think of it. War when you are being defeated is a terrible thing; and when I think of the elaborate preparations for celebration that they are staging in Tokyo, I feel like praying the Almighty for a nice big earthquake, but I have enough sense left to realize that that is not a prayer that you can possibly make in the name of Jesus. The humiliation of defeat is the terrible thing. Nanking was very new, and not such a beautiful capital, though it has a lovely setting, and there were some lovely parts in it, but it represented a whole lot of vitality and new life, and the beginning of a very real effort to meet the needs of the people; and I can't bear to think of the Japanese marching through it, and trampling on all the things it stood for, for they are going to trample on that middle way that Chiang was trying to work out. I don't want to see China go communistic, and the Japanese seem to have done their best to bring that about. If they had let Chiang alone, there was quite a chance of his establishing a stable non-communistic government. They say they fear communism, and yet they are doing their best to throw China into the arms of Russia and pulling down upon themselves the ultimate triumph of that which they are so dead against. Certainly a policy based on fear is in the long run a madman's policy.

December 15, 1937 - Hankow.

Well, Nanking was not handed over so simply. They are still fighting, and since most of the communications have been broken it is hard to get news. It is terrible not to know what is happening, but as the Japanese seem to be making fairly steady head-way, I suppose the present uncertainty will not last much longer. What with the bombing of the American and British gun-boats in the Yangtze, they seem to be running something of amok, and one wonders what will happen next. It kind of takes your breath away, and you feel as if you are living in a rather bad nightmare, from which one wishes devoutly one could wake up.

Dr. Wu came over on Saturday, and has been staying here since. She has been seeing some of the fairly high up officials, a good many of whom are here, and not in Chungking, which is capital mainly in name, I don't think they are exactly cheerful, but that can hardly be wondered at.

From the point of view of Communist strategy, it is perfectly legitimate to use this time of weakness to undermine the power of the Central Government, in other words Chiang, and work towards the setting up of their own regime. But still it does seem to me not only dirty work from the point of view of China, which is certainly not going to be helped in her resistance, already desperately difficult, by the stirring up of inner factions, but also ultimately unsound policy, as it seems to me that strategy of the Communist, which simply does not know the meaning of the word loyalty in the ordinary accepted sense, acts as a boomerang, and loyalty in their own group becomes impossible, and you have to resort - as Stalin has done - to the most sheer unadulterate force.



January 10, 1938 - Hankow.

.....The Ginling Faculty buildings have been looted of "trinkets" was the report of the Embassy. I suppose that means small easily moved articles, but I don't know if there has been more serious than looting since. The Japanese in some places go about it in a very business like way, and cart away the whole contents, and ship them back to Japan. I am glad that Ginling has got off so relatively well, but I am afraid all the people there must have had a terrible time, because ghastly things did happen.

On Sunday I went to Chinese Church in the morning, and met one of our alumnae of the Class of 1933, who had just arrived in Hankow with her family, and is practically penniless. Their home and property is in Nanking, which of course at the moment is bringing in nothing, possibly the houses are all destroyed. They had left Nanking in September, and gone to Hsuencheng, a place in Anhwei, which was taken very suddenly by the Japanese, and they got out only a few hours before the Japanese arrived. They had to walk for 140 miles, and then took a small boat to Hankow.

January 18, 1938 - Hankow.

On Friday and Saturday afternoon I spent several hours at the International Red Cross, where they keep all the supplies that they get in from England and other places, and repack them into orders and distribute them to the hospitals in this district, which is a fairly wide one, Honan, Hupeh, Hunan, and now Shensi and Szechuan etc. They have just got a lot of new drugs in from the Lord Mayor's Relief Fund and others. I was first put on to dividing up four gallon tins of eucalyptus into one gallon tins, they were pretty difficult to pour, and I left the place reeking to high heaven of eucalyptus. After a time a coolie took on that job, and I concentrated on the labels and corks. On Saturday I divided up seven pound tins of "Ferri Quinine Cit" into half pound bottles. That didn't smell so much, and was easier to handle, but you had to be careful to keep your mouth tight shut, as otherwise you breathed in very unpleasant fumes.

January 27, 1938 - Hongkong - Miss Spicer flew from Hankow to Hongkong on January 26th.

On January 23rd, the Sunday before I left Hankow, I had guests to lunch. One of the guests was Tsai Kwei, Ginling 1925, acting general secretary of the Y.W.C.A. She had fairly recently come from Shanghai by way of Hongkong and plane. She reported that they had had to close their industrial work among the factory girls in Shanghai, and that the man who was running one of the industrial centers of the Y.M.C.A. had been arrested, tortured and asked questions about communism, and expected to be killed. Six men had been arrested at their center, but five were now released. The general secretary of the Y.W.C.A. had been to the Municipal Council about it, but they had said they could do nothing; they had warned the Y.M.C.A. they had better close, and now could do nothing more. They had been meaning to close, and this man was down clearing things up, but they had the notice board still up, and also Chinese flags. Tsai Kwei said that this man knows practically nothing about communism, probably not even enough to know how to answer their questions but apparently all industrial work is suspected of being communist.

I had some more people to tea, two of them a former member of our faculty, (and an alumnae) with her husband, she and he and two babies, one only recently born, are on their way, as half China seems to be, to Szechuan; refugees but with as yet some money I gather. At any rate they were staying in a hotel not a camp. One of the alumnae I have been seeing something of, has finally decided to marry, and I have lent her money to get her mother and father etc. back to Shanghai, where

they have relatives they can live with.

I preached in the evening, again too long. Monday morning, January 24th, we had an air raid warning, the urgent went also, but nothing happened to us, but from the papers it must have been the time of the raid on Ichang (where Dze-djen is) apparently it was quite a nasty one. The Chinese faculty of I Hsun had invited me to breakfast, but fortunately it was in our own dining room, so we were able to go ahead and have it, even though the air raid warning had sounded. I had a few off jobs to do at the bank etc., and then a little later, I left Hankow for Wuchang, as the plane leaves from there. I had lunch with Miss Sutherland at Dr. Taylor's, one of the houses built on the new piece of land, where Hua Chung was planning to do building, but have been held up because of the war. After that I went out to St. Hilda's, said goodbye to the people there, and saw their refugees, amazingly patient and uncomplaining, the children were having a singing lesson, and looking very cheery. Dr. Hsiung then took me to the rest station for wounded soldiers, Nien Yu Tao, which Wang Yin-an and Liu En-lan had been instrumental in starting because they were appalled by the terrible condition of the soldiers when they were dumped out of one train, and were waiting for another. They take just the most serious cases there for temporary treatment and rest, before they go on. It is an old Chinese house, and the day was dark and dreary, and the approach covered with mud, but the men looked warm and comfortable, though terribly thin and white many of them, but were lying with a stolid patience, that wrings your heart, so many of them look so young, and you feel that they are such helpless pawns in the game that is being played; I wonder if the Japanese would wring your heart too. They have a doctor and five nurses there, and almost sixty beds. For a time there seemed fewer soldiers coming through, and they wondered if they had better close up, but more are coming again now. It is being carried on by a joint committee of the Y.W.C.A., Hua Chung, and Ginling.

Next day, January 25th, I went over to Hanyang, the third of the Wuhan cities. We walked to the Methodist Girls' School. They, like most of the middle schools of Wuhan have refugees there. They are living in the classrooms; they have straw mats on the floor to sleep on, and some of them had a little bedding of their own, others have been given some. I think almost all of the camps have been organized, and the refugees are doing practically all the work, cooking, etc. They have also organized schools for the children, which are in some cases being taught by the refugees themselves, as many of them are quite well educated. They said at Hanyang that they had had five deaths since they opened, only about a week before, all babies with pneumonia. One mother said she had started with five children, arriving with only one. Everybody says who has had anything to do with them that they are almost all very grateful, very patient, and very willing to do everything they can. What is going to happen to them all is a tremendous problem, as it looks as though Japan is making it as difficult as possible for them to return to the areas these people have left, and the Japanese have occupied. I think the middle schools seem to think that they will be able to keep them on even if they open, as they expect their numbers to be very much reduced. Most of the Wuhan schools are planning to open, but only for children who can get back easily to their homes, if there is any serious threat. On our way back we paid a brief visit to a hospital which the Methodists are running, in a godown, a hundred beds in one large room, and also to their General Hospital in that quarter.

GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from letters from Eva D. Spicer  
of the Philosophy Department of Ginling College  
February 1st, 1938 through March 7th, 1938

February 1st

The time in Hongkong seemed all too short. I went on Thursday, the 27th, to see the group of Ginling alumnae and new Faculty, who are teaching in True Light School, which used to be in Canton, but has moved temporarily to Hongkong. They have a nice airy large private house. We had an alumnae luncheon after that, not a large gathering, but very pleasant, and they were interested in the letter I had from Minnie Vautrin. Though it was quite old by then, still it was the first direct word they had yet had from Nanking since it had been taken. Wu Mou-i, who used to teach at Ginling, and has been this year at Wuhan University was there. She may be going back up to Wuchang and on to Szechuan, she was waiting for word from the University.

On Friday evening, January 28th, we went to the beginning of Macbeth, which was given by the students of Hongkong University, in aid of some war relief funds. It really was fairly well done, though they were a bit slow, and I don't think the staging was the most artistic possible, even with the rather limited resources that they had. But the English of the Hongkong students is certainly several cuts above ours. We had to leave just before the end of the 2nd act, as the Conte Rosso on which I was going left at 11 P.M.

The journey took just two days and three nights. The boat is quite a large one and there is nothing particularly in evidence of Mussolini and his works, though I must own I felt a little guilty travelling on an Italian boat.

Getting off the boat was the most lengthy proceeding that I have ever known. We came up along side the wharf at the end of Chaofong Road, where the remains of the L.M.S. compound in Shanghai still are, but of course you couldn't land there, that is one of the districts that is out of bounds. So all the people and the luggage had to be transferred to a tender in order to go a few hundred yards up the river to the Customs jetty. There were very few Chinese coolies in evidence, whether it was because they are not allowed in that region, or whether it was because it was China New Year, I don't know, and getting the luggage off took a long time. It didn't take long to get the luggage through the customs. There was no passport examination at all; the Chinese are not allowed to do it, and our "friendly neighbors," the official title which they have informed the Chinese they are to be called in Soochow, have fortunately not yet got round to it, so at the moment anybody can enter Shanghai.

I came out here to join Florence Kirk and Ruth Chester in their apartment, which is in the French Concession. It is quite a pleasant apartment, with bedroom, and living room, just divided by a curtain from one another, (not really that, as there is not enough of the curtain to pull across without leaving a gap one end or the other or the middle,) a breakfast nook for meals off the sitting room, and bathroom and kitchen. There is a sofa arrangement in the living room, which makes two beds, and Florence and I sleep there, Ruth in the bedroom. It would be a very comfortable apartment for one person, quite comfortable for two, but really rather crowded for three. However, I am staying here for the moment, as rents are very high in Shanghai, and I can look around at my leisure. It is quite a journey down town each day too, though you can probably make up a car with other people at least for the journey in the morning. Anyway Ruth and Florence are very nice persons to be with, and they are bearing with me nobly, as they were here first.



We spent most of the day talking, and in the evening we went, at least Florence and I did. - Ruth was in bed with a fluency cold - to a meeting of Nanking people and others, where a German, who has recently come from Nanking was scheduled to speak. When we got there he hadn't turned up, but we told Dr. Price that we had heard that George Fitch, who has been active on the Safety Zone Committee, had just arrived in Shanghai, so they got him along to speak. He had already written a long account of his experiences during the first month or so, and many of the people there had read it, so he didn't go into that so much, but told of more recent developments. Apparently the Japanese are wanting all Chinese to leave the safety zone, and return to their own homes in the city, by Feb. 4th. They are promising that the soldiers will be confined to a given area within the city, and that protection will be afforded. But the people and the foreigners there are somewhat sceptical about these promises. On more than one occasion the Japanese have made promises, which they have broken within the next hour.

I am writing fairly freely, as I am going to post this in the French Concession, and they say there is no censorship of the mails there. I hope it is all right. Ruth has told me that we have to be careful what we say in the Y.W. buildings where we have taken offices, as there are some of our friendly neighbors round the place, who seem to be on the watch and on the listen for anything they can hear.

There were a lot of questions asked on Monday evening. I asked who was the supreme authority in Nanking at the moment, and he said they wished they knew. Apparently there is no final authority, the Consular and embassy people have no control over the soldiers, and the officers have no control over the men, so altogether it is very bad. They have registered every one in Nanking, and now no Chinese is allowed to go in, and no Chinese is allowed to go out. They would let the foreigners out willingly enough, but they would not let them back. The man who was down said that he had only come after he had had a promise that he could go back again (he has come down for dentistry). He came down in the Bee, and expects to go in an American gun-boat. We are all very interested to see whether he does get back again. Heretofore foreigners who have left places under Japanese control have had the greatest of difficulties in getting back. I don't think any of the other foreigners will leave, at any rate for the moment, as I think they still feel there is a good bit that they can do to help the unfortunate Chinese. The Japanese have not yet let them get any more rice, and they are getting rather short of that. Also they are in desperate need of more doctors and nurses, and there are both waiting in Shanghai ready to go up, but the Japanese will not let any in. They say the Japanese nurses and doctors can look after them, but they are doing nothing for the Chinese at all. And then they publish wonderful accounts in the Shanghai papers of all they are doing, which are not only sheer lies, but the exact opposite of the truth. They are really being sources of death and destruction; they have looted most of the shops, and then burnt them.

School doesn't start till February 17th, but as I may have to teach history, which I haven't done for some time, I think I had better get to work on some reading and preparing.

On Friday, February 4th, I was buying some things to send up to Minnie Vautrin at Nanking. The Bee, a British gun boat, was going up on Saturday, and as gun boats are at the moment the main method of communication between here and Nanking, and they are kind enough to be willing to take things for us to the foreigners in Nanking, we were getting things for her - oranges, ovaltine, chocolates etc. We also sent up some novels, though that was not one of the things she asked for.

Friday was Ruth's birthday, and Florence had invited in for the evening Lilliath Bates, and Margaret and Claude Thomson. Of course we talked Nanking a good

bit of the time. Lilliath was quite excited because she had heard that the high-up Japanese who had been sent out from Tokyo to inquire into things in Nanking, because of the persistent reports of continuous outrages I suppose, was a man whose mother she had met in Tokyo - she was in Tokyo till about the third week in January - and whose wife had been to the Christian Girls' School, and was supposed to be a very fine man, so she had hoped that things might be a bit better.

On Sunday there was Church, and in the afternoon we were at home to the girls, if any of them wanted to come. Six came altogether, and we read them most of Minnie's account of the first month, which had just come that week. I am afraid I haven't time to copy it, it is pretty long, but I will try to do it, or get it done some time this week and send it <sup>to</sup> those of you that I don't think will see it otherwise. Minnie certainly is an amazing person, and she and the others are doing a very good job. Women refugees are apparently a good deal easier to handle than men.

We are getting ready another installment of things for Nanking as the American gun boat is going up on Thursday. Among other things that Minnie has written for is bird-seed, she says there is a famine among the birds in Nanking. You would hardly have thought she would have had time to notice things like that, but that is very characteristic of her. Mrs. Tsen, the Chinese matron, says that the refugees on the campus have given Minnie a Chinese name which means "Living Buddha", or rather "Living Goddess of Mercy". Certainly her presence among them has meant that much.

She wrote me a letter last week, in which, among other things, she said that - up-to-date - my house was one of the few in Nanking that had not been molested or entered.

Minnie is busy making plans - or rather talking about - opening an industrial school for the women in Nanking who have lost their husbands, and all visible means of employment.

The censorship in the North of China must be very strict, as the University of Nanking had letters and telegrams from one of its Board Members up there asking why they had left Nanking, and telling them to go straight back there at once, as though anybody could go back to Nanking, let alone young able bodied men students!

#### February 16th.

On Sunday, February 13th, we went to lunch with four of the Chinese faculty, who are living in one room, and eating there too. They are at present doing their own cooking, and they provided us with quite a good meal. It was marvellous how much they could do with the very limited cooking space they had.

Yesterday morning I went to visit one of our alumnae who is working in the office of that section of the Red Cross which provides clothing and bedding for the refugee camps. They have quite an establishment there, as they do all the cutting out, though not the actual sewing - that is taken elsewhere. But by cutting it out there, it is possible to keep a very careful check on it all, and that is very necessary.

I had word from Li Dze-djen last week, that her youngest sister who had been in Hwaiyuen, which has just been taken by the Japanese, was trying to get out to Hankow; they must have left the week before the Japanese did get there. She, the sister hasn't been at all well, and they are afraid now it is cancer. So Dze-djen was leaving Ichang, and going down to meet her sister in Hankow. If they can't get the treatment needed there, they may come here.

The consignment of green beans that they sent up to Nanking last week for the people suffering from beri-beri is having difficulty being landed.

February 20th.

Wednesday evening I went to have supper with Florence and Ruth. We went over to call on Lilliath Bates, who has moved into the American school, which is being used as a kind of camp for refugee missionaries. She and her younger son are sleeping in one room, use a double decker bed, and the whole dormitory is given up to all kinds of missionaries. She gave us some more news of Nanking.

On Thursday morning I went to the American Embassy to collect mail from Minnie from Nanking, which we had only heard about the previous evening. It contained, among other things, quite a list of things that she wanted in order to start work of various kinds among the refugees, New Testament, Lessons on Hygiene, wool, knitting needles etc, so I spent a good bit of the morning getting a good many of the things, as we thought they had to be in the British Embassy - they were going up by the Cricket - that afternoon.

In the afternoon I acted as a major adviser for the Sociology and History majors, as we were registering on Thursday and Friday, February 17th and 18th. That kept me busy all the afternoon. I can't say that I know much about Sociology, but there didn't seem to be anybody else who knew much more. It's rather a hit and miss kind of education that some of the students are getting, but still we are doing our best under the circumstances. There are six institutions who are co-operating on this scheme - St. John's, Shanghai, Soochow, Hangchow, Ginling, and the University of Nanking. The only one among them all that has a library available and laboratory equipment is St. John's. They don't think it is quite safe to open on their campus, because of the proximity of our friendly neighbors, but they have easy access to their campus, and the foreigners are living out there. They are being very generous, and sharing all they have with the rest of us.

Friday morning I tried to do some reading in the Faculty Room in the building where St. John's holds its classes, and where the library is. There is certainly nothing beautifully academic about these buildings where all of us are now holding out. There is a big building on Nanking Road called the Continental Emporium, which is mainly an office building. We are in a building on Yuen Ming Yuen Road - where the Missions Building is and also the British Consulate - which belongs to the Y.W.C.A. They have their buildings on the top floor. It is new, pleasant and clean, but still it is an office building, not an academic one, and we have got to be as unobtrusive as possible. Friday afternoon there was again registration. After that was over I went to a meeting that the Y.W.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A. were holding to meet two young Americans, on the staff, I think, of the World's Student Christian Federation, who are visiting China. They have just had a brief visit to Japan. They both spoke and were quite interesting, though not encouraging as regards the conditions on Japan. There seems complete unification behind the government, and what little questioning there is, is quite unexpressed.

On Saturday, the 19th, we had our first assembly at Ginling in Shanghai. I should think between 40 and 50 girls were there. Ruth Chester took it, and was very good. It is rather a job teaching two courses that you have not taught before, starting from absolutely scratch, with not a note about anything.

They hadn't succeeded in landing those green beans in Nanking the last I heard, but they were still hopeful of so doing. They have finally allowed one other doctor to go up, but they won't give any other permits.

February 27th.

Although I wrote a letter last Sunday, I did not get it off until Friday, as some one I knew was then going down to Hongkong and I thought it perhaps better



to send it by him, though I have no evidence or suggestion of any kind of trouble yet.

We started classes on Monday, and I have done some teaching this week, but I seem, one way and another, to have missed more classes than I have taught. The time table is still in a very fluid state, and you are apt to have a class set for a time that you have not yet noticed, and so miss that. Or else it is changed, and the students do not see it, so that you are there, but they are not. Or half the class turns up, and the other half have a conflict and cannot come, so again you do not have a class. Also in addition to the general fluidity of everything and everybody at the present moment, I attended a two day conference on Wednesday and Thursday. It was a group of more or less representative people - I was just representing Ginling - though it was overwhelmingly representative of this part of the country, which had been called to discuss the various problems facing the Christian Church at this moment. There were men there who had been recently in almost all the different parts of China, such as Szechuan, and Central China - Yunnanfu - North China, and of course, East and South China. The man from the North was especially interesting; apparently the towns are more or less conforming outwardly to the new regime, but in the country districts all kinds of mobile units are active, and there are many stories of their exploits - some quite amusing. But the terribly tragic side to it all is that every time any of the mobile units score a success, there is a terrible revenge taken on the unfortunate people who live in that district, so that their fate is indeed an unenviable one. But at the moment - except in East Hopei - the new rulers have certainly not got control of the whole area, and are unlikely to be able to get much in the way of economic returns for some time to come.

The problem about the "occupied areas" is that on the one hand people are naturally eager to get back to their stations and to their work among the people who are still there, especially when there is so much in the way of relief to be done; on the other hand many people feel that to do all we can to start the work again is to help things to return to normal, get the people more settled, therefore taxable, and generally to help - though of course indirectly - that of which we do not approve. Some people felt that it was not for any loyal Chinese to return to any of the occupied areas; others felt that some Chinese people had to be there, and it was better for decent leaders - Chinese and foreign - to be there to help them, than to leave them to the mercy of 'friendly neighbors' and the Chinese who would be helping them. Whether it would be better to go back, make your protest when the time came, get arrested and possibly shot - or possibly something worse - or just stay away all together I do not know. But I am sure to go back, and then let them dictate to you the terms under which you should teach, would be to betray not only China, but even worse the Christian cause. This I am afraid the Church has been doing in many places, in some places where it did not realise it, by believing that religion has nothing to do with politics.

The problem in North China - except in one or two cases - seems to have been settled along the line of least resistance; in East China at the moment it is almost impossible to get back, especially for foreigners, and Chinese are not very anxious to get back, as there is very little safety or order restored. Even in those towns which our neighbors have occupied for over two months people still live in fear of robbery, wounding, rape, and even death at the hands of our friendly neighbors.

We got letters from Minnie yesterday; she had got the things we sent up last Saturday. She sounds amazingly normal and sane for a person who has been living under the strain that she has. Mr. Rabe, the German who was chairman of the International Zone Committee up in Hanking, has just come to Shanghai, on his way to Germany. Minnie writes of the various groups who have been giving him farewell parties. She says they still have about 3,000 women and children on the campus, mostly young women, as it is so unsafe for them to go to their homes, and they are starting various classes with them. She says that on February 21st she rode in a richsha, the fourth she has

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seen since December 12th. They do get a little off the campus now, but she and Mrs. Twinem still stick pretty close to the campus for fear of untoward events.

March 7th.

It was as warm as early summer last week, and now it is snowing.

This last week a committee tried to plan for the religious life of Ginling, which isn't so easy, as it is almost impossible to find any time when you can have anything. The girls are scattered both in their times and places. However, we have settled on having a brief ten minutes prayer service every day just after 12, as a certain number of them are there then, and we are also trying to organize one discussion group on week-days, which we are getting Dr. Lautenschlager to take, at any rate for the first three weeks. He and Gardiner Towkesbury are both here for a month to do Religious work among the various schools and colleges. But it is quite a puzzle trying to find any time that is possible. They had a meeting - it was called a retreat but that is not really the proper name - yesterday, Sunday, from 4:30 - 8 PM. It was for anybody interested of the Christian faculty members of the schools and Colleges. 4:30 - 6:30 - talks by various people - Dr. Y.C.Tu, T. L. Shen, Dr. Miao, and Dr. Lautenschlager and Mr. Towkesbury, the latter two were both quite good. Then we had supper together.

I saw several Ginling alumnae there - Tsai Deh-dui and Chen Deh-djen. I was also sitting at the same table for supper as Miss Kessler. I saw Hwang Wen-yu who is teaching in the Southern Baptist School, and saw but did not have time to talk to Dziang Sin-bao, Li Ming-dju, and Chiu Li-ying.

On Tuesday Nanking missionaries had a dinner at the American School in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Rabe. He is the German who has been acting as Chairman of the International Safety Zone Committee in Nanking; he came down from Nanking the week before last, and is going home to Germany, and will, I hope, tell something of the behavior of their friends in the Orient. He has a very pleasing personality, and gave a very pleasant little talk after dinner, mainly paying tribute to all his American colleagues in Nanking, many of whose wives were there. He said about Minnie that he would never forget Miss Vautrin at the head of a group of girls and women whom she was leading past Japanese soldiers to the relative safety of Ginling. He said "It was a man's job, but Minnie did it." He was rather interesting in the reasons he gave why he stayed in Nanking - business interests, personal friendship with his Chinese business associates, who were very keen for him to stay, general friendliness to the Chinese people - he has been here 30 years - etc. and finally he said "As you know I am a member of the National Socialist Party - he was wearing the Swastika - and as you know they are soldiers of Peace, and I wanted to prove it." I could wish that the whole party was as good soldiers of peace as he. Anyway, I hope the fact that he is a member of the party, will make them inclined to believe that what he says in Germany is true. All the people from Nanking - Searle Bates, Lewis Smythe etc. speak very highly of him, and it was a help I think, having a German as Chairman of the Committee. The Japanese, I gathered from something he said, were both surprised and a little hurt to find a German there trying to prevent them from doing everything they wanted to. He said in private conversation afterwards that some of the Japanese asked him if the German soldiers did not do the kind of thing that the Japanese had been doing. He said he answered them that some of them had, but they had been punished by being hung, not even shot. He was of the opinion that the discipline was very lax, and if the Japanese officers had made a determined effort to stop things, they could have. In this connection I also heard this week of an Anglican Bishop from Japan who simply refuses to believe that the disciplined Japanese troops could have behaved like that. I suppose it is natural; we have all been so impregnated to believe that atrocity stories are just made up for war-propaganda.

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I also attended a meeting of the Fellowship of Reconciliation on Sunday morning. There were three Chinese attending the meeting, P.C.Hsu, who is a quite thorough going pacifist, a Mr. Chen, whom I don't know, and Liu En-lan of our faculty. She, I should say, depended rather on her mood whether she was a pacifist or not. The rest were American, British and Canadian. It really was called to revive the F.O.R. in Shanghai and China, and try and do something now. There is certainly plenty to be done. I cannot imagine a time when there was more reconciling to be done, or to be frank, less chance, humanly speaking, of doing it. I don't think it was a too unsatisfactory meeting, though the discussion was apt to be a little discursive, and there was a marked tendency to try and justify this particular war, that is as far as the Chinese part in it was concerned. Also I should say we tended to be more interested in trying to stop this particular war in a manner favourable to the Chinese, than to be equally concerned with trying to effect the necessary change of heart in Japan to effect anything like a real reconciliation. The Americans all felt that a good deal could be done to bring pressure on Washington not to make the proposed cotton loan to Japan, and not to make any loans at all. I hope if any of you, British or American, can do anything to bring pressure to bear on your governments to follow something like a non-co-operative movement with Japan, you will do so. But the governments are not too good, and the armament firms are worse; still anything that you can do, do. Speaking of China's needs, there is another thing I might mention; there is beginning to be a shortage of funds for the relief work. Apparently the drive in America was not nearly as successful as they had expected, and now of course with the floods in California, and the need for relief there, they are not likely to get much. The British fund has been carrying the main burden up to now. The Chinese have given very generously. At the very time when funds are getting lower there is a problem of housing. About 26 of the landlords of the houses in which refugees have been housed have asked that they should leave, largely, I think, because under refugee use the property does deteriorate very quickly. There isn't much place for them to go, and they may have to build match sheds, which as the summer is coming on wouldn't be so bad, but would cost quite a lot. So this is just to say, if you can give any more, or ask anybody else to give, the need is growing more rather than less urgent. Conditions are still so unsettled that it is difficult for many of them to return home.

Saturday I had classes in the morning, and in the afternoon I invited the class of 1937 to tea; eight out of the nine that I had invited came, and another one came whom I didn't know was in Shanghai. Actually she never graduated from Ginling, as she married before she had finished- Li Chi-hsia, for those who are interested - so I think it was quite a successful party. We went through the members of the class, and there were seven whom nobody knew where they were, as they had been in the war area, and nobody had heard anything of them. One of the Faculty, Hsu Chao-piao turned up in the Ginling office this morning; she had come from a village near Yangchow, and they had been robbed of 3,000 dollars by bandits on the way. I am afraid that whoever wins will have to take a long time to restore anything like order in the country.

Things are settling down in the Ginling group somewhat, though time tables still seem a little subject to alteration, and various efforts are being made to change certain courses and teachers. By the end of this week, I think all will be settled. I have succeeded in dropping two students who elected the Ancient History course, and am now coaching Yi Dji-ying in that. They really would have been an impossible trio to run together. You can ignore differences in a large class much better than in a small one. Ruth is looking rather tired, but I hope the heaviest two weeks are over, and that she will be able to catch her breath a little. Living and working this way, you don't see much of the girls except actually in class.



GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts From Letters of Eva Spicer  
Written in Shanghai March 16 - April 30, 1938

March 16, 1938 - It seems such a pity that all questions cannot be removed from the political to the non-political sphere. It is enough to make you weep when you think how men can and will cooperate over certain things, and then look at the mess they are making of things in Europe at the moment, all of them rattling their swords at one another. It also makes you desperately ashamed of Christians, and the Christian Church, when Christ has made it so plain what one ought to do, and we have tried to do everything else, except what he suggested. I think Europe, and I include England, deserves all that is coming to her, though I pray that God in His mercy may still avert it, but it will be mercy not justice.

Miss Vautrin continues to write very cheery letters. They have over a 1000 studying in classes on the campus, and she is always writing for more and more materials. She says in spite of all the sadness that there is, there is a wonderful underlying sense of peace and joy. They are trying to get more doctors and nurses up there, as they are badly in need of more help along medical lines, but so far their efforts to get permits have been in vain.

The routine goes on pretty normally, there always seems plenty of work to do, teaching two quite new courses with not a single note to one's name takes quite a lot of time, and there are always a few extra meetings, and things to see to. The discussion group that we have started for students started last week with Dr. Lautenshlager leading it for three times. I think they found it quite interesting, though it was more of a lecture than a discussion group. I also spent a certain amount of time finding out when the faculty had a possible free time for a discussion group among ourselves, and we are finally planning two at the lunch hour on Friday. Everything in the way of arranging anything takes a lot of time these days, as it is so hard to get hold of people to begin with, and almost impossible to find a suitable time when you have found them.

We had a faculty meeting last Friday, and an Assembly this Monday. I have had two little adventures on the streets of Shanghai since I last wrote. On Friday when I was walking back up Shantung Road after the Faculty meeting about 6:30, my bag was snatched from me. I shrieked out "My bag, my bag," which was not very helpful, as no one knew what I was talking about, and started running after him, another boy joined in the chase, and after a not very long period, the second boy picked up the bag which the other one had dropped, and gave it to me. I looked first for my note case and cheque book, and they were both there, but I discovered afterwards that he taken some things out before he had thrown it down, some letters, and one had a cheque in it, which Miss Vautrin had sent down to be cashed. It was a cheque on an American bank, and I don't think he will be able to negotiate it, but it is a nuisance. Then on Tuesday when I was coming back from the F.O.R. meeting, my rickshaw was run into by a car, and I was gently tipped out into the street, but it really was very gentle, as by the time the car knocked into the rickshaw it had slowed down very much, and so had the rickshaw, and I really was not hurt at all. The rickshaw was much more hurt, as its wheel was all buckled up, but the man was not hurt.

Miss Whitmer arrived Monday a week ago. Dr. Felton was on the same boat; he had just come from Korea. Many leading Christians among the Korean have been put in prison just before the beginning of trouble in the north, and some for the flimsiest of reasons.

March 20, 1938 - One seems to have lived almost more in Europe than in Shanghai, wondering what on earth would happen next. I can't say that I feel any great confidence in the present leadership in Great Britain. Mr. Chamberlain strikes me as being very limited in his outlook, and without the imagination and far-sightedness that might enable him to help get Europe out of the nasty mess into which she is gradually sinking deeper and deeper. He seems almost to have the rigid little kind of mind that might make him want to be something of a dictator, but I trust he has not the personality for that.

On Friday ten of the Faculty met for a sandwich lunch and discussion with Dr. Lautenshlager on Students' problems today, and how to help them. We had our lunch in the room which Mrs. New has taken, and which is more informally and comfortably furnished than any of the others. Dr. Lautenshlager and Mr. Tewkesbury have been allotted to religious work among the Colleges and Middle School for these four weeks. The meeting was quite successful from the point of view of fellowship and general participation.

I heard an explosion on Saturday morning which sounded quite near, and sure enough there was (in quite small print, such things happen so often) the report of a bomb that had been thrown in the next street to this; it was quite a small bomb, one of the kind made out of a cigarette tin. Two people were injured.

I had rather a disturbed night last night with a rat that got into my room, and I am afraid I am very scared of them.

March 27, 1938 - On Monday evening I attended the second of a series of four discussion groups on the subject of Peace, it was on Disarmament, or rather re-armament. Really we are fools, I get so mad with Hitler at moments that I feel I shall burst from inside, but I suppose that if immediately after the war we and France had gone in for a bonafide full blown disarmament policy, Hitler might never have been able to come to the power he has, and the world might have been saved the present mad race.

I had dinner at the American School with Lilliath Bates. They are running a kind of refugee camp for missionaries there, they are not having any regular boarders, only children attached to grown-ups. They are running it on a communal basis, most people helping with one or other jobs. Quite a number of Nanking people are there - Lilliath Bates and her younger son, the Thomsons and three children, the Macullums, etc. It is very much of a school dormitory life, and can't be too pleasant for the adults, but they all seem very cheerful and good about it. Lilliath and Bobbie share a room, with one double decker bed like a ship's cabin. On Tuesday I went to a movie - quite a good one - "One Hundred Men and a Girl".

We had letters from Minnie on Friday, she writes as steadfastly as always, but that amount of suffering must be very wearing; I mean the consciousness of all the suffering that is going on, and the nearness to it. Apparently the process of flooding Nanking with opium and drugs has already begun. What a world! One man said that he had seen more opium in the past three or four weeks than he had in all the previous years (16-17) that he had been in Nanking.

On Sunday I had two alumnae to lunch, and in the afternoon Mr. Beynon took Miss Harrop and myself over the Garden Bridge to the compound. When you first get there, except that it is rather deserted as compared with the rest of Shanghai, and that most of the people you do see are Japanese soldiers or sailors, and only a sprinkling of Chinese and foreigners, it looks fairly normal, though as you go further down Broadway you come to places where there is no glass in any of the windows, and some of the houses are completely gutted out. But when you turn down

Chaoufoong Road and begin to walk away from the river towards the compound, there is just complete ruin, bits of walls are standing, but there is not a roof or a floor of any kind to be seen, just complete desolation, the space between the walls is choked with bricks and rubbish of various kinds. In some places there are heaps of scrap iron ready to be taken away - most of which is a rather beautiful rust color - but most of it has already been cleared away. The streets now are perfectly clean and this region almost entirely deserted. It is rather an eerie feeling that this empty quiet desolated and ruined city gives you, it reminded me more of Pompei than of any other place I have been to. The compound (London Missionary Society) itself is a melancholy spectacle, especially the boys school, and the four last houses to be built, which are just walls, and nothing else. The two houses in which the Blacks and the Smalls lived are badly knocked about, a shell must have gone through the roof, and the confusion inside is indescribable but there is much more left, and of the three oldest houses and the girls school there is almost the complete structure left, except of course for some damage. There are dugouts on the tennis court, but the flowers are coming up in some of the borders, we picked some daffodils, forsythia, a snowdrop and hyacinth or two. Here again the outside of everything has been tidied up, and it is a calm placid melancholy that broods over everything, not the ravaged ghastly mess it must have been while all was happening.

We walked past the Hongkow market, which is almost exclusively inhabited by Japanese soldiers, and that whole area there is like a Japanese city, you hardly see any Chinese at all, and there are many more Japanese civilians. It was always a quarter where many Japanese lived, the main difference is that the Chinese who lived there have left. There was a Japanese aeroplane doing stunts over our head, as we passed the market.

April 4, 1938 - On Monday morning we had word that Dr. Wu would probably arrive that day on the Italian boat, and sure enough she got in about 4 P.M., in time to address the assembly of students, which was quite an excitement. She had been able to make a reservation on the plane from Chunking to Hongkong quite suddenly, and had had no time to let us know beforehand that she was coming, also she wished to surprise us, but friends had wired from Hongkong, so that we did know. She looked much the same as ever, pretty tired, but not much more so than when she left Wuchang, and I think after a day or two's rest she looked quite a lot better.

Tuesday was a holdiay, and I went on a trip that had been arranged for students and faculty to see some of the refugee work. We met at the Y.W. in Bubbling Well Road, and started out in one Red Cross Truck and two cars -- Mrs. Now's and Mrs. Fitch's. Mrs. Fitch is in charge of the industrial work which is being started in the camps.

We went first to a camp in a temple, where they are doing industrial work. Some of them are being taught embroidery, basket making, glove making, etc, and as some already know many women do embroidery work in their own homes. They have a merchant - one Albert - to be responsible for the selling end of it, of course all the ordinary sources of supply are pretty badly hit, so that I don't think he is doing it for charity but for business. However, it is teaching some of them a trade, and they are able to earn some money, and they are only allowed to draw out a little now, and they will have the rest when they leave, which will be something to help them towards a new start, so I suppose it is as wise not to give it to them now, as they probably would spend it. It was a very pleasant sunny day, and on that kind of day a temple, with its courtyards and stone floors, isn't so bad, but it must be pretty cold during the winter. They sleep and work in the same rooms of course, but all their bedding rolls are rolled up during the day, so that the space is quite clear. They looked pretty cheery on the whole. You have to hand it to the Chinese for being able to put up with things, I don't think any other



people I have come across have the same capacity for cheerful endurance. After the camp in the temple we went to another one, which was supposed to be especially good in education, but as it was a holiday they were having a holiday too, and there was not much going on. I don't know what the building had been before, but they seem to have taken down all the partitions along the corridor which made it seem very light and airy, and it was quite clean. From there we went to a little camp - about 270 women and children - being run by the Y.W.C.A. which was very pleasant, they were doing industrial work there too on their own not in the main scheme because they were not large enough. This general industrial scheme only handles groups of 200 women or above. They also had classes for children, who were most attractive; they were in quite a decent house, though of course every bit of space must be used at night time to get them all lying down space. From there we went to a new industrial camp just opened at St. John's. They had taken women from other camps and put them there. It was being run by the Y.W.C.A. very efficiently. We went from there to the hospital for refugees in the Academic Sinaica Building, it makes a very good hospital. There were children there who had been wounded while playing with an unexploded hand grenade, I think it was. Apparently there are quite a certain number of unexploded shells, etc. lying about various places. After that we went to a camp that has been run by the Christian Churches of Shanghai; it was in match sheds, and looked decidedly darker and less attractive than the others we had been to, which were all rather well housed. But the people seemed to have quite enough place in which to stretch out. We decided that we had been to rather superior camps so we asked Mrs. Fitch and our Chinese guide to take us to a really bad one, so they did. There were about 8,000 in that one, and it was frightfully crowded, in one of the shelters that had been erected in between the houses, they were sleeping in three tiers, and the top lot must have pretty well touched the ceiling, even when they were lying down. Every single scrap of place was occupied, and I have never seen such a collection of old rags which seem to be shoved into every odd corner. The whole impression was one of dirt and squalor. Actually being a fine day it was not nearly so bad as it would have been on a wet day. When they are all indoors, I can't think where they put themselves. Mrs. Fitch said she had been there once on a wet day, and it was just terrible, some of them didn't have enough room to sit or lie down. But even in that camp the people looked fairly cheery. We saw their meal at one camp, just ready, they have a mixture of rice, wheat, and beans; it didn't look too bad, though I don't suppose that I should like to live on that twice a day. When they are working they get breakfast as well.

We finished up with lunch at the Y.W.C.A. and Mrs. Fitch told us something about the work, and how it had started, etc., I mean the industrial work. These refugee camps are run under many different organizations, who pay the rent and the management, but most of them now are getting their supplies - rice, coal, etc., from the Red Cross, and if they get their supplies from the international Red Cross Committee, then they are inspected by the Red Cross, and have to fulfill certain regulations.

It was quite interesting to see how many places in Shanghai were flying the old, not the new flag; inside the settlement and the French concession, you didn't see the new flag at all. Wednesday was an ordinary work day. I had a Committee meeting at lunch time with Ettie Chin and Hwang Li-ming on Services for Easter Week. Also Wu Mou-i looked in, and I did a little shopping, as she was going up to Hankow and Chunking the next day, and could take things with her. At tea-time we had a joint meeting of Ginling and the University of Nanking at which Mr. Tewkesbury and Dr. Lautenschlager were speaking.

On Thursday I dashed out to Ruth and Florence's apartments, where Dr. Wu was holding a committee meeting to discuss the future plans for Ginling, whether to open in two places, or only in one; whether to go on with the ordinary routine curriculum, or whether to try and start something rather more adapted to present day needs. Dr. Wu told us something about conditions on the West China Campus, and generally in Szechuan, and we asked questions and raised problems. They didn't settle anything, only raised questions for the faculty to discuss at the meeting on this coming Wednesday.

Everybody in Shanghai now has stories about the kidnapping of girls. Young girls seem to have a great fascination for my friend "Laura". Of course, when you track down the stories a good many of them are not true, but enough are true to make people feel quite nervous.

April 10, 1938 - On Tuesday we had an extra faculty meeting and we discussed the problem of where we ought to continue next term, in Shanghai, or Szechuan, or where. I think we are all fairly clear that there really is not much use in our staying in Shanghai. Any girl who wants the kind of education that we are giving here can get it at one of the other institutions and without any residential life - or much contact with them; except in the classrooms, you can't really do much in the way of character education. Moreover, in the present crisis one wonders whether the routine college education is really the best fitted to help people meet present day conditions. So we decided that we would ask for use of these buildings, which are about five hours by bus from Chengtu, and would start a unit there, to try and work out courses that might take less time, and be more practicable. After the meeting was over some of us went out to dinner with one of the Alumnae - Miss Wen-yu, and had very good Chinese food.

On Wednesday I went out to tea with Mrs. Mills, and met several Nanking grass widows - Mrs. Ritchie, whose husband is up in Nanking in the postal service, and Mrs. Williams, whose husband is in the British Consulate. Mrs. Mills' husband is there too, so naturally we talked about Nanking a good bit of the time. We had another faculty meeting in the evening, preceded by supper, at which we went more thoroughly into the question we had discussed a bit the night before. Since then we had had further word from Miss Vautrin, and she seemed to think that we might be able to start middle school work on the campus next term. So if we did that we should have Ginling in two places - both occupied China in Nanking, and free China in Szechuan - of course we didn't get down to any details of courses, etc., but on the whole the faculty seemed in favor of the general idea.

Thursday we all had a shock as Dr. Herman Liu, President of Shanghai University, and the kind of man that was on every committee that there was in Shanghai, was shot in full daylight about 8:30 A.M. as he was waiting for a bus to come down town with his small son whom he was taking to the dentist. The stop, for those of you who know Shanghai, is on Bubbling Well Road, just opposite the Y.W.C.A. They got one of the men, but up to date not the man who actually shot him. He died before they could get him to a hospital. Of course everybody knew him - that is all the people in the missionary or philanthropic circles in Shanghai, and there was a kind of hush over the Mission Buildings. People are fairly sure it was terrorists, with Japanese behind them. He had not been particularly associated with politics, I think, though of course to some extent, and he was, I believe, active in the Boycott Association. But he had been quite outspoken in his criticism of the Japanese policy, and certainly in his influence on his students could not possibly be considered pro-Japanese. He had already received threatening

letters and had had previous attempts on his life, but he said he would stay, and stay he did. It makes one feel pretty awful, and you wonder whether all the outstanding Chinese leaders in education, etc, are not somewhat unsafe. One can't help having a few fears for Dr. Wu, though of course there is nothing to do except go on, and do just what one would do anyway. We had decided to close the Shanghai unit anyway, but Dr. Wu is making it very clear that we decided before Herman Liu was shot, not afterwards.

On Friday I went out to dinner with Ruth and Florence, as they were having Searle and Lilliath Bates to dinner. Dr. Wu and Harriot Whitmer were also there. Searle Bates came down from Nanking last Tuesday, but I had not seen him before. He looks pretty well, all things considered, but I think the whole experience has told pretty heavily on his spirits. We talked about the European situation some of the time, and he was pretty pessimistic about that, saying that he did not see a glimmer of hope -- and then, just as he was going, he smiled and said "Of course you have to remember where I have been." And I think the forces of evil and cruelty are very uppermost in his mind at the moment. Still I think there is a good deal of ground for his pessimism. He says that all the Germans in Nanking seem quite definitely anti-Japanese and are very outspoken in their comments, and very disgusted with the tie up with Japan; he says that all they have written has been sent straight back to Germany, and all the other reports as well.

On Saturday, I went to a lunch that was being given at the Y.M.C.A. for Searle Bates, at which he gave a more general picture of conditions in Nanking, pretty depressing. Mr. Forster also from Nanking was there. It sounds like an almost derelict city, with nothing much except a little peddling going on and some Japanese shops opening up. All property of any value is being confiscated there and elsewhere, and you wonder where, after they have finished all the possible seizures, they will get any revenue for the running of their puppet governments.

April 17, 1938 - On Wednesday there was a meeting for Nanking people when Searle Bates gave a preliminary report on the economic survey they have been making into the losses in Nanking inside the city, and also in the six districts outside Nanking. It was interesting, but pretty gloomy. He said that all the figures were approximate, and they had still to be gone over again, so he didn't want anybody to quote them yet. One thing that rather stuck in one's mind was that in the six districts which they investigated only 10% of the ordinary amount of land was under cultivation; think what that is going to mean for the future. They have been quite amiable about giving Searle permission to go back and he is going by train on Saturday.

On Thursday we had a Communion Service for the students and alumnae - it is the one Communion service we plan as a college during the year - Dr. Wu spoke, and spoke well and impressively.

Friday at the Milligan's flat, I found Searle and Lilliath, and Mr. and Mrs. Milligan, Ronald Rees, and a Japanese newspaper man having a discussion, so I stayed and listened in. The Japanese was - relatively speaking - moderate and reasonable, I mean he was willing to recognize lots of wrong things about his government and the foolishness of a lot of things that they had done. But when you realized what was the bare minimum of what he took for granted, Japan had practically the right to expect from China in any peace terms that might be talked, there seemed an almost impassable gulf fixed between what any Chinese of any standing in the present Central Government could accept as peace terms and continue to retain the respect of the Chinese, and what the Japanese would regard as the bare minimum.



It made you realize once again that for many of the Japanese, China as a separate entity simply does not exist, that she is just a pawn in the game they are playing with Russia. Japan's necessities were the paramount consideration to which the Chinese had to adapt themselves. He took what apparently is the official view being promulgated as regards the fighting on the Tsin-Pu railways, that Japan has not been seriously trying to advance, but is following more of a sit-down policy - the way he talked you could see that he felt that had Japan been fighting seriously, the Chinese could not have made any headway. I am perfectly prepared to believe that the Chinese troops are numerically superior ( he said they were very much so) but I find it hard to believe that Japan has not even been trying to take Hsuehchowfu.

This morning I rose up early, as Ginling was having an Easter morning service out at McTeiryre at 8 A.M., it is a little way out, and I did not want to be late. It was a lovely day, and they have a beautiful garden, and everything went off very well. There were between 70 and 80 there, students and alumnae, and after the service, at which Dr. Y. Y. Tsu of St. John's spoke, we had breakfast together.

April 24, 1938 - We had a pleasant breakfast together - buffet style - and a good many photos of various groups were taken. By the time the service and the breakfast were over, it was time to go to morning service. John Barr came to supper, he is just back from England. I found him slightly depressing, as he felt there was no real likelihood of any effective opposition of Chamberlain's present policy, which I must own I find hard to stomach.

Easter Monday was a holiday. I did some work and tidying up in the morning, and then went out to lunch with others of the Faculty with a group of our alumnae who teach at one of the Shanghai Municipal Schools. We had a good lunch, and were taken over the school, which was quite interesting, modern up-to-date building. Certainly modern architecture lends itself to school buildings, better than Gothic, at any rate from the point of view of light, etc. I went back to the office.

On Wednesday, the class of 1937 had another reunion, and this time there were ten present, two of whom had only recently come to Shanghai from Soochow. They reported things fairly quiet in Soochow, though you could not go out much on the street if you were a young girl. But I have also heard that some of the foreigners who had had permission to go back and stay there, have been ordered out again, and there <sup>are</sup> rumors going round the place that there have been some suicides.

On Friday I had Chen Pin-lin in to dinner and talk. She is a Ginling alumna who is doing social work in the hospital here.

When I go about the streets these days, I am looking for a smart looking green car with a certain number on it, as one of our students had her photo taken last week on the street, and this week she was followed, apparently with intent to remove her. She knows three of the numbers in the car, but was not quite certain about the 4th, so we are just trying to keep a lookout as that might help the authorities. I thought I saw a possible one yesterday, but the number wasn't quite right. It's a horrible feeling these girls must have. After tea I went out to a Faculty meeting, which Dr. Wu was holding, plus supper. We rehearsed some faculty songs for a party that the students gave today. It had originally been planned as a welcome party for Dr. Wu, but had to be postponed twice, so it finally turned itself into a farewell party for her, as she is returning to Szechuan on May 3rd, to get things under way for next term there.

Dr. Wu, I gather, is expecting me to go up there. Ruth Chester is going home on furlough, and Harriet Whitmer will try and rejoin Minnie in Nanking.

April 30, 1938 - On Wednesday I stole time and went with four of the Chinese faculty to see a film that was on just for two days--an incident taken from the old Chinese novel "The Three Kingdoms". This particular incident was called the Sable Cicada, the literal translation of the girl's name. She was used by her father to sow dissension between the old man, who was planning to usurp the throne, and his main fighting man, which she did very successfully.

On Thursday I went out in the evening to a meeting of the Nanking Community to hear Mr. Mills and Mr. Macallum speak. Mr. Macallum sang two quite amusing songs that he had written on various incidents in their life up there, which had helped to give light relief, and told us quite a bit about the hospital.

On Tuesday we had a chance of seeing some of the films that have been taken in Nanking. One set had been taken on the Ginling campus, and were really very good. They showed us various pictures of the refugees in class, arriving, living in the gym, getting their hot water, washing, etc. Then the others were of various things; badly wounded cases in the hospital, some of them pretty nasty, parts of the destroyed portion of the city, and some of the other parts, outlying country roads with dead bodies still lying along them, and also bodies in ponds. It was very moving in its very simplicity, and made one terribly sad and homesick. I longed to go back to Nanking. The Ginling ones were pretty cheerful, and I just longed to be on the campus again.

Friday we had a meeting all afternoon discussing the curriculum for next year, which went better on the whole than I had expected it to go. But it should be interesting trying to hammer out something a little different.

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from Letters of Eva Spicer  
Written in Shanghai May 8th - May 26, 1938

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I May 8, 1938 - I am to be asked to go as one of the delegation from China to Madras, where the enlarged meeting of the International Missionary Council is being held. They were originally planning to hold it at Hangchow, but for obvious reasons they have had to change that, and are now going to Madras. I am quite thrilled about it. I talked to Dr. Wu about it on Monday, and she is willing for me to give a provisional acceptance, and after we get up to Chengtu we can see better whether it will be possible for me to get away. Dr. Wu herself is going, so we could travel together, of course it will mean flying from Chengtu to Hong Kong; unless we go by the new road out from Yunnan to Burma. The boat leaves Hong Kong on November 30th, and we get back there January 15th.

Tuesday I got up fairly early to see Dr. Wu off at the Customs jetty, in company with many others. Mrs. New and Peter New are going down to Hong Kong with her. Dr. Wu has not had much of a rest in Shanghai, I am afraid, and I doubt if she will get one during the next few months, but perhaps by the end of July she will have done most of the preliminary planning.

On Saturday I had tried to arrange a group in the afternoon for alumnae, but it is extraordinarily hard to find a time which will suit more than two or three, in the end only one came - but we had quite a satisfactory talk together. It is difficult these days not to be rather overwhelmed by the amount of organized will power that there is, and the apparent ineffectiveness of the will to good, which does exist, but is so much harder to get going. It is of course undoubtedly easier to arouse the desire to inflict suffering on others, than to arouse people to a desire to bear suffering oneself, which is what the people of good will have to face if they are going to make any headway against the present situation.

Harry Silcock of the Friends' Mission is here to discuss the possibility of the Friends starting relief work in this area; there are a good many different opinions as to whom you will really be helping if you start re-habilitation work now. He reports a very good state of morale in West China and elsewhere, from where he has just come.

II May 16, 1938 - The taking of Amoy has added to the general gloom. One of our students who lives in Changchow is very apprehensive as to what may happen there. I met at Hankow Dr. Wyatt of the B.M. who is reported to have been shot this morning. Perhaps they will find him, and he will recover.

On Tuesday evening I went to supper at the Foreign Y followed by a discussion of the questions that we are due to take up at Madras. It was quite interesting, though we got quite a long way off the point.

III May 26th, 1938 - I had a discussion group Saturday afternoon, three girls I think turned up this time, and we had quite an interesting time. When one is discussing any religious subject just now it is interesting to see how the discussion always gravitates towards the question "Is it really possible to love our enemies - are we expected to do it? etc, etc." One girl (not in this group) said quite frankly that for herself she was leaving it to Jesus, she didn't think there was anything she could do about it. But I think it is significant whether they think it possible or not, they always come back to it, they can't forget that Jesus did tell them to love their enemies. I brought Liu Baoddoh home to lunch and tea. She is a girl from



Changchow near Amoy in Fukien Province and was feeling rather weepy as that was just the time of the news of the taking of Amoy. I did what I could to cheer her up.

On Monday I went to an F.O.R. meeting, where John Barr was speaking on the Peace Movement in England. He feels that you have to roll up large numbers, I know there is a good deal in that, but I can't help feeling that the Christian Church was quite a lot more effective in the days before it grew so large. I think you have to be very careful not to spread certain things too thin. We talked a little about the drug traffic, which is naturally on the increase, as it is our neighbors pleasant little way of helping to pay the expenses of this jolly little incident.

On Tuesday evening we were discussing the greatest hindrances to the development of Christianity in China.

On Wednesday I had a lunch-time discussion with five students, which went quite well. They expressed themselves quite freely, and though I don't think we settled anything, I think we got certain points rather clearer. On Thursday the different women's clubs in Shanghai were holding a one day institute the subject of which was Mental Welfare in Shanghai. It has been sponsored by a Dr. Fanny Halpern, an Austrian, who is the head of the department of Neurology and Psychiatry at the Red Cross Hospital, and is very anxious to get more work done in Shanghai along the lines of setting up more clinics for problem children. We started off with a little good cheer talk by the Dean of the Cathedral. He made one remark with which I profoundly disagree; he said that in difficult times when one was inclined to feel pessimistic, there was nothing like a dose of history to cure you. It seems to me that it is just the other way round, I have been teaching 19th and 20th Century history this term; we have just got to the Great War, and it seems to me the most profoundly distressing subject, as we never learn, and make almost all the same mistakes over again, I don't mean there is not another side to it, but that seems to be one that strikes one the most, and all because of the incurable selfishness of man. They will never give up a thing freely and of their own accord, but cling to it, generally until it is too late to accomplish the change without bitterness and violence.

On Wednesday afternoon I went to make an application for a permit to go to Nanking. The Japanese guide took me to another place than the one I thought it should be, but he seemed to know, and we spent a long time filling in forms or at least he did, as it all had to be in Japanese, but when we got it all done it seemed that was not the right place, that was <sup>where</sup> Chinese got permits. He had another appointment, so we couldn't go on to the right place. On Saturday I had another discussion group with alumnae, this time four turned up, and we had quite a nice time, one had only just come from Hangchow, but I didn't get very much out of her.

Sunday I went to the Cathedral where Ronald Rees was preaching on Wesley, quite good, though with the awful results of over-emotionalism before your eyes is so many ways - "heart-warming" didn't seem so much to the point at the moment as a little "head-cooling," but how much safer to have your heart warmed about Jesus, than about Hitler or Mussolini.

On Monday we had a meeting in the afternoon of students and faculty who were going to Szechuan, and decided that - D.V. - we would try and go by Hankow, as the bus trip from Kunming (Yunnafu) to Chunking sounds pretty grim. I am not sure that we shall be able to get there via Hankow, we shall have to wait and see.

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Wednesday we wasted most of the afternoon going out to the Japanese military headquarters to put in our application, our former application having never reached headquarters. This time Harriet Whitmer, who is trying to go up to Nanking to stay, (Florence and I only want to go and look over things -- books, etc) and had already been there took us. The man was quite pleasant and hopeful, but I don't know how seriously you can take him. In the evening I very sleepily prepared a speech for the Rotary Club today. I was not feeling at all inspired. My subject was "Ginling College - Its Adventures and Achievements." I got it off my chest today. I don't think it was very good.

IV June 14, 1938 - On Friday, June 10th, we had our last Faculty lunch Discussion group, and this time Dr. Rufus Jones took it. He is a very well-known Quaker in America, and we had asked him to speak on the "Practice of Meditation".

On Saturday we had an afternoon outing - lunch - then Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, which I enjoyed, but which I am sure would have given me the nightmare when I was young. In the evening I went to a meeting which was part of a semi-week-end retreat. We had supper, and then Rufus Jones talked followed by discussion and some time for quiet. There was another meeting the next morning, and again in the afternoon. After supper I had to broadcast; I had done most of the preparation on Friday evening, but I had to finish it off rather hastily on Sunday afternoon and evening. The L.M.S. is responsible for every Sunday 8:30 P.M.

On Monday there was yet another meeting, this time the F.O.R. There was a Japanese there, a delegate from the Friend's Yearly meeting in Tokyo, he had also been present at the meeting on Sunday afternoon, and had spoken quite remarkably. It can't have been exactly easy to sit through the discussion on Monday evening, but he seemed to bear up very well.

Today we hoped that we should get out pass and tickets and everything for going to Nanking; we have got the tickets all right, but unfortunately the man whom Claude Thomson had trusted to get the tickets--a military man in the Japanese consulate--had not been able to deliver the goods. The military will do nothing at the request of the civil authorities, and they seem to wish to make the train journey as difficult as possible. So we have put off going for one day. If we put it off till Thursday, we can get it through an International Guides Bureau.

V June 21, 1938 - The journey up to Nanking started very early, but went fairly peacefully. Claude Thomson and Florence Kirk and a Mr. Koo of the University picked me up a little after 5:15 A.M.; it was simply pouring with rain. The station we left from was a little further out than the normal station, and there were steps to climb up and down, but fortunately there were some coolies on the job, so we did not have to carry all the luggage ourselves. We got first of all into a carriage full of soldiers; one of them had his sword out to cut something, and looked quite fierce. When we had got all our things stowed away, they came along and told us that that was not for civilians; I can't see why they could not have told us a little bit sooner, so we had to move all our things along to a very full car. There are only two coaches for civilians -- third not to say fourth class. The soldiers - though not beautiful - strange how ugly most Japanese are - were quite friendly on the whole, and some of them even helped to move our things down. The coach was very crowded when we started, but people got out at the various stations on the way. It took us a long time to get there, over 12 hours, the last time I left Nanking by train for Shanghai, it took me just under 5 hours in the Capital Express.

The city and country just outside Shanghai are rather pathetic, the houses are all half burnt, and quite empty, and at first the country looks very uncared for and unkempt, not much planted, though a field here and there is sown, and you see hardly a man, woman, child or beast. As you get nearer Soochow the country gets more and more normal, and looks fairly well sown and planted; in some fields they were transplanting the rice.

We stopped at every single station, generally for quite a long time; at all the smaller stations there was not much sign of life, except a few Japanese soldiers, and sometimes some children. When there were any children they always besieged the soldiers and got things like empty bottles and cigarettes; a feeling for children seems to be one of the Japanese soldiers' more amiable characteristics. At the bigger stations - Soochow, Wusih, etc. there were a good many Japanese soldiers in evidence, and a few more passengers.

We arrived in Nanking a little after 7. They line you up in a long line, and search you as you go through the barrier. They searched all the Chinese, they didn't search us, though they seized our permits as soon as we came through the barrier to copy into a little book, and pushed you about rather when you are not exactly where they think you ought to be. They are very much flaunting their authority about the place in a way that would be difficult to bear if you had to put up with much of it. Plummer Mills came down to meet us. You more or less have to be met, as there are no cars or carriages for hire. Outside the city there is a good deal of destruction, mainly done by the Chinese themselves, as part of the defence program - but on the road to Ginling, there is not much destruction to be seen, except the Ministry of Communications, again destroyed by the Chinese themselves, but it looks deserted as compared with what it was a year ago.

It was growing dark so we couldn't see much of the Ginling Campus but next morning it all looked amazingly normal. It is wonderful how well they have kept it with all those refugees there; it was trampled about a good bit at one time, but Minnie and Mrs. Tsen have been busy getting it in order again. The only outward signs on the campus that all is not as usual is that there is barbed wire round the lawns, in order to keep the refugees off some of them, and also that along the covered ways and in other places there is much washing of various kinds hung out to dry, which looks a little strange. They have closed all the camps in Nanking, but they have about 700 women under 30 on the Ginling campus still attending a kind of a summer school, the real purpose being to give a place to women who have lost their male relatives and are absolutely destitute, and also to such girls and women who live in those districts of the city which are still considered to be unsafe, owing to the proximity of the soldiers. It has been very hard to keep the numbers down, as everybody wants to come, as they all feel much safer there than elsewhere, and it is also much pleasanter. However, they are keen to get the people back to their homes, so they are doing their best to keep the numbers down. These girls are living in the Recitation Building, and the Central building, they just sleep on the floor and bring their own bedding, there is the kind of smell you would expect - you know stale humanity and too much of it - though they are really kept fairly tidy, and they do a lot of washing. In the dormitories which are now empty, the smell has gone, but the lower parts of the walls are still pretty dirty. They say when there was the greatest crush they were sitting on the stairs, without even room to stretch out. How they got through those days I don't know; just forming up the rice line for over 10,000 must have been some business.

They had the opening exercises of the Summer School on Saturday. It was a cheering sight to see the Chapel Auditorium full of girls, really quite tidy looking and quite well behaved. They sang most heartily. It was mainly giving out of notices - many of them things they were not to do. Minnie was not entirely satisfied;



she thought they were too negative, but they were given out in good spirit, and Harriet - with translator - made quite a nice little speech on the matters of Hygiene. The Dean of the Summer School - a Miss Wang - seemed to have a very pleasant way with her in the notices that she gave out, and she introduced the teachers. There is not a very heavy time table, as there is not a very large staff of teachers, every student has two classes a day, and three subjects in all, the subjects vary, but all study Bible - the other subjects are history, mathematics, English, Chinese, hygiene and singing. Minnie is hoping from this school to select the most needy 100-200 women to start the industrial school next fall. The students vary - I mean in the present summer school - from illiterates to girls in Senior Middle School. Hardly any of our college students are in Nanking, but there is at least one former Freshman, and I think she is going to help with the music.

But if Ginling looks fairly normal, and quite beautiful, I can't say as much for most of the rest of Nanking. In the safety zone, which is mostly around Ginling, there has not been much destruction, but all the houses are occupied by refugees - or empty - and along the streets there are all sorts of little booths, mainly stored with loot. The population of Nanking is mainly living by selling matches, other small articles and loot to itself; and you feel as though there is no normal healthy life flowing through the city.

We went on Tuesday rather further infield, Dr. Rosen the German representative took us in his car outside the city and round the south part of the city, where the main business section is - or rather was. You go outside the city with a special permit, or with one of the official representatives of other countries, as they are provided with a gendarme to protect them, or more accurately to observe all they do. They take copious notes. The public buildings outside the city - such as the Ming Tombs, Dr. Sun's tomb, the Memorial for the soldiers, Beamless Hall, Pagoda, etc., are not damaged, though the animals leading up to the Ming Tombs were painted green by the Chinese by way of camouflage, and Dr. Sun's tomb has been muffled in a kind of a bamboo cage, also part of a camouflaging procedure. All the houses have been destroyed, or are in the process of being destroyed. We went over that tallish house on a hill that had been built as a Presidential Mansion. The wall on one side had been badly shot away by a big shell, but the main structure was still fairly all right, though of course all the glass and some of the tiles had been crushed and broken, and there was the carcass of a horse in the main reception room. The park, of course, is not being kept up, and there are weeds growing up everywhere, though it still looks lovely, but when you think of what it was before, it is a very melancholy spectacle, a bit like the garden in Sleeping Beauty would have been before the Prince came.

On the way back we drove down Tai Ping Lu, and other of the main streets, Tai Pin Lu is a wreck, there are hardly any whole shops, and such as there are are mostly occupied by Japanese; beer shops are very prominent among them. The whole of that part of the city looks derelict, and would make you weep. There are a few Chinese to be seen, but mostly Japanese. We passed the Y.M.C.A. building on our way back, which has been burnt, and also the State Cinema Theatre, the latest and most up to date, which has been completely gutted.

I have gone rather ahead of the days, in trying to tell you something about the city as a whole. On Friday we spent most of the day going over books and papers in our offices. I knew I would not be back for two years at least, as we shall be up in Chengtu next year, and then I am due for furlough - I didn't have much more time to look through things, but I was able to pick out what was most important to take up to Chengtu, if we can get any luggage up there.

On Friday evening there was a meeting and supper of all the missionaries in Nanking, quite a number of women missionaries had come up just the week before, including Harriet Whitmer, so that there are quite a group now. They wanted to discuss various problems - relief, education, etc. - so as to have some common policy and ideas. The country round is better than they had anticipated, but the city is in a pretty bad way, as there is really no source of income. Commercially it is cut off from other places, except what people can bring on foot - and all the wholesale business of the city is in the hands of the Japanese. At the moment people still have a few reserves, and they are managing to scratch a living somehow; food is cheap and the weather warm, but they all dread to think what it will be like next winter, and they are husbanding their resources for that time. The Japanese military, of course, accept no responsibility for the civilian life, and the puppet government is without prestige or ability; their policemen are not armed with as much as a stick, so that practically speaking the city is without police.

The plan to open a few schools of various sorts, and they hope, I think, that perhaps they will not be interfered with much, Minnie Vautrin is planning to open the Practice School for Girls, but I don't think there will be a mission middle school for boys.

The hospital is going to have some difficulty in carrying on, as previously they met a good deal of their expenses by what the patients paid, but the number of free patients is increasing weekly now, and by next winter it is doubtful whether there will be any but free patients left in Nanking; and yet it was never more essential to have the hospital open, as there is no other in Nanking for Chinese.

One of the men was very much concerned that nothing was being done for the Japanese, and wanted to try and get hold of some Japanese missionary or Japanese Christian to come and work among the troops, and give them some place to be decent in, if they wanted to be decent. At the moment the only places provided for the Japanese soldiers are beer halls, brothels, and now, I think, one cinema. Another of the men present said at the beginning of the "incident" the National Christian Council of Japan had asked to be allowed to send along ministers with the troops, but had been refused. I think it is interesting that an army trying to be as up to date as the Japanese should have nothing in the way of social welfare for their troops. They do have a couple of Buddhist priests - or monks - along with them I think, but they mainly concentrate on burying the dead, not helping the living; though I have always understood that there was a Young Men's Buddhist Association in Japan modelled on the lines of the Y.M.C.A., and I should have thought that might have done something. Certainly the Japanese army needs all the encouragement to be decent that it can get.

I am just reading a book by Chamberlain called "Japan over Asia". In several places he refers to the morale and discipline of the troops as being very good; I wonder whether he could or would write that now.

On Saturday we spent another day in our offices. In the evening Minnie, Mrs. Tsen and Mrs. Twinem had a farewell party for John Magee who is leaving Nanking on furlough.

On Sunday I spent most of the day working in my house. The Forsters of the American Church Mission are going to move into it for the summer, about which I am very pleased, as I like to think of it being lived in. It did also give me a little heartache to leave it; the sitting room especially looked so friendly and welcoming; still I am lucky that it has not been hurt. I had to preach on Sunday afternoon at the English speaking service; actually they didn't ask me until the Saturday, as they thought that the Bishop Roberts would be there.

Monday we spent mainly on the library books, going through both the boxes in which they had packed things away, and the shelves, and trying to select a minimum for Chengtu, a very difficult proposition. At tea time Minnie read us some of her diary of the part just before the city fell. It was very interesting going over that with her, and asking her questions. She really is a marvel what she has managed to do. In the evening I worked again on my house. On Tuesday we spent another morning with the books, and then went to lunch with Dr. Rosen, where we met a Lieutenant from the Aphis, and also Mr. Jeffries, the British Consul.

Dr. Rosen also very kindly lent us his car to go to the Japanese Embassy to see about our permits. We had taken them the day before but the right official was out, so we had to leave them and collect them on Tuesday. Remarkable to say nothing more needed to be done to them, and we collected them on Tuesday without any fuss. Coming back a sentry stopped the car, had a look at all the chauffeur's papers, and also a long look at Florence and me; he didn't seem to like the look of us very much, and I didn't think much of him either, but after a long stare he let us go on. There was a German flag on the car, and also an announcement that it belong to the German Embassy in Chinese characters, I don't know why he stopped it, mainly boredom I should think.

Wednesday we spent tidying up all the mess we had made the other days, packing, etc. We had hoped some of the boxes could go down on the gun boat that was leaving the next day, but they couldn't. However, we left them all tied up and packed ready to go when they could. We went out and did a certain amount of saying good-bye, though when we called at the Buck house, where eight of the men live, they were all out except Claude Thomson with whom we came up, and he was on his way to the American Embassy over a little incident with a Japanese sentry.

Getting tickets to leave is quite a business, as the train leaves at 6:20 (7:20 Tokyo time, which is what the Japanese keep) and they don't sell any tickets until that morning, and you may go down and not get one. The journey down to Shanghai was longer - over 14 hours - and more crowded, than when we came up, and kept on getting fuller and fuller at each station, but otherwise it was all right, though very tedious, and I was glad when we finally arrived in Shanghai. We finally met the man who had come to meet us from the International Guides Bureau with a car, and I got back to the Hospital not long after nine.

It was good to see Mrs. Tsen, Blanche, Minnie and others, but Nanking is certainly a city to make your heart ache, especially when you think how full of life energy it was a year ago. The Japanese seem to have accomplished nothing but the sheerest destruction, and I can't believe there is much hope for the future, unless they and their influence are cleared right out. I don't mean they should not be allowed legitimate trade, but that as long as their policy is directed by their militarists it holds nothing but the chill of death for the Chinese people, on whose behalf they claim to be fighting.

VI June 23, 1938 - Minnie we hope is coming down today for the Commencement exercises.

On Sunday there was the joint Baccalaureate Service for the Christian Colleges in East China; it was held at Moore Memorial Church, Dr. Cheng Ching-yi was speaking, and it was really quite an impressive service.

Three belated Xmas presents turned up from Hankow: Xmas cake, still quite edible, chocolate, also edible, and 3 pairs of silk stockings, and I didn't have to pay duty on any of it!

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VII June 27, 1938 - Nanking is a desolate city, and would make your heart sick with pity. I find it extraordinarily hard to have the beginning of Christian love for the Japanese militarists, they seem an unmitigated blight on the face of the land, though some of the individual soldiers are doubtless all right, and I have seen one or two with the most tragic faces, as though they partly realized the terrible crime they were committing, but most of them look coarse and callous.

Commencement went off quite well yesterday, some people I think were a little nervous at having so large an affair and were afraid that there might be trouble, but everything went off quite peacefully. Admission was only by ticket, and there was no publicity at all given to the affair beforehand. I enclose the cutting from the North China of today which describes it. We had a pleasant Faculty Senior Banquet immediately afterwards in the Foreign Y.M.C.A.

It has been wonderful having Minnie come down for the Commencement Festivities, she arrived on Thursday evening, so has been in time for them all.

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GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from letter of Eva D. Spicer, written  
in Hankow, August 3, 1938.

I think very soon I shall take a vow of poverty and become a Franciscan - with only the clothes I stand up in, it would be just wonderful not to have any luggage, that is the great nightmare when travelling, not bombs nor anything like that.

I feel quite at home here, as we are installed in the London Mission where I lived part time last fall. There was an air raid this morning, but not many wounded, and it was not - from where I was - a very noisy air raid. It was mainly concentrated on the air field, and of course it is not known what damage has been done there.

I am afraid it has been a long time since I wrote any general letter, I think the last one just after I got back from Nanking. The end of term was one function after another. Minnie Vautrin was fortunately able to come down from Nanking in time for all the end of term festivities. We started the final festivities with a Senior Class Day program, which was held on Friday afternoon out at McTeiye, it was quite simple, but quite effective, and was largely modelled on Smith College Step singing etc. In the evening the Seniors invited the faculty to dinner.

On Saturday morning there were the Commencement exercises - which were held jointly by the Seven Christian Universities and Colleges now operating in Shanghai. It was held in the Grand Theatre, which had been lent for the purpose, and music was provided by the band of the Fourth Marines (American). The faculty and graduating classes of all the institutions processed in. Some people had felt it was rather asking for trouble to have such a large ceremony of purely Chinese colleges - but in spite of the fact that the platform was decorated with the Chinese National flag, and the American flag, as well as the banners of the seven colleges, and that the Chinese National Anthem was played at the beginning, and followed by a patriotic hymn, to the tune of "God Save the King", all passed off peacefully.

After the Commencement was over, we had the Faculty-Senior banquet at the Foreign Y.M.C.A. which was just next door - the room was just large enough for us all, we could hardly have got in another one I think, but you get a greater sense of fellowship when you are a good many in a small room. The subject round which the speeches centered was "Roads", which seemed appropriate to the occasion, as we were all feeling very much on the go, and Liu En-lan made a good toastmistress. That afternoon the Seniors gave a farewell tea to the Sophomores, which I attended.

On Sunday there was a Ginling Alumnae meeting, at which quite a large number turned up, and where Minnie spoke, and showed pictures that Mr. Magee had taken - just the ones of Ginling, not any of the atrocities. It was a good meeting, and Minnie spoke well.

The rest of the time in Shanghai, which was just over a fortnight, was taken up with the continued arrangements over the journey. The day before we were due to get on board - that was July 12th - there was a whole day of conference of the delegates to Madras, so I had to keep that free. It was quite interesting, though I think we rather tried to cover too much ground, and the interest rather lagged in the afternoon, as it was a pretty hot day. We got onto the invariable subject of work in occupied areas - and whether or not Christian schools could really square it with their conscience to have their principals denouncing the Central Government, and upholding the new regime, when one knew their heart was not behind it. It seemed as

though it would be impossible to build up integrity of character under those circumstances, and that it was really a moral not a political issue. I doubt if many Chinese principals in this part of the country would be willing to do it, but in the north things are different, and apparently many of the principals are doing it, for the sake of keeping their schools open, and giving their students the chance of an education, which if they closed down they might not be able to get. It is all a very difficult question, but obviously the Church is in real danger of falling back on the preaching of an other worldly gospel in order to avoid the issues of the present situation. It is extraordinarily difficult to know what is the right thing to do, you don't want to be purely political, and certainly don't want to preach in a kind of ecclesiastical vacuum, which seems something of a danger. I saw a report of a mission of leading Japanese Christians that had been sent over to Peiping to take a look over things, and possibly to start some Christian work from Japan in China. It doesn't seem as though it would be a very good time at which to begin such work, but even the best of the Japanese don't seem to have much idea of how the Chinese feel about it all, and I don't think they can quite rid themselves of the idea that they really do have a perfect right to be in North China.

The Empress of Japan - on which we were going to Hongkong, left early on Wednesday morning, but we had to get on board the night before. I felt quite sad that my time in Shanghai was over, I had settled into a sort of pleasant little routine there, and I enjoyed staying at the hospital with Elsie and Gladys, but the journey had been looming over us for so long, that in a way I was just as glad to get started on it, and the thought of the two days on the boats, when we couldn't possibly make any plans or change of plans was very blissful. Florence and I had tried to get third class bookings, but we couldn't, so we travelled in luxury in Tourist or second class. The Chinese faculty and students were travelling open third, but they were apparently allowed the run of the ship pretty well, and didn't fare so badly, though their cabin - they were all together in one large one - was pretty hot, especially the first night before the ship started.

We are very well off for a place to stay here in Hankow; the faculty are sleeping downstairs in Miss Moody's flat, and the students are upstairs in the flat that has been in use for the women teachers at I Hsun. We have all got beds! There is running water, and it is relatively safe in this part of the city - the houses and the walls are all decorated with the Union Jack - for whatever that is worth, at times it seems as though the British flag was more of a target than a protection.

We began getting busy about our bookings on Friday, and went to see Mr. Hollington Tong - through whom Dr. Wu had got them - on Friday, and he took us round to Butterfield and Swire on Saturday - the places seem all right, three reservations and thirty deck passages - the only trouble is that the boat is laid up for repairs, and owing to shortage of labour they are proceeding very slowly. They originally said the boat would go about August 8th, now they say August 16th, and I don't think there is any guarantee that it will actually go then. However there is nothing to be done about it, I don't think there are any through passages to be had except on Government boats, and we are much better off waiting here than in Ichang, which is crowded to overflowing. All the people that I have talked to seem to think that Hankow is safe for at least another six weeks, and many would put it over two months or more. I am sure that B. & S. will do their best to get the boat repaired, and in the meanwhile I think the only thing for us to do is to wait patiently. There are lots of letters etc. one can write, and I think we shall be able to get some work for the students to do at the Red Cross godown.