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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
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Ginling
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Wu Yi-fang

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MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF CONTROL
GINLING COLLEGE

A meeting was held in Room 305 of the Missions Building, Shanghai, to discuss plans for Ginling College. Convened at 9.30 a.m., May 4, 1927.

Those present included members of the Board of Control and invited guests. The list is as follows:

x Bao Dj1-lih	x Manuella D. Morton	Mrs. Jean R. Lingle
x Grace V. T. Zia	Mary G. Kesler	x A. Eloise Bradshaw
Loh Zung-nyi	x Mary Blackford	Sally L. Mackinnon
Dang Yu-dji	x Mrs. Carleton Lacy	x Mrs. L. C. Hylbert
Wang Gia -wei	Emily I. Case	Rebecca W. Griest
x Mrs. W. S. New	Ruth M. Chester	Robert F. Fitch
x Liu Gien-tsiu	x Dora I. Zimmerman	x Esther M. Gauss
x Yang Ging-hsich	Minnie Vautrin	x Victor Hanson
x Mary E. Cogdal	Mrs. Lawrence Thurston	Cora D. Reeves
x W. P. Roberts	x Clara E. Merrill.	

x Members of Board of Control.

Mrs. Thurston called the meeting to order, and Dr. Fitch led in prayer.

Mrs. W. S. New was elected chairman of the meeting.

A brief report was given of the Executive Committee meeting of April 6th.

Miss Vautrin presented a report on behalf of the Advisory and Administrative Committees of the college. The report set forth the conditions the occurrences and the activities since the foreign members of the faculty left the college; and the recommendations to date that have been proposed by the Administrative Committee.

Miss Deng Yu-dji reported from the college where she had been for three weeks as Alumnae representative. She reported on meetings of the Faculty and Administrative Committees and on plans which were proposed by them for the summer. A. Y. W. C. A. conference the first week in July, to be followed by a summer school session. Another possibility is a summer group in residence, students and alumnae, or students and their friends. They considered plans for assisting the students whose work was interrupted, to make up their losses. Some comments were offered about relations of the students to the Students' Union and the influence of the college generally.

The Chairman, Mrs. New, supplemented Miss Deng's report concerning the motives and efforts of the alumnae. Mrs. New emphasized that alumnae had no sympathy with merely negative policies of opposition and destruction, but desire constructive cooperations between students, faculty and alumnae,-- Chinese and foreigners,-- for the future success of the college.

Mrs. Thurston read some extracts from correspondence throwing further light on the spirit of students, alumnae, and faculty.

Further report showing some of the difficulties of carrying on was given by Miss Loh Zung-nyi of the college faculty.

The meeting was opened for general discussion.

Miss Merrill stated (with reference to a question about conditions in other sections) that news from Kuukiang and Kiangsi was more unfavorable, -- Communists being very active and school leaders being persecuted and threatened.

Various speakers emphasized that it is necessary to keep the buildings occupied if they are not to be taken over by soldiers; although doubt was freely expressed, whether even the fact of the school being occupied and school in progress, would save the school from being seized by soldiers.

Mr. Hanson brought out the predominating weight of risk involved, in allowing the school to continue, inasmuch as those who consent would be partly responsible for any unfortunate incident that might occur to faculty or students at the college.

Mrs. Lingle expressed the fear that it was unwise to try to hold a summer school at the college.

Miss Zimmerman expressed a different feeling as regarded their own school in Ningpo, without a very decisive attitude to Nanking.

Miss Merrill, referring to their experiences in Kuukiang, was not hopeful of protection from even the best disposed military leaders owing to their lack of control over subordinates.

Dr. Fitch reported that he did not expect the buildings of Hangchow Christian College to be occupied by the military, owing to official proclamations received and the distance of the premises from the city of Hangchow.

The conclusion of the discussion was summed up by Mrs. New, that local conditions vary in all places, and the degree of protection available depends solely on the attitude of local officials and armies.

Miss Vautrin spoke to the point that if a local group at the college wish to carry on a summer school, it would be unfitting for a group in Shanghai to put its judgment in opposition to the local group.

A motion was made that we leave the question of whether to hold a Summer School to the discretion of the local group in Nanking, and that we stand ready to cooperate with them in any plans they may propose.

Mr. Roberts opposed the motion, holding that the college should be closed at once, not keeping it open till June 30, and not holding a Summer School.

Mr. Hanson: I am opposed to the students risking lives or honor to save the college property. If their staying supposes they can and will leave when circumstances change adversely, that is a different matter and could be approved.

Mrs. Thurston agreed that women should be allowed to take risks and the group at Ginling before March 24th, and since, had felt that they were justified in taking a certain amount of risk.

After considerable further discussion, a motion was made at 12.00 o'clock, to reassemble at 2.30.

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Mrs. New requested permission of the meeting to make a three minute statement before the adjournment. In the statement, she made clear that the suggestions for allowing students, the faculty to "carry on", was not minimizing our concern for the safety of those persons.

Afternoon Session
Convened at 2.45 p. m.

Mr. Hanson read a draft of a resolution which he had prepared in regard to allowing teachers and students to reside and carry on work at the college.

A discussion at length of the resolution followed. After modifications resulting from the discussion, it was passed in the following form:

1. That we rejoice in the splendid spirit of those who are at the college, but we most earnestly request that no one incur serious personal risks.
2. That regularly admitted students and teachers may remain at the college so long as it is safe to do so, but we urge them to seek places of greater safety in case of any menacing turn in political or military conditions.
3. That any financial obligations incurred shall be in accordance with budgets approved by the Board of Control or its responsible committees.

Discussion was next taken up of that part of the docket, relating to changes in administration.

The points stressed in the discussion were, -- the need of bringing about a Chinese majority of the Board of Control; the relations of government regulations to the educational program.

Mr. Hanson moved that the Executive Committee be requested to work out the changes required in the administration, and make recommendations to the next meeting. The motion was carried.

In view of the fact that several vacancies existed in the Executive Committee, nominations were made and balloted on, to fill these vacancies. The following were elected:

Mrs. W.S. New
Dr. Liu Cien-tsiu

Mr. Chen Yu-gwan
Miss Bradshaw

It was understood that one of the above would take the place of Mr. Hanson who goes on furlough in June, -- and also serve in any meetings of the committee while Mr. Hanson remains.

The meeting adjourned at 4.45 p. m.

Edwin Marx.

Secretary.

Please return

RECEIVED 517
SEP 17 1927

Dear Miss Bender:-

I am not satisfied with sending you just the formal reply, so I wish to add a few words concerning our dear Girdling. It was in May that I first got the urgent call to go back soon and join the faculty, so I have tried to finish as soon as possible. According to my present plan, I hope very much to get there with my final exam before the end of Oct., and I have booked a passage to sail on Nov. 3rd. But from Mrs. New I learned of the possibility of being called to fill an important position during this transition period, and I had to face the fact that I am not the least bit prepared for such a task. I never expected to go into administrative work and always want to teach along my own line of Biology. I thought over the situation carefully and told Mrs. New frankly that even if circumstances should turn out

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SEP 17 1927

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It is such that I ought - duty toward
Ginsling - to accept the position, it will
be just temporary; only for this sudden
and short period of transition. If condi-
tions should become such that no
great change is necessary, or if
the Board of Control should succeed
in finding some other person for the
position, I would be only too glad
to serve G. C. as a teaching faculty.
So, as far as I am concerned I don't
see any difficulty or embarrassment,
no matter how things will come
out. But one point that seems
to me I should consider seriously
is whether or not I should plan to
prepare myself for the position,
to be ready in case I should be
called upon to take up the respon-
sibility. Mrs. New wrote me that
you thought to get familiar with
the machinery of Ginsling Committee
would be important, and may

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SEP 17 1927

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▽ he & could learn something by visiting some Women's Colleges in the east. I earnestly hope you will kindly advise what I should do, then I can know better how to make my plans.

I received your telegram yesterday afternoon, and wired back at once that I would be in Ann Arbor the first week in Oct. Hope it reached you before you left office.

Most sincerely yours.
Yi Yang Wu

0630

OCT 8-

921 Church St.
Ann Arbor, Mich.
Oct. 7, 1927

My dear Miss Bender:

Your letters of Sept. 21st and Oct. 3rd have been duly received and I thank you very much for all your kind consideration. I am very sorry I did not make clear in my letter just what kind of a trip I had in mind and what advice I wished to get from you. I never thought of having the Committee invite me, nor coming in any official capacity either. All I wished to know was whether you and the Committee would think it advisable for me to come ^{at all} under the present circumstances, since you suggested to Mrs. New that it would be a fine thing if I could get to know the Committee before I return. By "present circumstances" I refer to what I stated in my last

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OCT 7

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letter: my accepting the presidency is only a probability which depends upon how conditions should turn out by the time I return. My attitude is by no means what you termed "sacrifice", but I do admit I have been greatly moved by what the girls have done - in singing thus far, and I only wish to follow them and do my share in answering urgent calls. So, I used, I remember, the word "duty". If I had looked upon the possible offer as a position for work, I would not have considered it at all. So, please, I beg of you, Miss Bender, not to feel sorry for being indefinite. I asked Mrs. Roys, too, not to hurry up the matter, both because things change so much at home and I am not ready myself to be definite.

Now, as for the trip, it was a proposed tour to see the Biology Dept in some colleges as part of my preparation for future teaching, and the Barbour Scholarship Committee said unofficially last spring that they would be glad

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OCT 7 1927

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To grant me travelling expenses. I never thought ~~more~~ about it after the call came for me to go back as soon as possible. But when Mrs. New wrote me of your suggestion, I thought probably I could combine the two and work together. Now, I am sorry to say I find myself far behind my schedule and have postponed my sailing to Dec. 5th. Even then, I am not certain whether I can finish up every thing by Nov. 20, according to my present plan. If not, I am afraid I'll have to give up the trip.

Yes, I had a nice talk with Mrs. Roy. We could say much more in half an hour than we can write on many pages. I have heard from Mrs. McConnell and she gave me the interesting subject: "Facing the Task together."

I am looking forward to seeing you in Minneapolis with much anticipation.

Most sincerely, yours
Y. T. Wang Wm

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RECEIVED

NOV 9 1927

Blue return

921 Church St.
Ann Arbor, Mich

Nov. 6, 1927

Dear Miss Bender:

Ever since I got back, I have wanted to write you a real letter, but before I got to it your kind note came from Chicago. It was very kind of you to encourage me by speaking so nicely about my talk. I was never so disappointed in myself as I was after my day in Minneapolis. I felt bad for having failed to live up to you and my own expectation, and guilty to have cost the Society so much for my worthless trip. But it was over and useless to regret over it, so I didn't say anything to you, yet that was what was on my mind and kept me from thinking properly on the Girdling problem. All I could do was to pledge myself to do better next time, but I am very sorry for having "disgraced" you by doing so poorly.

Now, let me turn to business. After a conference with my professor, we decided to postpone my sailing for a few more weeks but I have not heard of the exact date of the next sailing. If every thing goes well, I may be able to take a trip to New York City in the week before Christmas. But besides the uncertainty of when I may

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NOV 6 1927 (27)

I have my final examination, the important issue, it seems to me, is to consider whether it is worthwhile for the Committee to spend their valuable time on me. Honestly and frankly I just can not be definite in regard to my election to the presidency. After you told me about the recent cable, I have faced the fact more seriously and thought over the situation more carefully. But I am sorry to say I came to the same conclusion, that is, my mere willingness to serve is insufficient to qualify me to take up the responsibility. If a person has strong personality and remarkable ability, then training and experience can be discarded. But on the other hand, an ordinary girl like me will have to have both in order to be equal to the job. And I lack both. I may be selfish in thinking too much about myself, but at the same time it is my dear Girdling that I do not want to ruin by stepping in carelessly. So, I still feel as I told you before, that unless I find upon my return circumstances to be such that it is absolutely

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NOV 6 1927 ³⁷

necessary for me to assume duty and
 tide over a short period, I just don't feel
 I dare say "yes" to the offer. It would
 be merely my feeble effort to follow
 the example set by the girls at Girding
 since March 24th, and by no means
 my acceptance of the position as such.
 So, I am bothering you once more with my
 stand toward this question, and I wish you
 would reconsider before making plans
 for me to come and meet the Committee
 members.

Permit me to take this chance to
 thank you again for all the kindness and
 care you gave me during my stay in
 Minneapolis. I appreciate it all the more
 because your time was so fully occupied.
 With deep gratitude and very best
 wishes

I am
 Most sincerely yours
 W. F. Wang

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RECEIVED

NOV 28 1927

921 Church St.

Ann Arbor, Mich

Nov. 26, 1927

Dear Miss Bender:

In the next three weeks I will be at Mrs. Wood's again, so I have put down the above address. But you can address me to the Zoology Department just the same, for I will be coming here everyday anyway.

After I wrote you last I have seen my professor about my schedule. He advised strongly against making too much and having my first examination before the Christmas vacation, so we have set the date to be ^{Wed.} Jan. 4th. But he thought it would be better if I plan to be in Ann Arbor Friday ^{morning}, too, because, the staff may not be able to find time and give the exam. on Jan. 4th. This means I won't be able to meet with the Girding College Committee on Friday or Saturday as I suggested in my last letter. I do hope you have not made plans or sent out notices to that effect yet. I have not forgot my acceptance to the invitation to Atlantic City, and I will

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NOV 26 1927

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Arrange to be there on time in the evening of Jan. 7th.

As for visiting Women's Colleges in the east, will you, Miss Bender, wait till I hear from China before making plans? The reason is: if I should be back before the second semester begins I must sail on Jan. 16th from Seattle. And, if there is no need of my hurrying back, then I can spend some weeks and make a good study before I leave this country. I have asked them to cable me the answer, and I figure it will be here by the end of December the latest. Personally I don't see any need of my going at this time, and I think the present Administrative Committee should finish undisturbed the school year they started so well. We girls here are so glad to read in the circular letter how things are going so wonderfully fine at Ginling. We are all so proud of her work and achievement.

With best wishes most sincerely yours
Y. Yang Wu

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RECEIVED
NOV 30 1927

921 Church St.
Ann Arbor, Mich
Nov. 28, 1927

Dear Miss Bender:-

Thank you very much for your information on reduced passage rate. Since I am not certain now when I will sail, it may be better just for me to make the reservation and ask you to give me a statement whenever convenient. I told you in my last letter why I wrote to China again about the date of my return, so I am just waiting these days. I will write you as soon as I receive the cable.

most sincerely yours
Y. Yang Wu

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DEC 20 1927

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Inglis -
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921 Church St.
Ann Arbor, Mich
Dec. 18, 1927

Dear Miss Bender:-

I am writing to ask for something almost impossible, but to you I feel free to come for advice and I earnestly hope you will be very frank in telling me what you think. If you think it is better not to consider it, then please take this as a personal communication, and just drop it. My proposition is to ask release from the engagement of the talk to the Board of Foreign Mission Boards in Jan. 7 and to recommend Miss Phoebe Hobbs as my substitute. I have considered this a whole day before I decide to write you and the reasons are briefly the following. I caught a bad cold and have been wretched these days, then in addition my professor told me yesterday that he was to leave town for the vacation several days earlier than he expected. Under these circumstances I could hardly finish up everything according to schedule, and most likely I won't

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be able to have the final examination before Jan. 7th. Of course I could take the examination after I returned from the east, but being a poor traveller ^{and} with the strain on my mind, I doubt if I could make a good presentation at the meeting and later give full concentration to the study of colleges. So, it seemed to me if it does not upset too much the plans you have made for me, I would venture to ask for release from the talk and not to come east until the 14th to meet with the Girdling College Committee. (If I can't have the exam on Jan. 6th, I can arrange to have it on Jan. 11th, for college begins on Jan. 3rd and the profs will have had a week to examine my thesis). As for Phoebe Ho, she really can represent Girdling College far much better than I, because she fully understands Girdling's ^{needs} and problems and she had done so much for her since March 24th. For Girdling I honestly think she is the person, and not I, that should present the case before the

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Board. So, the question to be considered is not the substitution, but the request itself - whether I should ever ask for release from such an important engagement - and the problem of changing all the plans again. If you have my schedule all worked out to begin from Jan 7th, then I ^{surely} would not ask you to go through the tedious and complicated process once more just to give me one more week in Ann Arbor. Since I don't know whether you sent the cablegram to Mrs. Thurston and whether you have received an answer, I am telling you fully my present situation so that if you think it is alright to make some change, then please make the arrangements accordingly. But, if, on the other hand, the answer has come and wants me to be back soon, please let me ^{know} at once and I will have to make special arrangement with the profs for my final exam, for I do think I should come east and meet as many ^{Committee members} as

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possible and talk over the President question before I leave this country.

I am, Miss Bender, really very, very sorry for having bothered you once more. But I hope you will kindly excuse me. As I told Dr. Reeves in my last letter, the fundamental fault of the whole fuss of delay and changes, was that I was too anxious for getting back and failed to see, and meet the business here and now more accurately. I remember that when I talked with my prof. last time in arranging the date, he thought I was allowing too little time for the thesis, but he did not want to discourage me and just arranged the date tentatively. Now it turns out he is right and I lack a few days to get the thesis in before he and the other professors will leave for vacation. Permit me to assure you once more, that I will come on Jan. 24 as formerly planned, if you think it is what I had better do.

With many thanks, and best wishes for a Merry Christmas. Most sincerely yours
Y. Fung Wen

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GINLING COLLEGE

Submitted to the Ginling College Committee, December 1927.

1926-1927 Academic Year

In September 1926 college opened with an enrollment of one hundred and thirty-two. The work of the year followed in a happy, normal course until the sudden Nanking "incident," March 24, 1927. Classroom and laboratory work was in progress that morning when news of the entrance of the Southern Army, and following events, was brought to the college. Within a few hours all foreigners were conducted under escort to one of the University buildings. The next day they were put on gun boats and taken to Shanghai. By what seemed miraculous protection the buildings were unharmed.

On Sunday following the tragic March 24, when the churches of the city were occupied by soldiers, the students of Ginling in their own chapel and with some of the students of the University of Nanking, "kept Sunday and worshipped." On Easter, less than a month after the tragedy, the girls of Ginling held an Easter service - - as far as is known, the only formal Easter service that was held in Nanking.

A Chinese Administrative Committee was formed and the alumnae were rallied to the help of the college. In order to save the buildings from occupation by the soldiers, classes were kept going as far as was possible with the small faculty and with interruptions from investigators and party visitors.

The foreign staff were divided as follows:

To America:	Mr. Loos and family, Misses Pederson, Cogswell
To England:	Miss Spicer
To Manila:	Dr. Hackett, Misses Buse, Sutherland, Andrews
To Korea:	Miss Whitmer
To Denmark:	Miss Case
In Shanghai:	Mrs. Thurston, Misses Vautrin, Chester, Griest, Treudley, Reeves. (Miss Griest returned to America in June.)

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Control on May 11, the following tendered their resignations: Mrs. Thurston, Misses Vautrin, Chester, Case, Griest and Reeves. It was stated that this was done not because they were unwilling to continue their work at Ginling, but that they might stand ready to cooperate in any way and for any length of time that the Committee deemed best. The Committee expressed appreciation of the spirit which prompted the resignations, but took no further action.

Miss Pederson and Miss Case indicated that they would not return to Ginling. Misses Griest, Cogswell, and Mr. Loos, reported their readiness to return when the way opened.

During the summer an office was opened in Shanghai.

Opening of College in September 1927

Friends of the college who had relatives or children in the college believed it safe to open. Mr. T. Z. Koo said "go ahead." The foreign faculty in Shanghai felt that to wait for peace might mean waiting a number of years; if they waited for the populace to invite them back they might never return.

It was accordingly decided to proceed with plans to open college and permission was secured from the Nationalist Government by a committee composed of one member of the Chinese faculty, one alumna and one student.

On September 23 college opened with 95 students, among whom were 20 seniors and 31 freshmen. The faculty numbered 24 (13 Chinese women, 3 Chinese men and 8 foreigners). The Practice School is in operation, doing third year schedule Middle School work similar to that which has been followed for the last three years.

College administration was placed in the hands of an Administrative Committee composed of five Chinese, with two Americans as advisers. Miss Ellen Koo, sister of T. Z. Koo, is chairman of the Committee.

A foreign member of the faculty writes:

"It is very gratifying to have the Chinese faculty taking hold so well and in such fine spirit, and to see how, in spite of any superficial changes, it is still the same Ginling. Particularly in regard to chapel services and other religious activities, and the things which can help to keep the spirit that Ginling has rejoiced in, there is absolutely no let down, but if anything, an increased effort, due to the feeling that they are all particularly important this year, especially since there is not any curriculum Bible study, at least this term.....It seems to me we are learning that the thing we've helped to make here is an even finer and bigger and stronger thing than we realized, and if it proves to be so fine that it doesn't need us, we must not be anything but profoundly grateful even though it will pull our heartstrings pretty badly. I feel sometimes quite overwhelmed at the wonder of it all and at the thought that I have had even a tiny part in it."

Miss Koo writes as follows of the religious life of the college:

"Every day we have chapel at which most of the girls attend regularly. Every Thursday and Sunday evening a prayer meeting arranged by the devotional committee of the student Y.M.C.A. Every Sunday morning we have a united service for the students of Ginling College and Nanking University in which the real spirit of worship prevails, because all Christians take part. It is held in Ginling College Chapel. It is arranged by the members of the Sunday service committee, consisting of earnest Christians from both institutions regardless of faculty or students or servants."

Return of the Foreign Staff

The following extracts from letters bear on this subject:

Miss Liu (Secretary of Administrative Committee), writing during the summer: "Then there is the question of administration. Public opinion seems to say it all must be done by Chinese. Everybody admits that we must have foreign teachers. They don't mind having foreign teachers at all - even the men in the government. Miss Wu found it out from her talks with a great many of the men and I have talked it over with Mr. Djang of the Wan-chiao-pu too. They said that they also invite foreigners to help them."

Mrs. Thurston, September 23: "It seems right, in spite of fairly strong advice to the contrary from the Consulate in Shanghai, for a group of the foreign faculty to go up to Nanking. Dr. Reeves went up on the 11th, Miss Treudley, Dr. Hackett, Miss Sutherland and Miss Andrews went up on the 21st, and this morning Miss Vautrin, Miss Buse and Miss Chester."

Mrs. Thurston, September 30: "At the last we had to choose between the advice of Chinese advisers, including the Ginling faculty, and the advice of American Consular authorities. Each individual made her own decision and went at her own risk. It was a hard decision to make, but I think those who made it have a growing conviction that it is right for them to be there."

Mrs. Thurston, November 18: "Except for a very small number of local 'die hards' nearly everyone feels that the Ginling people did the right thing. I think one of the most comforting things has been the attitude of Admiral Bristol, which has in no way shown disapproval, and the conversation I had with Mr. Hewlett, who has just been appointed British Consul to Nanking, whom I knew quite intimately when he was in Changsha in 1910. He had every opportunity as a friend to advise me not to allow the thing which I told him we were doing at Ginling. He could easily have said, 'I think you are making a mistake.' Instead, he expressed his personal opinion that Nanking was relatively one of the safest places in China because the kind of thing which struck Nanking does not happen twice in succession in the same place."

Mrs. Thurston, September 23: "While the Consul in an interview with Miss Vautrin and Miss Treudley stated quite strongly the policy of the Department of State, American Legation and the Shanghai Consulate, and advised against the return of anyone to Nanking, he did at the same time give them the impression that they were not taking any great risk of personal danger in going. He wants me to prevent them from going, or to recall those who have gone. This, I cannot feel justified in doing, just as I could not feel justified in evacuating when the orders came on March 21st. I do not feel that we made any mistake at that time in exercising our own judgment and only time can tell whether our 'foolishness' has been wisdom."

Miss Koo: "We sent letters to six important headquarters in the city, announcing the arrival of our foreign faculty. The Foreign Department and the Educational Department answered us very nice and polite letters, saying they will protect us, etc. Our foreign faculty stay on the campus and think it not wise to go out at present."

For nearly six weeks the eight Americans at Ginling were the only foreigners in Nanking. Later some of the men of the American staff of the University returned. The business men of Hsia Gwan are friendly and frequently visit the college. The Nationalist officers come often for tea and tennis. "Captain Chang Ken-nien, who is in the foreign department, feels a special responsibility for our safety, and as soon as we telephone to him about any disturbance in our neighborhood he gets into his Rolls Royce and comes over immediately."

Under date of September 28 the State Department sent a letter to Dr. Warnshuis reporting the return to Nanking, against urgent Consular advice, of eight members of the foreign staff, and pointing out the elements involved.

The Future

On May 11, 1927, the Executive Committee of the Board of Control voted to recommend to the Board, and through them to the Ginling College Committee, that Miss Yi Fang Wu be invited to become President of Ginling College. This recommendation was adopted by the Board of Control at its annual meeting and comes to the Ginling College Committee for confirmation. The votes of the members of the Board of Control, taken by correspondence, are attached. The following regarding Miss Wu comes from Mrs. Thurston:

1927

"Miss Wu was a member of the class of 1919. Before going to Ginling College she taught English in the Higher Normal for Girls in Peking. She has a very good background of knowledge of Chinese culture and good training in Chinese. For three years after leaving Ginling she taught at the Higher Normal in Peking, which was at that time raised to the rank of collegiate institutions, and Miss Wu was the head of the English Department there. She was very highly regarded by both faculty and students in that institution. She went to America in the summer of 1922, and has since that time been at the University of Michigan, where she is completing the work for Ph.D. in Biology, having specialized in Entomology. She has been the President of the Chinese Students Organization in America and is very well known in the group of American returned students. We had counted upon Miss Wu returning to the College for work in the Department of Biology for some time, but the great need now to have a Chinese Administrative officer makes this other appointment seem urgent. It will be a great advantage to a person in such a position to have the reputation for scholarship and the training which Miss Wu has received in connection with her work in America."

Concerning herself, Mrs. Thurston writes, September 23:

"You need not worry about what disposition will have to be made of me when the time comes. I am ready to help Miss Wu to make all the adjustments which she will have to make, returning to China after more than five years absence and with no experience in college administration. I hope very much that the committee can help Miss Wu to visit colleges and to make contacts with the constituency in America so that they will know her and she will feel that she knows them, which is a great help in carrying on correspondence and doing the various things which the president of a college like Ginling is supposed to do."

Later, October 18, Mrs. Thurston writes:

"I want the Ginling College Committee to be considering quite definitely the question of my plans for the next twelve months or more after Miss Wu's return. The majority of opinion to date, as it is given to me in friendly advice, is for me to ask for an indefinite leave of absence. I am certainly looking forward to a time of rest. In a number of ways I am realizing these days the strain of the years which lie behind me, during which time I have hardly had a real rest for more than a month or two. It is still a little hard for me to see as a matter of pure intellectual judgment that it is right for me to withdraw at this time from the college, but it may be that I am in danger of reaching the point where I feel that my work cannot get on without me, which is one of the signs of weariness that oftentimes is seen in cases similar to mine. If I am to have this leave of absence, I would very much like to join my sister in Egypt early in March and I should wish to remain away from America for at least one year, -not to be counted on in any way to carry the load which I am, through no original wish of my own, passing on to others. I do not consider that anything is decided about this, but I feel it would be just as well for the Ginling College Committee to be considering this aspect of the case."

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VOTES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL
ON ELECTION OF MISS WU AS PRESIDENT OF GINLING COLLEGE

1927

Miss Bao Djiapproves

Miss Bradshaw "I think the time has come when Ginling must have a Chinese President. Personally, I know Miss Wu as an earnest Christian, an excellent student, and as possessed of unusual mental and personal qualifications. With the additional advantage of study in America, I consider her well qualified for the position of President of Ginling College."

Miss Cnen Hsi-ren...approves

Miss Esther M. Gauss.. "I approve of the Board of Control acting thru the Ginling College Committee to invite Miss Wu to become President of Ginling College on condition that Miss Wu has the qualifications of consecrated Christian leadership. The covering letter implies but does not positively state such qualifications."

Dr. Y. G. Chen Approves

Dr. Crawford "Am sorry not to know more about Miss Wu. From what I have heard she is well qualified to undertake the work of the Presidency of Ginling. It seems to me that the trend of the times calls for a Chinese President, though under normal times the wiser policy would be not to make any racial difference. I favor giving Miss Wu a thorough trial but would hope that some limit might be set to her trial term of service."

Dr. Djang Fang "I am very sorry to say that I do not know Miss Wu personally. I do not feel confident to pass judgment on this important matter. To put a Chinese, it seems to me, into this important position as president of the institution simply for the sake of being Chinese, it may produce two unsatisfactory results. It might be misunderstood of being taking advantage of this present circumstance. It may not measure up to the standard of the past. Of course, I do not mean this particular case is so. I am stating the principle only. Gradual evolution is better than sudden change. May it be possible to invite Miss Wu as vice president for a period of two years in order to readjust herself to this present perplexing condition in China and train her up to take bigger responsibility in future?"

Mrs. L. C. Hylbert.. "I vote in the affirmative because in general I approve of the principle of replacing foreigners with Chinese in positions of executive importance as rapidly as such capable Chinese can be found who are willing to assume such responsibility. Also, I believe in the principle of hurrying up such changes in view of the present crisis - wherever feasible. I do not know Miss Wu in question but I take it for granted she is a person capable of becoming President of Ginling. Sorry that a vote of such importance should be taken by correspondence."

Mrs. Carlton Lacy...approves

Dr. G. T. Liu.....approves

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- Miss A. S. Mayhew "I doapprove of the action of the Executive Committee in electing Miss Wu as President of Ginling College."
- Mr. Roberts "I disapprove of the idea that Ginling must immediately have a Chinese President and a Chinese majority on the Board of Control, unless the finances can be borne by the Chinese. Until the new government in China formally issues its requirements for educational institutions, I would 'carry on' in the old way."
- Miss Robertson approves
- Mrs. Shao Fu-nien approves
- Mrs. Thomson approves
- Miss C. N. Wang "I fully approve in choosing Miss Wu as one of the administrative officers of the college."
- Miss Wu Wing-ying "Personally, I do not know Miss Wu very well. I have met her only a few times, but I have heard a lot about her from other people and I believe her intellect and her social standing fit her to be the president of Ginling College. Her several years absence and the changing conditions in China right now may make it hard for her at the beginning. But she will get help from her friends, and so in my opinion, she is the right one to be chosen."
- Miss Grace Zia "I approve of the action, not because I would like to have the present President resign, but because after the decision is arrived, some definite action can take place. I am anxious to see some adjustment as to Mrs. Thurston's relationship to Ginling arrived at soon."
- Miss Zimmerman approves
- Dr. Bowen "I am asking you to record my vote in favor of Miss Wu as President. She seems to me the best Chinese woman in sight for the position, and while one has certain regrets in such matters, the step seems to be inevitable and demanded by all of the circumstances now shaping affairs in China. I am sure that Mrs. Thurston and all of the Foreign and Chinese faculty will back up Miss Wu, and I understand that she too has the full confidence of the Alumnae. With all of this, her prestige of high degrees from America, and the generally favorable attitude towards women's education and leadership in China, she will have the best possible chance for success - in spite of the untoward political and social conditions in and about Nanking these days."

it was accordingly decided to proceed with plans to open college and permission was secured from the Nationalist Government by a committee composed of one member of the Chinese faculty, one alumna and one student.

On September 23 college opened with 95 students, among whom were 20 seniors and 31 freshmen. The faculty numbered 24 (13 Chinese women, 3 Chinese men and 8 foreigners). The Practice School is in operation, doing third year schedule Middle School work similar to that which has been followed for the last three years.

College administration was placed in the hands of an Administrative Committee composed of five Chinese, with two Americans as advisers. Miss Ellen Koo, sister of T. Z. Koo, is chairman of the Committee.

A foreign member of the faculty writes:

"It is very gratifying to have the Chinese faculty taking hold so well and in such fine spirit, and to see how, in spite of any superficial changes, it is still the same Ginling. Particularly in regard to chapel services and other religious activities, and the things which can help to keep the spirit that Ginling has rejoiced in, there is absolutely no let down, but if anything, an increased effort, due to the feeling that they are all particularly important this year, especially since there is not any curriculum Bible study, at least this term.....It seems to me we are learning that the thing we've helped to make here is an even finer and bigger and stronger thing than we realized, and if it proves to be so fine that it doesn't need us, we must not be anything but profoundly grateful even though it will pull our heartstrings pretty badly. I feel sometimes quite overwhelmed at the wonder of it all and at the thought that I have had even a tiny part in it."

Miss Koo writes as follows of the religious life of the college:

"Every day we have chapel at which most of the girls attend regularly. Every Thursday and Sunday evening a prayer meeting arranged by the devotional committee of the student Y.M.C.A. Every Sunday morning we have a united service for the students of Ginling College and Nanking University in which the real spirit of worship prevails, because all Christians take part. It is held in Ginling College Chapel. It is arranged by the members of the Sunday service committee, consisting of earnest Christians from both institutions regardless of faculty or students or servants."

Return of the Foreign Staff

The following extracts from letters bear on this subject:

Miss Liu (Secretary of Administrative Committee), writing during the summer: "Then there is the question of administration. Public opinion seems to say it all must be done by Chinese. Everybody admits that we must have foreign teachers. They don't mind having foreign teachers at all - even the men in the government. Miss Wu found it out from her talks with a great many of the men and I have talked it over with Mr. Djang of the Wan-chiao-pu too. They said that they also invite foreigners to help them."

Mrs. Thurston, September 23: "It seems^{ed} right, in spite of fairly strong advice to the contrary from the Consulate in Shanghai, for a group of the foreign faculty to go up to Nanking. Dr. Reeves went up on the 11th, Miss Treudley, Dr. Hackett, Miss Sutherland and Miss Andrews went up on the 21st, and this morning Miss Vautrin, Miss Buse and Miss Chester."