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THE PROBLEM OF CLOTHING REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI

Mrs. W. S. New

The problem of providing warm clothes and bedding for all the refugees in Shanghai has been by no means an easy task. When last October I was asked by the Chinese Medical Association to take charge of the donations of old clothes and see that they were distributed to the poor people who had had to evacuate their homes, I had no idea of the proportions to which the project was to grow.

The Clothing Committee grew out of that request. It began with three women - Miss G. F. Dju, Mrs. Id-ming Hwang Chen, and myself - sorting over old clothes in a small back room of the Chinese Medical Association on Psebang Road. Now we have more than two hundred workers, besides those who help us by taking bundles of sewing to do at home.

We three began on October 18th. Anyone would think that sorting out old clothes does not require brains, that anyone can do it. Instead, we found that it required first-class intelligence. The help of the Ginling Alumnae was enlisted. I am a graduate of Ginling College and I know the thoroughgoing training given at that college. The institution stands for high ideals of social service. Its students are taught to solve social problems according to existing realities, and not to pauperize those benefitted - to help them to do things for themselves and not to make beggars out of them. This is the modern scientific approach to social work. The women of the Clothing Committee and the Volunteer Workers include noted graduates of Ginling College, each distinguished in her own line, including those who before hostilities began were professors, writers, educators and administrators. The majority of them possess M.A. degrees from well-known universities. Each member of the Committee is a personality.

At first when we began there was no system, no precedent. From Hongkong had come 71 bags of old clothes, and we set to work sorting these into piles of wearable clothing. We wore hospital gowns and masks, for much of the clothing was dirty and had to be washed before it could be distributed. The Hongkong ladies requested a statement of how their first consignment had been disposed of. The Clothing Committee sent them an exact report, with many more actual receipts than they had expected. They were pleased to see efficient workers in charge, and immediately dispatched six more consignments. Singapore people followed suit, and thousands of bags of clothing were sent here for the refugees. Not all these have yet been used. Some people, knowing how much easier it is to make up new material, have asked the Clothing Committee to appeal for new material, and leave the old clothes. We do not approve of this plan, for the new material must be bought by some one, and it is not fair to tax the public when old clothes can be used. We feel it is wrong to keep public gifts unused. No hoarding up is necessary. Hence we are eager to open any boxes and bags as soon as they are delivered to us.

What did we do with that first Hongkong consignment and all the consignments which followed? Most of the bags contained thin summer garments which were not suitable to be given to the refugees. It was decided to use two garments of the same size to make one padded garment, or to patch together several to make one warm padded garment. This matching and sorting called for keen intelligence and judgment so that nothing was wasted, and so that the garments were pleasing in appearance. We wanted to cheer the refugees a little. Poor people, they had left their homes, and the belongings they treasured; now they were crowded together in camps, and most uncomfortable, and naturally despondent. If they could have some prettier clothes - especially the children - they would be encouraged to look after themselves, and brighten a little corner in the congested rooms. Bright printed voiles and other gay materials were used to make quilt covers for cotton padded quilts. The American Women's Club helped us to sew these, and took time and patience to make them pretty. To us, these patched quilts are invaluable and full of meaning, because they are handmade by kind-hearted women. They express love for the suffering people.

When we used old material, we tried to put first quality cotton padding inside, so that next year if the outer covering wears out, the cotton padding will still be good, and only cloth to recover the garment need be bought. When the outer material was new, we used second quality cotton, because we could not afford to use first quality for both covering and lining.

When we began padding clothes, it became necessary to employ sewing women. The Chinese Women's Club gave us \$200. and we used this money to buy cotton for padding, and to pay some sewing women. It was not possible to ask women in one refugee camp to sew for those in other camps because of the danger of spreading disease. The women we employed were really refugees, but were living in houses with friends or relatives. They receive only a very nominal sum for their work. The Ming Hwa Thread Company allowed their staff of factory women to help us pad garments. The Y.W.C.A. Refugee Camp co-operated with our Committee splendidly by making use of their Labor project to complete garments for our supply.

Later on, we were appointed as a sub-committee of the Shanghai International Red Cross instead of being under the Chinese Medical Association, and I was appointed a member of the Shanghai Relief Committee. Father Jacquinet, Chairman of this Committee, persuaded me to take over responsibility for providing refugees in the Nantao Refugee Zone with clothing. Although the Committee did the planning and directing of this work, Mrs. Chen (the sole responsible lady in charge of the Zone requisition), Mrs. Tsao, and the Sisters at the Sacred Heart primary school in charge of the actual making of these garments. We owe to them our hearty thanks for their co-operation.

It developed that individual members of the Committee were competent to take care of different phases of the work, and I had only to start a thing going, then delegate it to a competent person. Mrs. G. F. Dju, chairman of the Shanghai Ginling Alumnae Association, also an authoress on economic problems, has given her full time unstintedly, day and night, Saturday and Sunday, Christmas and New Year's Day, without any stop at all. To her the Committee owes a great deal of gratitude. She has been the treasurer and handles the finances well. Another instance of this is connected with the distribution. Miss H. L. Chang is in charge of this

department. Formerly, Miss Chang was a specialist in Physical Education at Ginling College, then at Central University, and later at the Hopei Women's Normal College. She is a graduate and later at the Hopei Women's Normal College. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. When Miss Chang began working, there was no set system of distribution. When the Committee began its exhaustive investigations, there was found to be overlapping and waste. At the suggestion of Mr. Doodha, chairman of the Visiting Committee, she introduced and prepared for the guidance of the clothing committee charts for managers of camps and their supporting organizations to fill in. All requisition forms were carefully examined by the Visiting Committee which sent members to inspect conditions personally, and check the itemized statements of camp managers. Miss F. A. Kirk of the Ginling College faculty has contributed time to the Committee, doing secretarial work, which left no time in which to solicit gifts for an increase of supply to answer the pressing needs.

Mr. W. D. Boone and Mr. L. B. Lee are chairman and vice-chairman respectively of this Committee. Working under them is a squad of twenty Boy Scouts under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. Here I wish to pay a tribute to these two gentlemen whose strenuous efforts have made it possible to carry out the project of discriminate distribution which the Committee has insisted upon. Each refugee has a number, hence it is easy to check actual requirements when itemized requisitions are presented, but the work is tedious and exacting. This part of the work is most important if overlapping and waste are to be prevented. Besides itemized statements, total amounts are checked on separate sheets, and from these the Distribution Department allots garments.

Under the chart system now in use, it is possible to tell at a glance how many garments have been distributed at any time, where they went, and on what dates. This indicates method and order, without which our work would be impossible.

It is the policy of the Clothing Committee to consider more than just making and providing garments and bedding for refugees. They also consider the public pocket which is already strained to the limit. Business conditions in Shanghai are not too good, and the generosity of the people must not be overtaxed. Funds for food must continue to be provided. We realize that our Clothing Committee is only a part of the enormous responsibility which the International Red Cross is bearing. Whatever we can save means economizing for the whole movement. Therefore we wish to make good use of what has been entrusted to us. Charity means the application of humanitarian principles to business men and donors as well as to receivers. All things must be taken into consideration, and the right people must be given the right things in the right spirit. Intelligence and integrity of character should be persistently exercised in the Red Cross work. If only our Clothing Committee can succeed in emphasizing a pure motive of humanitarian interest in this Red Cross work, its work and labour will be worth while.

There is another point about this Clothing Committee I want to mention. The system we have worked out, through the system of trial and error, may serve at some future time for a precedent and example. It is inevitable that there will be at some time other disasters in which thousands of people need to be cared for. The people in charge of that problem may remember that in 1937-38 in the crisis in Shanghai a system was worked out, and ~~that~~ it will be valuable for reference. Thus it is important that the fundamental principles and system be sound at every point. Now the Committee is not at all sure whether in the end its work may be considered successful or not, but it would like to leave on record a piece of relief work that will stand the test of time.

This project is very small in comparison with the relief work of the whole city, just as one camp is small in comparison with the camps considered together. For that reason, it is better for a city organization like the Y.W.C.A. to mobilize all the women to help in this temporary yet necessary relief. This is one factor which contributed to our decision to change our headquarters to the Y.W.C.A. when we had to give up our previous headquarters at the Chinese Medical Association. Miss Tsao-Yi-Zia is now vice-chairman and she will help to carry on our work in the setting where it properly belongs.

To summarize the whole procedure of the Clothing Committee's work, we have listed the steps as follows:

1. Keynote of work: Discriminate Distribution, that is, considering individual needs, and attempting to avoid duplication.
2. Steps involved in Centralizing the Supply:
 - a. Sorting of old clothes.
 - b. Classified storing.
 - c. Padding garments.
 - d. Making of new suits from donated woollen and cotton cloth.
 - e. Receiving donated garments - new.
 - f. Receiving donated old garments.
 - g. Selecting different types of clothes to fit different groups of people.
 - h. Purchasing or exchange.
3. Steps involved in Centralizing the Distribution:
 - a. Requisition
 - b. Investigation
 - c. Verification
 - d. Preparation
 - e. Distribution

Herewith we give a summary of the work done in figures:

1. Clothing distributed from the Hongkong consignments, Oct. 8 - Dec. 7 94,676 pieces
2. New and old cotton garments made locally and distributed, Dec. 7 - Jan. 10:

Nantao Zone	40,000	
Settlement	16,912	56,912 pieces
Total		151,458 pieces
3. Quilts made and distributed, Dec. 7 - Jan. 14, 2,541
4. Contributions in Cash, Oct. 18 - Jan. 10, \$1,051.00
5. Contributions of other than cash, Oct. 18 - Jan. 10: 3,954 pieces clothing, 612 pairs trousers, 117 quilts, 379 quilt covers, 23 blankets, and 1,150 piculs cotton. From Ren Chi Tan: 13,028 lbs. cotton, 20,000 cotton jackets, and 2,718 bolts of cloth.

We expect to complete our job by the end of January. After all, a man eats and then must go on eating every day; but once he has a warm suit of clothing it will last a whole season, and the same is true with a padded quilt. That is why we are concentrating our efforts in an attempt to finish our task by the end of this month, so that we can turn our attention to other things. The problem of clothing refugees, once it is solved, should not absorb the time and energy of our talented women who are well equipped to do another piece of humanitarian work more permanent in nature. "No charity is inexhaustible."

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Jan 21 - 143
Feb. 5 1938

These letters were prepared by the
United Christian Missionary Society
from letters from Nanking.

January 21, 1938

"There are still about 50,000 refugees in the Safety Zone who are receiving free rice daily. The local Autonomous Chinese Committee was inaugurated and on New Years day took over the functions of the former Nanking City Government, with a big celebration. This Committee will assume the political and administrative duties of the Safety Zone, but there will be enough refugee work to occupy foreigners till spring.

"There is enough rice at present. Coal is the serious problem, but arrangements are being made with the Japanese to bring in coal for the soup kitchens. Mr. Riggs is trucking coal, and Mr. Song is trucking rice. Mr. Mills is looking after mission property, and Bates and Smyth assisting with the refugees at the University. The number of refugees at the University is reduced to about 6,000, and at Ginling where Miss Vautrin and Mrs. Twinem are in charge of refugees the number has been reduced to about 5,000."

January 22, 1938

"The International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone is now operating as a relief committee for the welfare of the 250,000 Chinese civilians living in the city. Most of these people (at least 90 per cent) are still living within the Zone because of fear of injury by wandering Japanese soldiers in other parts of the city, or that their homes will be burned from over their heads. Some persons have gone home but have returned because of violence at the hands of Japanese soldiers.

"The International Committee is still conducting twenty-five refugee camps in public and institutional buildings in the Zone. These camps now have about 60,000 persons living in them. The largest of these camps are: University of Nanking Middle School with 15,000, Old Ministry of Communications with 12,000, University of Nanking main campus with 6,000, and Ginling College with 5,500.

"It is estimated that it would take 1,600 bags of rice per day to feed the 250,000 people. People have existed on private family stocks which are now rapidly running out. Unless determined and efficient arrangements are made for supplying rice and fuel to this population, serious famine conditions will result. All attempts by the International Committee to purchase food supplies stored outside Nanking or Shanghai for relief purposes have been refused by the Japanese authorities.

"A sub-committee on rehabilitation has been working on a survey and plans for helping the people return to their homes and get started in some economic activity. This problem is greatly increased by the fact that three-fourths of the shops of the city have been systematically burned by the Japanese since December 19th.

"Another rehabilitation problem is the widows and orphans. In the first part of the survey on this question at Ginling College, 420 women were found whose men folks on whom they were dependent for support had been killed by the Japanese. Many civilian men in the city met that fate because they were suspected of being 'plain-clothes soldiers'. Some were marched off in registration even though their women folks and family guaranteed them.

"Electricity is available now for certain selected buildings. City water

flows from the lower hydrants at times. No telephones exist. One Japanese Army man and one Japanese Embassy man remarked 'There are no nice eating places in Nanking,' and 'There are no amusement places in Nanking.' The glory and joy of China's capital are now in ashes and the only economy is a grubbing economy --- grubbing in ruins for something to be salvaged to sell to buy some food.

February 5, 1938

"Fears of the people are somewhat allayed as the 4th came and went and they were not forced out of the zone. Late yesterday afternoon --- went out to Ginling College and was met with an unusual spectacle. Hundreds of women, refugees housed there, knelt in front of him all the way from the central campus to the gate leading out of the compound. They wailed and cried in wave upon wave. He could not drive his car out they were so thick - had to walk. They were pleading to be allowed to remain at Ginling where they knew they could be under the protection of the foreigners." (Ed. The refugees had all been ordered by the new government in Nanking to return to their homes not later than February 4th.)

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Trek p 172

Letter from President Yi-fang Wu

Woman's College
West China University
Chongtu, China
February 7, 1938

Dear Miss Hodge, Mrs. Thurston, Miss Griest:

This morning I was much excited at seeing a letter addressed in Minnie's (Miss Vautrin) handwriting, and opening it hurriedly, I found her letter of December 8th, Miss Hodge's letter of November 9th, and a copy of her letter to friends of December 9th. In the same mail I had also Minnie's letter of January 22nd. It gives one the mixed feeling of joy and sadness in reading news from Nanking.

First of all I wish to thank Miss Hodge most humbly for her kind and sympathetic words. I can assure you all that it is the whole-hearted backing of our Founders in America that has meant so much to us and has relieved me of anxiety about finances. This is any college president's wish and I am therefore most grateful. Minnie read this letter before forwarding, so she must be glad now for your liberal confidence in people on the spot as to the uses of the college buildings, for she is planning to run what she calls a "People's College" to teach the widowed women how to try to earn a living.

Miss Kirk must be sending you news about the encouraging beginnings of the second term of our Shanghai Unit, so I shall attempt to tell you only about the Unit in Chongtu. After two weeks' waiting in Ichang and two weeks more in Chungking, Chang Siao-sung and party finally arrived on the campus here on February 1st. They chartered a bus on New Year's Day when people in Szechuen were busy celebrating. In a few days our last "batch," consisting of the assistant treasurer's family and two more girls, will get in. Altogether there will be about twenty-five girls and ten faculty, Dr. Reeves, Chen Pin-dji, Chang Siao-sung, Dr. Lung and Chou Li-chiu of Sociology, Dr. Yuen of Education, Mr. Chen (the Government professor of Chinese), Mr. Ming, the Chinese secretary, Mr. Chen Er-chang, the assistant treasurer, and Mr. Chen Lan-ying, the acting registrar.

All our girls and women faculty have been kindly taken into the women's dormitory, and our men are renting houses in the city. It is very easy now to get houses, because many local people have gone away to the hsien in order to avoid any possible bombing. A few days ago Japanese planes were sighted at Wan-hsien going westward, but they did not actually reach Chungking or Chongtu. People think that when clear weather comes in March or April in this region there may be real air raids if the Japanese can establish bases nearer than they are at present.

As for offices and classrooms, the University Cabinet has kindly assigned a few rooms in the Baptist Building for our use. We shall have one administrative office and two rooms to be used jointly as faculty offices and also as seminar rooms. There are two other classrooms which we may use in the same building when there are no Hua-hsi classes there.

In regard to the curriculum, our faculty will give those courses which are specially needed by our girls, but they will also be open to the Hua-hsi students. Our girls may also elect the Hua-hsi courses and some University courses which are not offered by Hua-hsi. In return for all the facilities we receive, I have offered that if Hua-hsi wishes to call upon our faculty to help in work which they are specially prepared to do, they may do so as a contribution from Ginling. Thus far I have

2/7/38

heard that the Education department wishes to get the help of Dr. Yuen and Dr. Chang Siao-sung. The West China University, both faculty and students, have shown a fine spirit of sharing and have welcomed the down-river institutions most cordially. Fortunately the campus is high and the buildings were not crowded before the refugees arrived. . . The single rooms for seniors have now been made into double rooms and a third girl has been put into rooms for two originally.

I sent a long letter to Miss Chester a few days ago in regard to planning for the future, because they have just had the Council of Higher Education meeting, the informal meeting of our Board of Directors; and Dr. Stuart has been in Shanghai with his experience of running Yenching in Peiping. For the spring term we are settled to run the two units in Chengtu and Shanghai, but the question is what should we do next fall. With so many uncertainties it seems futile to try to settle a thing so far ahead, yet we can not wait forever. Furthermore there are some factors that make me consider the question now.

First if we are to remain in West China for longer than one term, we need to try getting more books either from Nanking or from abroad, and we should start soon due to the difficulty of getting any freight up here. Secondly if we should wish to apply for a grant from the Szechuen Provincial Government as the University of Nanking and Kua-hua University from Shanghai did, we should do so soon before too many institutions have done so and exhausted the generosity of the province.

As I wrote you before I had hopes of going back to Nanking if conditions should improve enough to do so at all. But I never expected that the Japanese could be so bad, and now it seems it will take a long time before people will dare to go back to live. Furthermore the condition in Shanghai is not at all peaceful, so I am inclined to think that since we have a unit here this term we better play safe and keep it going for a while so that if our group there should one day have to leave, they will have a place to go to. If our Shanghai Unit should advise our keeping two units going, will you think it wise to do so?

Another question that has come up is whether we should stay here in co-operation with West China University or should we try to set up a separate establishment somewhere else in a hsien city. Dr. Djang Siao-mei was the first one to suggest it to me before I left Wuchang and she strongly recommended Chia-ting (I am not sure of the spelling, but it is on the river and can be reached by bus, and also by water from Chengtu and from Chungking, the place on the way to Mt. Omei). The Canadian Mission has a school building and a residence for a missionary in Chia-ting ready for any down-river institution to use. Just as I put in a tentative request for it, two deans from the Government Wuhan University asked for its use this spring. The Mission Executive Committee decided that Wuhan University may use it now, but if Ginling should decide to go there, they will let us have it if we let them know in two months' time. The two deans have gladly agreed to move out in the summer, but they are desperate for some accommodation for this spring. For a time I was quite enthusiastic over this possibility, for I think if we can be in a small place by ourselves, we may be able to do more for the building of strong characters which are the sorely needed elements in China. But if we look at it from the viewpoint of co-operation among Christian institutions, it seems clear that we should stay and try to work together with Hua-hsi and Nanking in developing the potential federated university in West China. This is why I have not any definite recommendation to present to you for adoption, but I would appreciate very very much any advice you may give.

I must now hurry to the Post Office without reading this over. With best wishes to you all,

Hastily,

Yi-fang Wu

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING CHINA

WORK AMONG THE REFUGEES ON THE GINLING COLLEGE CAMPUS

If all the regular Christian workers were at their posts in Nanking they would not be sufficient to meet the great opportunities that are open to us on every hand. Suffering and terror and destruction have made hearts tender and in need of sympathy to see, and know the truth and to face the truth as they have never been willing to do in ordinary times; and for most people the ordinary duties of life no longer press upon them and there is time to study and to go to meetings. Unfortunately workers are all too few and immediate tasks too many, so that we are able to meet these unprecedented opportunities in only an inadequate way.

With the cooperation of speakers from the American Church Mission, on January 17 we began regular evangelistic meetings for the women refugees on the Ginling College campus. There are six big buildings housing these refugees, but by means of a ticket system we have arranged so that each woman has an opportunity to hear the gospel once each week. Each afternoon in a small chapel that has been made available, about 170 women listen most intently to the speaker and learn to sing the hymn. This means that more than 1000 different women have the opportunity to hear each week. The order is excellent, for only women over 16 are given tickets and no babies are admitted - the latter is no hardship for the mothers as there are plenty of others to take care of the babies and little children. On Sunday afternoon the chapel is crowded with those who are Christians or who have attended Christian schools. At the same time that these evangelistic meetings are held, from 50-80 children from the ages of 9-15 years are gathered in the science hall and a children's meeting is conducted for them. These meetings are also by tickets, so that every child has an opportunity to attend at least twice a week. This is the fifth week that these meetings have been held and people still eagerly clamor for the tickets when they are distributed on the evening previous to the meeting.

We are now in the process of organizing graded Bible classes and are hoping that materials ordered for this work will soon come from Shanghai. If the way opens about the first of March, we hope to open classes in industrial work and home hygiene. A small lending library of Christian literature has also been opened and we are now seeking for more literature for this library.

The staff carrying on this work consists of five regular staff members who in addition have many other tasks, and nine volunteer workers who give whole or part time. This group has met regularly each morning at 7:30 for a service of worship and prayer. The sustaining power of prayer has become a deep reality during these weeks of strain and suffering and danger, and we have all felt that friends everywhere were united with us in supplication for strength and wisdom.

The number of women and children refugees on the campus is still far greater than we can take care of with our present staff, although our numbers have gradually diminished from ten thousand to approximately three thousand. Young, eager and active young women now comprise most of our group and they afford an opportunity for Christian service and teaching that is seldom given to us. We covet your prayers for wisdom and strength.

February 18, 1938

Minnie Vautrin

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Feb 12

174

Feb 21, '38

Letters from Elsie Priest, treasurer of Ginling College. Letters written from Chengtu, Szechwan Province.

February 12, 1938 Your letter addressed to Dr. Wu and myself reached Dr. Wu yesterday and we had a conference immediately to discuss the problems raised. This morning we sent you a radiogram as follows: "Impossible return Nanking. Graves continue furlough." We appreciate very deeply Stella's (Miss Graves) willingness to return to help in Nanking especially as she knows some Japanese, but it is entirely out of the question for anyone to enter at this time. We have been trying for weeks and through every channel to send in at least two or three doctors and nurses to relieve that terrible strain on our small staff, and it has been impossible to secure permission. The Soochow people have worked even longer on their request for a permit to return without much success - one trip when under guards numbering twenty they had to make a hasty visit and were not allowed to talk with anyone alone, then after sleeping one night at Japanese headquarters were escorted back to Shanghai. I mention this to show you how very impossible it is to enter Nanking these days. It would mean Stella (Miss Graves) would have to hang around Shanghai, where she is not needed at present, and so why not let her continue her furlough peacefully and return later when really needed. As far as the need for someone to speak Japanese is concerned, I do not think they have been seriously handicapped. Minnie (Miss Vautrin) has never indicated that this was a serious problem. Also the University has one senior staff member - Mr. Chen - who speaks Japanese and in cases of need, he can help. However, to my mind the serious consideration is the fact that it is impossible to enter Nanking anyway at present, so she may as well remain at home and not increase the load out here at this time.

I feel that it also most unwise for Mrs. Thurston to return at this time. It is not at all likely that she could return to Nanking for many months. Eva Spicer and Catharine Sutherland are waiting for a chance to return to help Minnie and the others there and perhaps it would be wiser to let them take the load rather than to expect Mrs. Thurston to attempt to run around the campus serving the refugees etc. etc. I should think the need at home was great these days and that everyone could find plenty to do for the cause of Christian education.

I have sent word today to Shanghai to sell the check covering the gift of \$1,000.00. We are using this money for the land loan. That has been a heavy burden and we have been worried for fear there would not be enough money to meet it. A few weeks ago Eva Spicer came to our rescue and loaned us for an indefinite period one thousand sterling (\$16,842.11) without interest. The sale of the \$1,000. U.S. plus this loan from Eva will just about clear that loan. So you can see what a tremendous help it has been and how relieved we feel to have a clear slate once more as far as the banks are concerned. I am writing to Mr. Evans asking him to deposit all the money due us, in our account with the Central Hanover Bank and Trust Company and let me draw on it as we need it. I find that is easier to handle than to send drafts from here - we are so far away from Shanghai. I shall not cash any more United States currency than is actually needed to meet our needs for the moment. After careful consultation with bankers we have received advice from Mr. Bennett (formerly with National City Bank and now with China Foundation) that he considers China will be able to hold the currency, but that we had better not cash anything beyond actual needs at this time for fear of freezing bank balances, which was a great nuisance last summer, or of inflation etc. So if you hear we have a large balance left in the Central Hanover Bank and Trust Co. do not think we did not need the money! It will mean that we are using our funds in China, even the fixed deposits for special purposes, thus saving all funds possible in United States currency against the future when currency may fall badly from present levels. As we use some fixed funds in Chinese currency, I make a note to reserve this equivalent amount in United States currency for replacement later. Perhaps we are too conservative, but we have so

little money that we are trying to preserve every copper if possible. Dr. Wu and I discussed rather briefly yesterday the question of restoring field salaries and will have a definite plan to present to members of the directors for approval soon. We had so many things to discuss yesterday we could only touch that problem and put it down for early consideration next week. I am very glad to know that it will be possible to do something for staff members who have been splendid over cuts and all the rest. Just as soon as possible I will figure out how much it will mean to restore to 100% and then see how much can actually be restored with cash in hand. Perhaps nobody will feel they should have full restoration.

The unit on this campus will begin work next Wednesday and we are preparing to take tuition directly from students on the same plan as proposed for the University of Nanking. I think this will work out satisfactorily. The University of Nanking cannot open until about March 1st as buildings are not ready and equipment is still floating slowly up the Yangtze.

I note your paragraph about the need for caution about publicity, and I cannot urge so strongly that every effort be made to protect the Nanking people. We have established connections with the Embassy in Hankow for wires to be sent through radio on the gunboats. Will you urge all in the office in New York to use the greatest caution in all material about, from, or to any of the staff in China?

We were a long time on the trek from Nanking to Chengtu, especially so from Hankow to Chengtu when we were cut off from all news. It was lovely through the Gorges, but a hard trip by bus from Chungking. President Chen and I were eleven days in Chungking as we happened there over Chinese New Year and Szechuen observes it in the old style so everything was closed for some days. This campus is lovely, spacious and the people very gracious.

I am very glad to be here and to have a chance to settle down for a few weeks without the sound of bombs every few hours. The need is great on every corner, people starving and without food and clothing. A man who was formerly prosperous in Nanking was begging on the streets of Chungking - he had lost everything - home, money, clothes, bedding, etc. And so the stories could be told --

February 21, 1938. Your letter of January 17th is at hand and I have read it with some perplexity.

Of course I am perfectly willing to act as the agent for the Rest House in Wuchang, but because I am in Chengtu, it seems a bit difficult to manage the oversight suggested. After careful consideration and consultation with Dr. Wu, we feel that the best solution will be to have Catharine Sutherland in charge of the money and report monthly. As long as Hwa Chung is able to continue, she will remain in Wuchang and is in close touch with the Rest House. I am sending her a copy of your letter as well as of this reply so she will know your requirements. In case you have sent money out, and it was in my name through the Bank of China, it can be managed easily enough, but if not, use Catharine's name and have the money assigned to her. I presume Mr. Cheng will prefer to use the Bank of China and it will make no great difference, although the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation or the National City Bank of New York - Hankow branches - would be more convenient for Miss Sutherland. However, I am sure she can manage a draft through the Bank of China. I will send her a letter of introduction if necessary.

I have written my views of the Rest House with the hope that the money might be diverted to some other work, but I know how difficult that may be, and most likely Miss Sutherland can use it most effectively. I would suggest that you make the reservation when talking with Mr. Cheng that it is always a problem how long anything of that kind can continue around Hankow - just now they seem able to go on with various work of the kind but changes come rapidly. Two days ago they had one of the worst air raids staged in China so far - dog fighting at the expense of 15 planes (11

Japanese and 4 Chinese). However you know that Catharine will be most conscientious about the use of funds and if unable to make use of them, will see that they are returned to you in due time.

Your letter about the calendars came today - I shall have to digest it a bit more. Those things are trying but probably conditions were such that the Shanghai group could not control them. Too bad we happened to have the calendars this particular year! I will add a word in a subsequent letter about them.

The sun has been shining for two days! Usually clouds and mist continually in Chengtu and it is a great relief to have some sun. All down river people have had to make a physical adjustment to this dampness, but that is soon over. It is lovely here as far as trees and flowers are concerned - not at all cold. We are being entertained by local groups which is most considerate of them all for we must be a fearful nuisance. Everyone is cordial and sympathetic.

Our latest news from Nanking was dated February 4th - conditions seem a trifle better but are still rather terrible. It looks like a long pull before this war is over.

CONJECTURAL NOTES AND A FEW FACTS ON NANKING ECONOMICS -- March 1, 1938

There is no production save market gardening and a little work on household articles. I doubt if there are 10,000 civilians gainfully employed out of the 300,000 population, if we count out the hordes of competitive pedlers. No private Chinese store other than roadside stalls or the tiniest of local shops. A score or two of Japanese stores of which 13 are now designated as selling regularly to Chinese. No bank. No regular exchange shop that I have observed. Self-Government Committee is running a sizable food store for wholesale and retail of staples and some fresh food.

Rice supplies are believed to be limited to a few weeks' needs, though actual knowledge is scarce outside the Army. Demand is unreliable, as military and naval requirements cannot be calculated. Desperate efforts of the Self-Government Committee to get quantities of rice from Shanghai are indicators of the outlook. Vegetables will probably carry the present population in its present purchasing power. Poultry and eggs are lower, though prices have lost part of their meaning when so few are able to consider such luxuries. Beans, oils, and peanuts are appearing in small quantities from north of the river, but transportation is still very limited. Risks of trade are so great that there is an unreasonable margin between basic prices and retail charges.

Crop outlook for the immediate region is wretched. Village headmen estimated that in the triangle Lungtan, Tangshan, Nanking, there remain 300 buffaloes out of the normal 3000; and that human labor under favorable conditions would permit only one-third of the rice crop ordinarily secured by the use of animals. Along and near the main roads practically all buildings and tools have been burned or looted. The University of Nanking is having great difficulty in feeding and maintaining seven laborers on its five farms outside Taipingmen, which need fifty at this time of year besides several buffaloes. Soldiers rove through the community every day, taking anything edible or useful to them; so it is not thought possible to risk animals or stores of food, even if they could be had. Of those considerable farms and their store, a few of the smaller buildings and one lot of beans remain, the latter brought into the city for safekeeping. Certain farmers refused to answer questions about seed, declaring that food for tomorrow was the real question. Neighbors of the University farms were asked to aid in pulling out cotton stalks from last year's cropping; they replied that they would gladly do it for only a little food, but for no amount of money whatsoever, as money was of no use to them.

In the past week 500 rickshas have been licensed, and are doing a small business. The normal figure was 10,000 I believe. There is a plan to revive a skeleton service of motor-buses, though some say that only 25 machines have any hope of reconstruction. The Self-Government also desires to start a regular trucking service to and from Shanghai for commercial parcels, which suggests that railway services leave something to be desired. Indeed, except for two trains this past week to take back residents of Shanghai, the only trains have been military. The Committee hopes also to run small steamers to Yangchow soon. An occasional N. K. K. boat brings goods for Japanese interests only, so far as I know.

Japanese goods most widely sold are cigarettes, matches, sugar and candies, candles.

M. S. B.

From Nanking Gazette (Nanking Kung Pao) March 2, 1938.

Third issue of the first newspaper attempted in Nanking under Japanese occupation. On the following day no paper was published, and thereafter it was resumed under a new name. It is known that Chairman Tao had much difficulty with the Japanese Special Service Organ over various matters, and that he persisted in his resignation.

SELF-GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN TAO HSI-SAN SEEKS FOR LOST PROPERTY

Almost complete loss of his Buddhist images and scriptures
To which he had devoted his heart and soul for 16 years
if the original articles can be restored, his heart
and spirit can be reestablished in peace

The Chairman of the Self-Government Committee of this city, Tao Hsi-san, well along in years and eminent in learning, is extremely devoted to the scriptures. Recently because of the outbreak of the Incident, his family property was laid waste. Besides other things in particular the collections of many years, Buddhist images for divination (?) and all classes of scriptures were entirely looted. Indeed this was so distressing as to bring an increase in actual physical illness from which recovery is difficult. He wrote a special letter to the Self-Government, requesting them to act for him in cooperative aid to inquiries and investigations. We have secured his original letter, which is printed below:

Report of January 29. According to information from persons of my household, my residence at No. 27 Municipal Government Road was formerly occupied by soldiers who have now gone. When entered the house for inspection, all the blackwood furniture, and the clothing, trunks, porcelain, and metalware, with all utensils, amounting to about four or five thousand dollars, had been looted clean. I still should not have been completely sorrowful, but for the fact that there were included a Buddhist shrine, revered images of the Buddhist faith, and pictures of my sainted paternal and maternal ancestors, and various Buddhist scriptures to which I have devoted my heart and soul in sixteen years of ethical cultivation, offering a fragrant sacrifice each day. Now the whole lot have been stolen. Upon hearing it, I was wounded in heart, and wept a weeping of miserable tears; as in mourning for my deceased parents, grieved to the point of not desiring life. Just at the time of resigning my duties for quiet recuperation, again I encountered this extraordinary grief, and my illness became increasingly serious.

A few days ago I tearfully begged Chairman Swen and Commissioner Wang (of police) to act for me in combined aid for searching. Thereupon Commissioner Wang deigned to despatch policeman to go with members of the household to every place and matshed in the district, searching and investigating. Nothing was secured. In the past few days we again sent people to every place where books and scrolls were spread out, looking for several days' time, but still got nothing. Formerly there was observed in the house a Japanese post-card left behind by a military occupant, on which was written: Lieutenant Amano of the Noda Unit of the Headquarters of the Nakajima Detachment (given name added). This Mr. Amano was one of the military men who occupied the house. Isn't it possible to pass on a request to the officers of the Japanese military administration, for them to inquire from Mr. Amano whether he has seen these scriptures, images, and treasures of Buddha? Might it be that on the basis of relationship through identity of language and common faith in the sacred Buddha, that he acted on my behalf to preserve them? If it is possible by this connection to restore the original articles, then my heart might be reestablished in calm, and my sick body gain complete recovery.....(formal conclusion with list of Buddhist treasures)

Introduction to "Notes on Nanking Economics".

The accompanying "Notes" ^(3/1/38) on the economic situation in and around Nanking prepared by Dr. M. S. Bates seem to me so informative and to contain so much in a brief space that I have asked his permission to share them with certain friends. Dr. Bates' "Notes" assume that the reader knows the destruction that has taken place in or near the city, but for those who may not be fully aware of what has happened let me say briefly that the principal business streets of the city such as Chung Hwa Lu, Tai Ping Lu, Shen Chou Lu (known to many more familiarly as Giang Tang Gai) and Chung Shan Road from Hsin Gai Kou to the Drum Tower have been badly burned. In various other sections of the city there have also been many fires destroying some times several houses together, so the total number of buildings burned is very large. Among the suburbs Hsiakwan has been largely destroyed, and considerable portions of the area outside the South Gate and Hansimen and Shuisimen have also been burned. A great deal of this burning outside of the city was done by the Chinese soldiers in their retreat, in a desire to leave no cover for the enemy, but most of the burning inside of the city, in fact practically all of it, was done by the Japanese. This was, if not a systematic work of destruction, at least a constant one for the first three or four weeks after the Japanese entered the city.

In addition to the burning the looting has been very bad. There is scarcely a home or place of business in Nanking that has not been entered and robbed, the buildings being frequently damaged to some extent in the process. When these facts as to looting and burning are added to those Dr. Bates gives, one can get some idea of what the material loss to Nanking by the fighting has been. The whole is a sad picture of what war costs.

W. P. Mills

March 3, 1938

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 ^{to} 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 Nanking, 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

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 alumnæ 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 new. 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

LENTEN SERVICES AT GINLING REFUGEE CAMP

Our refugee family is now about the same average age as our first student body -- perhaps younger. We had, according to our last count, 3,200, which seems very few in comparison with our peak load. While our campus and buildings are said to be the cleanest camp in the city yet we are pretty bad.

The Industrial School for women whose husbands have been killed we cannot handle now, for we have too many others with us yet -- teen-age girls and those in their twenties. Instead we have started a big project -- classes and preaching services on "The Life of Christ." Ten sections with an attendance of about 500 were started a week ago Monday. This week we are starting four more sections, and we still have done nothing for about 500 young women who do not read or write. Miss Rachel Wang of the Seminary is heading up this work, and she is assisted by the day school teacher, Miss Hsueh, Miss Lo, and two Presbyterian refugees, Yang Ih-tsing and Wu Ai-djen. How we need more teachers, and more class rooms, for all we have now are rooms in the Chapel building and the Science Lecture hall -- all the rest are being used by refugees.

In the afternoon we have a meeting up in the big chapel, at which time one of the Episcopal clergymen speaks -- five of them take turn. Yesterday afternoon we had almost four hundred at the meeting. The Rev. Mr. Tang of the Episcopal Theological Seminary has been doing a fine piece of work.

We hope to culminate this project at Easter time with special talks during Holy Week and a pageant by the girls of the most advanced class. Eva has helped by sending me teaching materials from Shanghai.

Oh, that we were better prepared for this work!

Minnie Vautrin

Nanking, March 9, 1938

A CALL TO PRAYER

Miss Stella Graves, member of the Music department of Ginling College, and now studying in Paris has sent the following statement for which she has asked publicity. She lived in Japan for six years, and has been in China for seven years. This is being sent to the Ginling College Board of Founders and a few others. If any of you wish more copies they can be secured through the Ginling College office at Room 903, 150 Fifth Avenue.

The very slow, tho in the end, the clear report of the Brussels Conference has shown the aggression of Japan in China in its true light. However the condemnation of Japan in this report fails to show that it is the self-seeking of individuals and of nations expressed in the national policy of our Western nations that has taught Japan by their examples how to get what she wants and the skill in war to get it. For this reason, voicing the desire of a group of Christians here in Paris, I beg to urge that a summons to prayer be sent to Christians in all nations: first, for prayers of repentance asking for forgiveness from God and from each other for all known individual sins, and as guided, making restitution to the limit of our powers; second, prayers asking for forgiveness and guidance on how to make restitution for national sins; and, third, humbly asking and listening for guidance from God to find His plan for helping China and Japan in these their hours of darkness back into ways of justice and peace. For this purpose may we set aside this period from now until Easter or until the end of the war in China for such prayer daily at noon and at such other times as seem wise? If such a period of prayer can be entered into seriously by any large number of Christians thruout the world, will not God's plan be given a chance to emerge into the consciousness of men and women? Shall we send a call to the Church to awake at this time, or shall we wait until even more clearly by events are seen the words written, "Mene, mene, tekem upharsin" - "You have been weighed and found wanting and your kingdom has been given to another" .. given perhaps to other nations who are hot about something? Shall we not become hot to seek God and to be found of Him, to find His will for ourselves and for our nations? Shall we not back up the report of the Brussels Conference by the force of the Spirit of God which we, by repentance and deeds expressing our repentance, permit to control us and our nations? And thus it still may not be too late but that God can and will be able to lay the foundations of world peace and security based on His perfect Will in our own countries and in the Orient which we have so grievously wronged.

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Report of Miss Vautrin of the Religious Education
Projects Among the Refugees on the Ginling College
Campus, culminating with the Easter Services 1938.

SHARING "THE ABUNDANT LIFE" IN A REFUGEE CAMP

" I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly."

These were the words of the Master from which the Ginling College motto, "Abundant Life", was chosen during those years from 1912 to 1915 when a group of devoted Western women were dreaming dreams of an institution of higher learning for their sisters in China. They had very definitely in mind the education of keen and self-less Christian leaders for China's emerging womanhood. Little did those Founders realize that the institution they were then creating would also bring "Abundant Life" to more than ten thousand of the more lowly women and girls of Nanking a quarter of a century later. They builded more wisely than they knew.

From December 8, 1937 when the college gates were first opened to women and children refugees until January 16, 1938 there was little time to plan for other than the most pressing elemental needs of life - for food, clothing and shelter from the uncontrolled passions of men. The camp had originally planned to provide for a maximum of 2,750 refugees and had put in readiness the college buildings for this number, but when the "Reign of Terror" came to the great walled capital, and no woman was safe from harm, the gates of the college were flung wide and the distraught and frenzied women and girls streamed in until every available space within the buildings was tightly filled and at night even verandahs and covered ways were packed closely, head to feet and feet to head.

No tribulation nor terror can separate us from the love of God. Neither could the most intense suffering and sorrow blot out from our memories a response to Christmas as that season approached. Christmas came to our refugee camp, but because of the vast throng and the dangers, could be shared with only the members of the staff, their families, the score of young people who had acted as scouts in the beginning of the camp, the servants and a few neighborhood women. A small upper room which had but one window was found which was not being occupied by refugees. By covering the one window with a heavy green curtain and the transom above the door as well, the light could be turned on without fear. Many have said that they will never forget that little improvised Christmas chapel. There was an altar, a little Christmas tree with colored lights, a great bouquet of Heavenly bamboo with bright red berries, several large pots of poinsettias, while from the Christmas box in the attic were brought forth bright red Christmas cut-outs and three Christmas scrolls. Another Mary (Mary Twinem) had lovingly arranged this chapel for the worship of her Lord. Five simple Christmas services were held in that little upper room. While the singing of the beloved carols had to be in hushed tones, and while our hearts were sad because of the ruthless killing, the terrible suffering and the destruction which were still going on in the city, yet as we worshipped and thanked God for His great gift to mankind, the realization came afresh to some of us that only as men come to know and follow the Christ-child would peace truly come to this worn and war sick world. He alone can turn hate and suspicion and insincerity into love and confidence and truth.

By the middle of January conditions were slightly improved in the city. There were fewer soldiers and an effort was being made to discipline those that were left. It seemed possible and desirable to the staff of the camp to share more generously the Christian message with the large family of refugees. For six weeks, six afternoons a week, including Sunday, meetings were held. Those in the small chapel were for women and girls over fifteen, and those in the Science Lecture Hall were for children. Each afternoon from one hundred fifty to one hundred seventy women were admitted to that little chapel - admission being by tickets which were laboriously distributed in the crowded buildings on the previous evening. The refugee buildings were taken by turn so that each woman on the campus had the opportunity of attending once each week. Pastors came faithfully throughout that period, neither rain, nor snow, nor danger daunting them. They had carefully planned the series of talks so that each woman who was interested could hear six messages on the meaning of Christianity. In addition the women learned to sing and to love John 3:16 and Acts 4:12 both of which have long ago been set to a simple tune for just such audiences. They also learned "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "All People that on Earth Do Dwell". They loved to learn to sing for the singing brought comfort to them. Those who are used to speaking at the ordinary evangelistic meetings in China would have marvelled at the attention and interest in this series of meetings. There were always plenty of women in the dormitories to take care of the babies and little children if the mother wished to attend, so no children and babies were allowed. One of the pastors one day asked his audience how many would like to become followers of Jesus and all hands went up. After that we did not ask lest personal safety and becoming Christians become confused.

At the children's meetings during those six weeks the children learned to sing "This is My Father's World" and other children's songs and they were also told stories from the graded Sunday School books by our Home craft School teacher who herself had been in great danger only a few short weeks previous. At both of these series of meetings had the helpers been more in number we could have done much more effective work, for the opportunity to give sympathy and comfort were unparalleled, but energy was still sapped by fear and in addition the many tasks of conducting a refugee camp for thousands were still bearing heavily on the little staff of workers.

Before the close of this first series of meetings it was realized that Holy Week and Easter would be a most wonderful climax for a second series and accordingly plans were started and gradually evolved into what was a most successful project in religious education. It was decided that in addition to meetings we should start classes, dividing those who wished to study according to educational ability. From among the refugees on the campus eight teachers including the dean were mobilized, three pastors volunteered to take classes, and with three members from the regular staff, a faculty of fourteen was formed. All classes studied the Life of Christ in some form, the advanced pupils using Mark, and the less advanced using the graded Sunday School material or a Gospel Primer. In all, twenty three classes were formed ranging from the senior middle school grade, of which there were twenty one pupils to illiterates of whom there were seven large classes divided according to age. The ages of all the pupils in the project ranged from nine years to thirty seven, but the large majority were teen age girls. In addition to the regular classes there was a special singing class of over forty members which met once each week and which began at once on the preparation of Easter music.

There being no book stores left in the city, several members of the College faculty in Shanghai were kept busy purchasing and sending teaching materials. Inexpensive books were either sold or loaned to the pupils. One hundred New Testaments were disposed of and even more were requested. Two large classes of illiterate girls ranging in age from twelve to seventeen years met five times each week but all other classes met three times. In addition to studying the Life of Jesus, the members of

the staff shared with their pupils some of the great passages of the Bible and the great hymns of the Church which had strengthened and comforted them during the days of strain and stress. During those six weeks it was not unusual to pass a little group of girls or women in a bamboo grove reciting the 23rd or 121st Psalm, or another group out in the flower garden memorizing the Beatitudes or the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians or the Lord's Prayer. As women and girls walked to the rice kitchen to secure their simple meal of rice gruel, you could often hear them humming "Rock of Ages" or "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross". About the same time that the classes began, two bath houses were also started, and the combination brought a new spirit and a new look to our refugees. They began to take a pride in their neat appearance once again, and we no longer felt that all but the dregs had evacuated from Nanking. The total enrollment of the project was probably one thousand and out of this number approximately six hundred attended classes regularly through the six weeks.

One of the most difficult problems faced was to find classrooms. The Arts Building which contains most of the college class rooms was still full of refugees and there was not one available classroom in the entire building. By redistributing refugees one classroom in the Science Building was cleared out; the end of the General Chemistry laboratory formed a second one; and the big stage in the chapel-auditorium made a third one. The two big studios were quite easily converted into excellent classrooms by the addition of chairs. Movable blackboards were placed in these improvised classrooms and the class work began.

Simultaneously with the beginning of classes, the afternoon meetings were moved to the big chapel and any woman over fifteen could attend without a ticket. Each afternoon at one thirty the college bell ringer made the rounds of the refugee buildings thus reminding them that it was time to get ready for the afternoon service. From one hundred fifty to almost four hundred attended these meetings throughout the six weeks. Again five pastors willingly helped us out by preparing a series of thirty talks centering on the Life and Teachings of Jesus. In arranging for the order of the afternoon services we could now make use of the Psalms, the Beatitudes and the hymns which the pupils were memorizing in their class work. On Sunday afternoons pastors from other churches in the city were invited to speak. These pastors without exception were challenged by the large audience and were greatly impressed with the joyous singing and the attention.

The afternoon services throughout Holy Week and the three services on Easter Sunday were the climax which followed the six weeks project, and for these special services a combination ticket was mimeographed which was punched upon entrance to the chapel. Almost six hundred attended each service with the exception of the last performance of the Easter Pageant on Easter Sunday evening when fully one thousand attended including a number of invited guests. An extra performance of the Pageant was given on the evening before Easter for the younger children and for all older women who had not been able to attend classes during the six weeks but who were definitely interested. Extra tickets were prepared for this service and about eight hundred attended. This service was especially prepared for the children and it opened with the children in the audience singing "This is Our Father's World", a song which many of our young refugees have memorized.

It was my privilege to preside at the Good Friday service for refugees. The pastor in a remarkable way held the attention of that large audience of six hundred women and girls for more than an hour as he related the story of the trial and the crucifixion of our Lord and its meaning for the World. Through their own innocent suffering these women were being led to understand the suffering of God for the sins of the World. I shall never forget that audience and the way they sang "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and "There is a Green Hill Far Away" both of which they had been taught in their morning classes during the previous week. There is no doubt that

the entire series of Holy Week services made a tremendous impression on those who attended which they will never forget and which we hope will draw many of them later into some church.

Easter morning dawned bright and beautiful, a fresh clean world after a recent rain. The early morning service at six thirty, although planned for the out of doors, was held in the big chapel simply because it was realized that it would be impossible to control the crowd. The large audience was there by six thirty. In their class work during the previous week they had learned one Easter hymn, and the special singing class had prepared two others, so triumphant Easter music was not lacking. The sixth grade class gave a simple play portraying the disciples on the Resurrection morn, and the dean of the project gave a very thoughtful talk on "Change". Two different groups of pupils recited appropriate Bible passages.

The president of the Nanking Theological Seminary who with his family has recently returned from more than four months of sojourn in a village to the northwest of Nanking, gave the message to the audience on Easter afternoon. Escape from the terror of aeroplanes by day and bandits by night, and the long trek back to the capital and past the dreaded sentry at the city gate had deepened his faith and made his religion a more living and sustaining force. This triumphant note shone in his face as he talked about China's need of the spirit of the suffering and risen Christ. He too marvelled at the attention of the large audience of women and girls and the joyousness of their singing. The large dignified chapel itself had been beautifully decorated for the day by the young flower gardener. There were great bouquets of white spirea and iris and graceful sprays of wisteria against the background of the black velvet curtain, while on the speaker's table there was a bowl of gorgeous tulips. It is not strange that many of the refugees have responded with appreciation to the fact that the College has shared with them the beauty of the college chapel.

By seven o'clock on Easter evening the audience of fully one thousand were present to listen to the junior and senior middle school refugees present the pageant "From Darkness to Dawn, portraying the thoughts and suffering and the actions of Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea from the time of the crucifixion to the resurrection of Jesus, their Master. The cast had practiced for many weeks under the patient and inspiring direction of their teacher, the dean of the project, and also a refugee. Some of our guests, who have often attended plays at Ginling, said that they could easily imagine it was a cast of college students and the audience a usual college audience. Another said "It is the one bright spot in Nanking." We are sure the meaning of the pageant reached many in the audience of a thousand, but if it did not, its influence on the members of the cast will never be lost.

The last day of the project came, clear and beautiful, marred only by the sickening sound of the heavy bombers as they went to the northwest on their mission of destruction, mutilation and death. By eight thirty in the morning almost six hundred women and girls assembled out in the main quadrangle in groups according to classes and a little later the long line was formed which marched into the chapel, each group being headed by its teacher. Then followed the long program when each class demonstrated what they had learned. Some classes sang hymns, others recited the 23rd or 121st Psalm, the Beatitudes or the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians. Representatives of the younger classes told stories while the illiterates demonstrated how well they had learned to read or recognize characters. The program closed with the giving of simple prizes to the one member in each class who in addition to having perfect attendance had also made the most progress. As they marched out of the chapel joyously singing "God Loved the World" those who had helped to make the project a success could well feel grateful. To the dean especially it had involved much hard work and planning.

The week that has followed has been called the spring vacation. During the time plans are being made for a new five-weeks project. In addition to the religious classes it is hoped that there will be classes in child and home hygiene, in child care and perhaps in poultry raising. For the older girls who ordinarily study in schools there will be classes in the study of Chinese and for a goodly number there will be singing classes.

Those who have had the privilege of planning and carrying through this simple project in sharing a part of the Christian message and inheritance have often marvelled at the strength which was given and the seeming ease with which the insurmountable became surmountable. The little prayer circle which has met faithfully each morning and which has now grown to a circle of sixteen, we know has been one great source of strength. But we have been conscious that beyond this tiny circle there has been a larger one that has reached to our personal friends and the friends of Ginling and China in the uttermost parts of the earth, and these friends we know too have been sustaining and strengthening us with their loving thoughts and intercession in our behalf. A confidence has come that there is a Spirit at work in the world far stronger than the force of the mighty bombing planes that far above our heads wend their way each morning to the northwest as members of our little circle meet together. That Spirit will in the end be triumphant.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit,
sayeth the Lord"

Mar 10, 1938

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING CHINA

Trek p190

GINLING-IN-SHANGHAI

Ginling College has now entered on a new phase of its work. We are almost an independent unit now. We have fourteen faculty here, representing various departments, and almost sixty students. We can't begin to offer all the necessary courses, so there is a cooperative scheme among the two resident universities, St. John's and the University of Shanghai, and the three refugee institutions, Ginling and the universities from Hangchow and Soochow.....Three of these colleges are situated very close to one another, but the other two are about eight and fifteen blocks away. Some Ginling students are taking classes in four institutions! This means a good deal of going back and forth. They could go quickly by ricksha, but a month's ricksha fare would mount up for students who are paying also for room and board. More serious are the complications in schedules. St. John's has morning classes only; The University of Shanghai has classes in the afternoon; and the other institutions must sandwich in courses. We have now both the first and second semester Freshmen and Sophmores, and similar divisions for Junior and Seniors. "Elastic" is the only word which adequately describes this system we are attempting.

Classes are in their third week and we are more or less settled down to routine. Teaching faculty have had to take over all the administrative work, for we have not had a single member of the administrative staff here. Last semester Miss Chester said she might call herself by the imposing title of Acting-President; Dean, Registrar and Treasurer. Now she is somewhat relieved, but it is a full-time job for this handful of students. There were classrooms to rent, a gymnasium to find, laboratory and library facilities to arrange for, furniture to collect etc. Now we are installed in a downtown office building, National Y.W.C.A., with three classrooms, a reading room, (we might call it a library if we had books) a tiny administrative office and a large office to accomodate all the teaching faculty, two at a desk, and we consider ourselves fortunate. Our Equipment Committee worked miracles, for the furniture appeared from various sources: teachers' desks, chairs, clothes rack, files, bookcases, students' seats, library tables, magazine stand, etc. We had to purchase janitor supplies, and that was about all. We may now have to invest in a screen to hide the janitor's implements, which are cluttering up one corner of the Reading Room - Mrs. New supplied the screen the next day! This may give you some idea of how a refugee college operates. The Physical Education classes are held in the Navy Y.M.C.A., a block away, and we consider it a stroke of good fortune to get for a rental within our means a well-equipped gymnasium. Last semester there were laboratories in only one or two courses, but now there are joint library and laboratories at St. John's. The courtesy of these Shanghai institutions will live long in our memories, and we wish we might contribute our share to this amazing project in education. Last week came two suitcases of books for the English Department from Ginling in Nanking, and I rejoiced. Now books have arrived for the History and Chemistry Departments, and I think others will be along. We are operating on the minimum basis, but are thankful to have so much more than we had dared anticipate.

There are things not yet solved. The students are clamoring for a supply of drinking water. The Reading Room needs a daily Chinese newspaper. The Seniors with theses to do, and their major advisors absent, are gradually getting some professor to undertake the supervision. Chapel has had to become a different service entirely; now it is a brief ten or fifteen minutes at noon, and since we are in an office building, we cannot sing. We were warned when we rented these rooms that we might very easily become a nuisance to the many offices around us, and there have been a few complaints already. Students are urged not to overcrowd elevators at busy times; they can ride up, but must walk down the four flights. Our Reading Room is so popular that it is badly over-

crowded. The noise in the Reading Room we have decided to let the students adjust, since we have no librarian on regular duty. And so it goes, but no one grumbles, and we are getting a good deal of fun out of the experiment, and getting to know one another well.

Students who are not with families are housed in a student hostel under the Y.W.C.A. near our classrooms.. There is a student restaurant where students can get noon lunches. Those who have recently come to Shanghai have exciting stories of travel in war time. This week one of our administrative faculty, Hsu Djao-biao, arrived after a five day trip by small boat along the canals. That part was't so bad; but she and her family, when not far from their starting-point, were set upon by bandits and lost everything: \$3,000 in cash, all their packed belongings, and even hats and coats. They made their way to a small city where friends helped them to get to Shanghai. Many had difficult boat trips, trying to avoid war areas. In most cases those separated from families have gotten in touch with them at last, and now feel much relieved. One of our faculty, Liu En-lan, last week received a letter in her brother's handwriting; she told us afterwards that she was afraid to open it for she had heard nothing from her family since early November. It turned out that everyone was safe and well.

We often think these days that what we are doing is not important. What does it matter if participles do dangle, or infinitives are split? But we have faith that education is one hope for the future. In this immediate time, it is good for us all to be occupied. There is so much practical work crying to be done - for refugees, wounded soldier health, rehabilitation, etc. Misery is so common, and we sometimes feel it would be a relief to be able to see tangible results of our efforts.

We have long ago come to the conclusion that modern warfare is ghastly. Where is the progress made in the last ten years in China? Where are the new schools, the fine attempts in rural reconstruction, the movement to end the opium traffic, the work in the Christian rural church, the New Life Movement, the peace and happiness of villages? We know that aggression under the guise of cultural benefits is intolerable. How far we have gone backwards in the East we can only guess, and I leave the years to determine.

Do all you can to get governments to stop supplying munitions and armament materials, to cut off credit to the aggressor, and you will accomplish something to end this growing tragedy.

Shanghai, March 9, 1938

The two new Chinese teachers, Ettie China and Alice Chang are fine:

Mrs. Now is an unfailing source of strength.... The screen I spoke of needing, is to come from her house this morning! That is the way it usually goes - speak of a need, and it is met. We are so glad that she is the Freshman Class Advisor. Some of our girls say, "I am so happy to ^{be} back once more at Ginling." And I think the others mean it though they may not put it into words.

March 10, 1938

Florence E. Kirk

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Trek p 192

Letter from President Yi-fang Wu
written in Chungking, March 12, 1938

Dr. Chen and I flew here suddenly in order to see the new Minister of Education who is here for a few days before he will fly back to Hankow, where the real business of government is done, while formally the government is here.

I have finally decided to go to Shanghai before the end of March, because it is possible now to get our air passage from here to Hongkong. There are three planes instead of two, in a week. Furthermore I find it hard to make definite plans for our Chengtu unit before I leave, so it is better for me to go early and then if necessary I may return in May and arrange for the fall session.

I am going back to Chengtu on Monday, March 14th, and have a thorough conference with Mr. Cressy, Executive Secretary, when he is there for a week.

Letter from President Yi-fang Wu
Written in Hong Kong, March 25th, 1938
Received in New York, April 4th, 1938

Between two appointments this afternoon I must send you a few words by tomorrow's Clipper mail.

I promised for a long time to start for Shanghai after the Chengtu unit got started. First I postponed it because I could not secure an air passage, then because Mr. Cressy was coming. When the new Minister of Education was in Chungking during the week of March 6th-12th, President Chen decided to fly down to see him and our group felt that I should go along, as the two institutions are so close. President Chen and I flew to Chungking on March 10th and I went back to Chengtu on March 14th. In the meanwhile I changed my plans for two reasons. 1. There was an additional plane a week to Hongkong from March 21st on, so I got a seat on March 23rd; 2. The plans for Ginling are so difficult to decide that I would not be able to settle things in West China for next fall, before I leave. So it seemed much better to take the trip soon, and come back in May if the College Board in Shanghai should decide to put up some buildings in Chengtu. I left Chengtu on March 21st, and Chungking on March 23rd, and shall sail for Shanghai tomorrow morning. I'll be staying with Mrs. New at 852 Zi Kar Wai Road.

At Chengtu, Dr. Chang Siao-sung was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee. When all the members of our Board of Directors that are in Shanghai, will meet to discuss College business, I shall propose to have a Committee formed in Chengtu, so that when necessary this Committee may represent the Board of Directors in Nanking decisions.

The joint letter to Chengtu, Shanghai and Catharine Sutherland in Wuchang was received before I left. Miss Priest will answer your questions on financial arrangements. I am very thankful that she is the treasurer for Ginling at this time, for she works out the arrangements so easily and ahead of time, and I have no worries. Mr. Chen Er-chong, the assistant, is with her, so he attends to the details. The other units get their money from Miss Priest and send in reports for Mr. Chen to enter in the books. We keep part of our funds in Shanghai and part in Chengtu. The main policy we follow is to keep just enough funds for current expenses, and hold the rest in American money as long as we can.

3/12/38

In spite of many uncertain factors, I have thought a great deal about the future of Ginling, and the Faculty group in Chengtu have talked together a couple of times. Rather tentatively, my own thinking runs along the following lines at present - we had better run a unit in Shanghai along more or less conventional lines, and in West China have short courses to train workers to meet immediate needs along several lines. The reasons that make me think we had better continue the Shanghai unit are:

1. Our largest student constituency has always been in the Lower Yangtze Valley.
2. It is near Nanking, so that when the day comes to return, we may have some students with whom to start. The reasons that led me to think we had better not give up entirely in West China are: 1. We had better play safe and have a foot hold in free China; not merely to keep in touch with people in the Government and from our Lower Yangtze, but also as a possible retreat in case Shanghai should become involved in some way. 2. A group of students and faculty are already there, and young people that still wish to go to college or a University are plentiful. But with our financial and personnel resources it is impossible to keep two good, strong units going at the same time. Further, we should look at the needs of the day and see if products of conventional, liberal education are the type needed. We should know that the economic resources of the people are diminishing, so that a four year college course for girls may not be possible. Hence the vague idea of the need for short courses, such as Physical Education teachers in primary and secondary schools for girls, social workers in the rural places, etc.

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GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

A letter written by Catharine Sutherland telling of the work Liu Yu-hsia, Ginling 1929, National Y.W.C.A. Secretary for Rural Work, is doing. Letter written in Hankow, China on March 17, 1938.

I had such an interesting talk yesterday with Liu Yu-hsia, Y.W.C.A. rural work secretary. She told me of the new project that has been opened up in Djao-Shih, a place not far from Hankow. She and several other secretaries came from Shanghai especially for the purpose of going into the country districts to try to make contacts with the people, to help them in their daily living, and to inform them about the present war situation, so that they might be able to distinguish the enemy from a "home town" man, etc. In one or two places they have found it difficult to make an opening, but this particular place, after some hesitation in the beginning, has welcomed them. Now the farmers and their families are afraid they will leave and beg them to stay.

There are two or three secretaries and about eighteen students - most of them college students who are refugees. Djao Shih is the center of a network of small villages. Two students go to each village, finding a place to live in some farmer's home, which is given free. The farmers, especially the women and children are given some instruction in character reading, singing etc. There are also discussions and informal lectures, as well as picture posters on which some of the current events are graphically portrayed. These are made by the students themselves, and posted every few days. Their time of meeting is usually at night, after the farmer's day is over. Soon after dusk the lights of lanterns from neighboring farmhouses can be seen flickering across the landscape, as groups from each house make their way to the courtyard where the girls stay. The average village has about fifteen homes, and about a hundred people gather each evening. Reading the character is apt to come first, then singing, mostly patriotic songs. They thoroughly delight in this singing and will spend any amount of time at it. This reminds me of a most interesting concert I attended last week, almost entirely of Chinese compositions, and sung all in Chinese by an enthusiastic group of about forty young Chinese men and women. Fully one half of the program was made up of recently composed war songs, and these are some of the titles: "Song of Resistance", "Blood Over the Yellow River", "Young Women's War Song", "Only Ruins to our Enemy", "March Back to Manchuria", "Arise, Citizens, Save Your Country from the Foe", and "The Ultimate Victory Will be Ours." One which particularly impressed me was "The Lamentations of the Evacuating Geese."

Informal discussions follow, usually about current events or home problems. Gradually the students inquire into the economic situation of the villagers, and hope in cooperation with some loan associations, to help in raising the standard of living. For instance, this one district produces many eggs, which are sold for a song locally. If a way can be found to get them to Hankow, a much better profit could be secured. The transportation is a problem, however, since the latest news of bus travel over that road is one turnover into a ditch, causing injuries to a number of passengers, including two of the Y.W.C.A. secretaries, and another car completely burned. But if a motor truck were paid at the rate of "so much per egg unbroken", it might secure a little slower motion and more careful driving!

Miss Liu said that most of their student workers went at least two days of their journey to Djao Shih on foot. That is becoming quite a customary form of travel these days. Refugees who have seldom done more than an hour or two of tramping at any one time, now walk miles and miles across country. We heard recently of one family, the mother a physician who had been trained abroad, who had travelled with a number of young children almost all the way from Hankow to Chungking. Another

Nanking family who have been cared for here as refugees, walked several days, two of the men carrying a little 78 year old grandmother most of the way. She arrived smiling and uncomplaining.

These student workers are paid \$10.00 CC (\$3.00 U.S.) a month, out of which they must pay for their food and other expenses, except room rent, which the farmers provide. Some of them have been accustomed to much better circumstances. They are now part of an increasing number of young people who are joining in the "united front" to do what they can for China, living in poor conditions, eating only simple food, meeting hardship in a spirit which makes them find life wonderfully real and worthwhile.

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts made by the Ginling unit in Shanghai of letters from Mrs. Tsen, matron of Ginling, and from Minnie Vautrin. Mailed from Shanghai April 2nd, 1938.

Mrs. Tsen, January 30, 1938

The first three weeks I was worried about Miss Vautrin. She looked tired out. In the last few weeks the situation is better than before and she can get a little rest each day. She looks much better. No one can take her place as yet for we are not out of danger. We still have more than 5,000 refugees. The Self Government Committee (Japanese puppet government - Ed.) had a meeting the other day and wants the refugees to go back to their own homes by February 4th. Of course the young girls don't want to go home as some of them have been home and find the soldiers come to their homes even in daytime. Some of the old women went to their homes and they had trouble too. We don't know what to do with them. I know all our friends are praying for us. Miss Vautrin has a new name. All the refugees call her "Living Buddha".

Miss Vautrin, February 11, 1938

We were all so glad to get the good food which you sent - whether gift or order. I thank you. Tomorrow afternoon I am having a tea party for the workers and incidentally celebrating the coming of a son to Francis Chen's wife. I shall bring out the oranges and chocolates as a surprise to them. The clippings and the copies from the New York Times article had much news for us. The newspaper men were able to go about during those days when we were being deluged with panic stricken refugees. If you get any more please share them. I am so glad that the book club has started and those two novels have come. Mary Twinem and I have started The Wind from the Mountain. Today is lovely as to weather; the kind that comes in early spring. Yesterday Wei Szi-fu and I walked west on Canton Road to see what conditions are in the homes out in that direction. The last time I was out in that direction was December 11 and I remember seeing one of the houses burning then. Most of the other houses are now deserted, even Hu Da-ma's was vacant with doors standing wide open. I met a few old folk on the road on their way to the safety zone. They told me they go to their homes by day but back to the safety zone by night. As to conditions they say the soldiers are coming to their homes less often, but they still demand money and "Hwa Guniang". In one home we found four old men, some of whom I knew. I did not ask them if the bundles of wood which they had for sale the next day were looted doors and windows from good homes for I did not want to have them tell a lie about it. Older people who are not going back to their homes are making a mistake for they will soon have no homes left, if they have been so fortunate as not to have had them burned before this time. In many places we saw discarded Chinese soldiers uniforms. We saw one steel helmet which Wei said cost 8.00 dollars - enough to feed a poor woman two months.

Dai Szi-fu just came down to tell me that there were some Japanese officials up in my office to see me. I found them to be two military police and one embassy police. They said they had come to find out if any Japanese soldiers had been bothering recently. I was glad to report that today there had been none, yesterday none, and the day before there had been one. He asked about the one that day, and I had to say that he tried to take off one of our young refugees but that I was able to send

him away without her. That incident was just west of Eva Spicer's living room.

Miss Vautrin, March 3, 1938

I have just come away from the afternoon meeting. We now hold them in the big chapel. Yesterday there were 250 present and today more than 300. Dr. Tang of the Episcopal church is speaking today. Every morning we have large Bible classes. If we had more teachers we could have more classes. The latest count of our refugees is 3,200. The plan is to close all camps but the B.T.T.S., University of Nanking, University of Nanking Middle School, and Ginling. Girls are still coming in from the country where they say conditions are still very bad - especially for young women.

Mrs. Tsen, March 12, 1938

Blanche Wu came back from the hospital about two weeks ago. At first she did not look well but has recovered now. Before she came back Mrs. Twinem was sick in bed. As soon as Blanche came back I sent her to the hospital. She is still there and getting on nicely. Her sickness was just the same as Miss Wu. A week ago the weather was very warm. Now heavy snow and cold again. Children die so suddenly. Three on one day.

Miss Vautrin, March 12, 1938

Spring is here this afternoon. Our young refugees are jumping rope and gathering greens to eat. It seems a shame to have to prohibit the latter but they are digging up flowers as well. We still have about 3,000 refugees. Thanks so much for the candy. Am having our workers tonight and will serve it.

I was extremely interested in your enrollment statistics but they seem small indeed compared to ours - the People's College. Have just made a summary of our classes which will all be started by next week. We have 22 sections or classes with an enrollment of about 1,000 (1,043). All the classes meet three times each week. In addition we have a daily afternoon service with an average attendance of about 300, and additional singing class once each week for our highest group. The classes are studying the life of Jesus and this will culminate at Easter time in a pageant given by our highest class. Its much fun, but Oh, how we want more teachers and more classrooms, and more good materials. This week we have converted our stage into a very nice classroom. Also the north end of the Chemistry Laboratory. The small library is the faculty living room in the Central Building - the room formerly occupied by our eleven old men refugees, who have now left. We shall begin a new project after Easter, but we do not know yet just what. Miss Wang Rui-chih, a seminary student, is dean of our project. How grateful I am that I persuaded her to stay. In spite of sorrow and loss there is an inner joy in our refugee family. Please give this report at your assembly - but warn them not to call it a school.

Miss Vautrin, March 21, 1938

About three days ago Wang Szi-fu turned up, looking thin and tanned. He and his wife went with Miss Grey to Wuhu and from there went into the hills. They have used up all they had and he is anxious for work.

The International Relief Committee has given us \$200 CC for relief and \$400 CC for a Ginling Loan Fund and these two sums are gradually dispersing. It is not easy to distribute cash wisely and it takes time. This fund when it is returned, will go into a Ginling Social Service work, and will be a permanent fund.

I am becoming rabid on the Ideology of war as a means of solving international problems. What a waste and what a wanton destruction and useless suffering - almost always falling on the poor.

Confidential

We hear there are about 1000 men (civilians) over in the Model Prison and it is for their release that we are preparing a petition. So many of the women are poor and with the loss of their husbands or sons have lost their only means of support. One woman lost four sons and a brother-in-law; another lost three sons, and any number have lost two sons. One can only hope that their husbands or sons are in the prison, and that a petition will bring their release. Personally I fear that many of them are among the hundreds and thousands that were so mercilessly killed during those early days, and whose decaying bodies have only recently been buried in trenches out in some secluded spot. What can these women do but become beggars, and what is there to beg for in a country side that has been laid waste?

I have just been outside my office to find there are probably two hundred women who are standing out there waiting their turn to come in and register.

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Report of Shanghai Unit. Written by Florence
Kirk, Shanghai, March 27, 1938. Received
in New York, April 25, 1938.

Your last two letters reached here Friday and Saturday; we hope that by this time your questions have been answered largely by Ruth Chester's informative letter of March 3rd. (Has not been received in New York - Ed. May 3.) It seemed that only she could write that letter with all the business details of the new semester's arrangements, and you can imagine how hectic her weeks were from the first of February to the first of March. She and Wang Ming-djen have done a marvelous piece of work, and the rest of us have been largely left free to attend to our teaching with an occasional committee meeting to remind us of the thousand and one details behind our smooth-working organization. We feel that we are Ginling College - and that something is being accomplished in this trying and tragic condition of China.

The most excitement in our own minds right now is concerning the possible arrival of Dr. Wu on the Conte Rosso tomorrow; we do not know for sure she is coming, but letters from Mr. Cressy point to the fact that she may. We aren't talking about it generally; just four of us know she is in the offing, but if we could produce her for tomorrow's assembly we would think that the best surprise possible. When she comes there will be all the news of the past months to catch up on, and then the future to consider. Where who will be and when are questions we would all like answered, and we hope Dr. Wu will know some of the answers. Ruth Chester has made five tentative bookings, or applications for them, for the Empress boat July 10 - there are five people due to go home, and this seemed a safe preliminary to see to until there were some plans.

Now for our list of faculty:

Chemistry Department: Ruth Chester, Mr. Sung, Hwang Dzun-mei.
Chinese: Miss Yen En-wen
English: Alice Chang, Florence Kirk
Geography: Lin En-lan
Physics and Math: Wang Ming-djen, Dr. Feng
Physical Education: Hwang Li-ming, Ettie Chin
Music: Hu Shih-tsang
History and Philosophy: Eva Spicer
Biology: Harriet Whitmer

That makes fourteen of us. I should not forget Mrs. New, who, though she does not teach any particular class, does teach us a great deal about the all-important subject of how to live. She is an inspiration to us all. She has not been too well, but seems better now.

Here is the college calendar for the semester

Feb. 17-19	Registration
Feb. 21	Classes
March 12	Holiday
March 29	Holiday
April 15-18	Easter Vacation
May 5	Holiday
June 19	Joint Baccalaureate (details not yet decided)
June 20-24	Examinations
June 25 ?	Commencement

Now some details about classes and that side of affairs here. The girls have been having some difficulties about making the trip between 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road and St. John's in the ten minutes allowed, but what adjustments can be made are made to simplify matters. For instance, two girls come to my course in the European Novel, the last period in the morning from St. John's; so we start the class five minutes after schedule and go on five minutes past twelve, dismissing just as it is time for chapel - and it seems to work very smoothly. The book problem has been more satisfactory than we could have thought possible. I am speaking for my own department in this, however. Minnie's shipment of new books has made my life much more simple; she has another shipment ready and that will further simplify our problems. I think she has not yet decided to unpack the books that are stored, but she is getting to us books from the new order and from our own bookshelves. Ruth's laboratory directions finally came, and saved her life, metaphorically speaking! The Reading Room is most popular, now we have arranged the tables so there is space to move around, got the Reserve Book shelves working, a system of signing cards and putting books back on the shelves by individual students and faculty that is working fairly well. We have told the girls they must be their own librarians, for there is a student librarian on duty only one hour a day. Miss Whitmer spends a good deal of time seeing about loose ends. The back numbers of magazines, and books not on reserve are stored in Mrs. New's office, and brought up on request. We have called in all the Ginling Library books; there is no way of knowing whether we have gotten most of them, but a good many have come in that were taken out before the last summer holidays. The student post office is the blackboard ledge in the Reading room; the blackboard serves well for signs and notices. A screen from Mrs. New hides the janitor's pails, mops, brooms, etc. Finally the girls' request for drinking water has met with action and Harriet and Mrs. New have arranged the details. When we first occupied these rooms, there was one complaint about our class bell, but our neighbors have become accustomed to us. The elevator might have caused trouble if our students came all at one time, but that works without any hitch. Our rooms are bright, very warm and comfortable, and our janitor seems to have mastered the art of cleaning, as well as acting as general errand boy, stencil maker etc.

Chapel comes at noon from Monday to Friday, 12:05-12:15. The attendance is steadily improving. We have to dispense with hymns, and many things that we used to think indispensable to chapel, so perhaps we ought to call this by quite a different name, such as Worship. So far faculty members and Mrs. New have been in charge, but I understand that students are going to participate.

Eva Spicer has been busy planning religious activities. It was found that we have only 13 Christian students out of our total enrolment of 53. Mr. Lautenschlager of Cheoloo is leading a student group about which someone else will write you the details later. The Seniors have had a Sunday Retreat which no doubt Lin En-lan will describe to you. There are eleven Faculty members in the Faculty Discussion group led by Mr. Lautenschlager. We meet on Friday from 12:30 to 2 in Mrs. New's room, have lunch together, and then settle down to discussion. How close we are in these troubled days! The two meetings have had full attendance; we have discussed the questions that students are asking to-day and how we can serve the students in their search for a way out. Now Eva Spicer is investigating the possibilities of an Alumnae study group.

Two of the non-Christian girls have said that they wanted to become Christian. We have two fine students doing religious work in a refugee camp on Sunday mornings, this camp is situated in a Buddhist Temple, and so there are complications.

We are anticipating a trip on Tuesday, March 29th, to refugee camps; Mrs. New has made all the arrangements for us, and I hear we are to see good and bad camps, industrial work, educational work, etc. After the trip we are Mrs. New's guests at the Y.W.C.A. for luncheon. Those sunshiny days make us think of hikes into the country which now seem so far from realization; today we went for a couple of hours to Hess-

field Park and were spiritually renewed by the daffodils, the glory of the magnolia, and the forsythia.

Some of the faculty are taking exercise in the form of badminton, in the only two free periods in the week in the gymnasium. Last Thursday there were five of us there. Ettie Chin very patiently initiates us, and we feel it is an excellent opportunity to learn a game I have liked for years.

Frequent word comes from Minnie Vautrin; Ruth Chester is arranging for someone to go through all the recent letters and make copies of the interesting parts. We are sending her a camera, two weeks' newspapers, and various items of a food order perhaps tomorrow. She writes very bravely, but we guess all the strain of these long long weeks. We know she and the others are getting wonderful returns for their faith and interest; it reads a little like the early Church in the enthusiasm for the great certainties. She tells us of the loveliness of the flowering shrubs on the campus; it all seems like a nightmare that we are not there too, busy with classes, and extra-curricular activities. Mrs. Tsen writes us often and gives us a little idea of what it means to attempt to give medical attention to more than three thousand women and children. Dr. Brady has recently vaccinated more than 13,000 people! The numbers stagger me. Mrs. Tsen ^{says} Minnie does not take care enough of herself, and we can see how true that would be in these times. Blanche Wu is back from the hospital, but Mrs. Twinom was there with bronchitis for a couple of weeks.

Two weeks ago the Juniors gave a Welcome Party to the Freshmen, their sister class, and to the faculty members who have direct connection with their class: Ruth Chester and Wang Ming-djen as schedule advisers, Mrs. Now as Freshman adviser, and me as Junior adviser. It was held at the president's home, Lee Gwoh-djen's, and was such a friendly hospitable affair, reminiscent of the good days at Nanking. Our Freshmen are adapting themselves encouragingly to a college in exile.

I forgot to say that Minnie Vautrin has now the campus organized as a Red Cross camp with many of our servants and business staff as officers on small salary. But before long we shall send you clippings. We are at a loss to know what information Minnie sends you direct; we know some goes to you, and have had no word from her about sending you anything. She writes of how eager the refugees are for training in spiritual things.

With all good wishes to all of the Ginling people, faculty, and ex-faculty, and friends of Ginling. We appreciate more than we can say their generosity in raising a fund which gives a raise in salary to us out here; we know it must have come about through a real sacrifice on their part, and we are grateful. Lin En-lan has had cheerful news from her family after weeks of anxiety.

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letter and Report from Miss Vautrin
Received in New York, May 2, 1938.

The Second Report

A review of the Period January 14 - March 31, 1938.

Confidential

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Please Do Not Publish nor Broadcast.

A. Conditions in the City and Countryside: The Self-Government Association which was inaugurated on January 1st in the shadow of the old Drum Tower and which witnessed the resurrection of the old five-colored flag to take its place beside that of Japan, has now been followed by the formation of a second government. It was scheduled for March 15, but was finally consummated on March 28. Tang Shao-I is reported to be the head of the new government, but he was not present at the inauguration. Just what the relation of the new government is to that which has been established in Peiping we are not certain. Some have said it is to supersede that government and be the future central government of China, others tell us that it is to be under the northern government, and still others say that the two governments are to be independent of each other. Dr. Macklin and Dr. Bowen would know the members of the new government far better than we do as many of them date back to the previous generation and are men who have not been active in the New China.

The International Safety Zone was formally abolished some time ago and the committee which controlled it has been changed into an international relief committee, the members of which keep exceedingly busy. It has taken on a large staff of Chinese workers which is busy distributing relief to the neediest families in the city. An effort is also being made by some of the members of the committee to encourage the farmers to go back to their farms and the gardeners to go back to their gardens and to get spring crops in and thus prevent a possible famine later on. Even the most uneducated country women have a favorable attitude toward it, and if a project is sponsored by this committee they at once have confidence in it. On Thursday, March 17, there was a very simple reception down at the headquarters when after some very sincere speeches, banners expressing appreciation were presented to the members of the committee. Rev. Hubert Sone has taken Mr. Rabi's place as the chairman of the committee. The former left Nanking about February 24th. All were genuinely sorry to have him leave for he had been a tower of strength during the trying months since November and he had greatly endeared himself to his co-workers both westerners and Chinese. The twenty-five refugee camps were gradually reduced to four, and in these remaining ones are mostly the young women who still feel that it is impossible to go back to their homes and also those who have been left without homes. Milk and cod liver oil is distributed in these camps regularly and an effort is being made to provide bedding for those who still come in having been robbed of every possession.

We no longer feel that we live in the "heart of a drum". As you remember, our first contact with the outside world was firmly established when three members of the staff returned to the American Embassy. Their coming made it possible for us to send radiograms to our families and to our organizations and also to send and receive letters by means of the gunboats. Soon followed the return of members of the British and German Embassies. At this time of writing, we are connected by train, bus and merchant boat with Shanghai and it is said that 600 Japanese civilians including women and children are now here. However no American, excepting Dr. Brady, has been permitted to come to Nanking to reside and to carry on business and missionary work, the reason given that it is not yet safe for them to do so. A very real and persistent effort has been made to secure permission for the return of doctors and nurses, but so far this effort has not been successful. Within the last few days

permission has been granted for the return of Mr. Gale from Wuhu. There is great need for the return of the regular evangelistic workers and for the heads of the various missions and it is hoped that by repeated requests permission will be granted. The post office was supposed to be formally opened on March 25th and within a few days after that time it begun to function. I understand that there are seven branch offices now open in various parts of the city. I received my first letter from America on Saturday March 26, it having left there on February 28. Newspapers have just started coming through by train - we have not had them regularly since November 12, if I remember correctly. On February 21, I had my first ride in a ricksha, which was in the fourth ricksha which I had seen on the streets since about December 12th. There are a few carriages left in the city but many were demolished. Trucks and cars are at a great premium, the Embassies and the International Refugee Committee possessing the only ones excepting those used for military purposes. Two days ago I saw one of our former buses, where all the others have disappeared we do not know. Mary Twinem still has hope that she will be able to secure the return of her little Austin, but I fear it is a vain hope. Recently some have seen a little Austin painted a khaki color and rather suspect that it may be her car.

Police service which has been at a minimum has been gradually increased but it is not yet sufficient or courageous to prevent much lawlessness in the city. Looting by the military still continues but in a different form some what. The poorer people are still being deprived of bedding, and money and even coppers being taken now, and houses of the former well-to-do people which were fairly safe in the Safety Zone are now being deprived of rugs and radios and furniture. We do not see the wholesale burning of houses which took place from about December 17th to January 17th - it was on that date that I saw the last fire. The most distressing thing that now exists is the continued looting by the "lao beh sing", the common people. With no law and order in the city the poor and the lawless felt perfectly free to go into any house and take from it anything they wished. Outside of the former Safety Zone, many houses have been robbed of everything, even including doors and windows and floors. Within the last few days I have seen very good doors and windows for sale and that means that the demolishing process is still going on. Naturally our Chinese friends are distressed about this but there is nothing they can do about it.

From the middle of January to the middle of February, Shanghai Road underwent an evolution. It developed rapidly into a busy mart and literally scores and scores of little make-shift shops were hastily constructed along both sides of it. There were not only shops which sold every kind of loot, but also tea houses and restaurants. I remember passing one called "The Happy People" tea house. The street became so busy and crowded that one had difficulty in getting through it when walking. Then the order came that these shops must be taken down at once or they would be torn down, and just as quickly as the street had flourished so it receded into its former state. This development extended down into our neighborhood too. How I wish that I had some pictures of that mushroom development for you to see. During these days and weeks of free looting we longed to go to the homes of friends and salvage some of their possessions for them, but alas we had no truck or car, even if we had had the time and strength.

During this period of lawlessness in the city our campus has been fairly peaceful. At no time have "the people" come to loot or steal. Our soldier guard left us on January 14 and never returned. For many days we were fearful lest something should happen, but nothing beyond our control did happen to us. Three times soldiers came on mischief bent but were persuaded to go on their way. My calendar shows that military callers ranking from high officials to soldiers numbered seventeen groups. Most of them came to see the campus and the camp. We usually show them one or two buildings occupied by refugees first and then end the visit by taking them to the Administration Library Building which now looks quite normal and is open for inspection. They are always pleased to see it and we are glad to show them a clean building.

February 4 was set as the date when all refugees must leave the Safety Zone and go back to their homes. This proclamation was issued by the local autonomous government and was posted quite widely in the city. It brought consternation to the hearts of the young women on our campus and during the week preceding the date I could not go out on the campus without being besieged by a large group asking if we were going to send them away at that time. Invariably we would answer that it was not our order and that our camp was open as long as their homes were unsafe for them. One day Mr. Mills called and his car was so surrounded by kneeling, weeping young women that he finally had to walk to his home and let his driver follow when he could extricate the car. Several weeks later this terrible fear and anxiety had not left the younger women, for when we gave a tea party for Mr. Rabi down at the Practice School, some of them heard about his presence and his plan to go home and they asked Mrs. Tsen to arrange for them to see him just before he got into his car. None of us expected what really did happen. Literally hundreds and hundreds surrounded him in front of the Science building and implored him not to leave the city but to remain on in charge of the International Committee. His assurance reached only a few ears and the crowd grew instead of decreasing. Mary Twinem took him out the back way and I tried to get the crowd of weeping women to go in another direction so that we could also extricate Dr. Rosen and Mr. Ritchie who were also guests at the same tea. It took more than an hour to bring conditions back to normal and in the meantime all three men had to walk to their homes and their cars followed later - much later. On February 4th no force was used to expell people from the Zone or the Camps and the day of tension and terror passed uneventfully.

China New Year came on Monday, January 31. Even the long weeks of terror and sadness did not prevent a certain amount of celebration and feasting. Some people were bold enough to use firecrackers in their celebration, although it had not been many weeks since the sound of a big firecracker would have made us start with fear and say "another civilian killed". In the afternoon Lao Shao, the old gardener, and I went out to look for some "lah mei", twelvth month plum. We wanted to go to the little farm house west of the Guling temple where we bought such lovely branches last year, but when we reached the street just east of the temple and saw that the hills and valleys beyond were a veritable "No Man's Land" we were not courageous enough to make the journey. We had passed five unburied bodies on our journey thus far and we knew that at the temple there would be many more. I also knew but did not tell Lao Shao that over in the little valley to the south of the temple beside two ponds were 143 bodies of civilians and unarmed soldiers - men who more than a month before had been cruelly burned and shot there. We came back home without the "lah mei" glad to get back into a crowd again. Few of us used freely the old greetings that are an innate part of the New Year celebration, somehow those happy carefree greetings would not come to our lips this year. The following evening Mrs. Tsen prepared a "big meal" for us out of the wonderful basket which our friends and co-workers had sent from Shanghai. How good it was to have pork once more and the other good dishes of food that accompanied it. I for one was glad to leave our steady diet of beans even for one meal.

On February 2nd I made my first visit into the southern part of the city. Mr. McCallum and Mr. Forster took me down to see the property of the Christian Mission first and then over to see the Episcopal compounds. The city was still lifeless save for the groups of soldiers that could be seen on many of the streets. Such terrible destruction had been meted out on our busy city! I cannot give the exact number, but of the best shops it seemed to me that almost 80% had been looted and then burned. More of the little shops were standing, but all had been looted clean of all goods. At our property, two of our school buildings had been burned and at the Episcopal compound the parish house had been destroyed. We passed a group of army trucks hauling loot, evidently from the northern part of the city for there was nothing left to loot in the section through which we passed. Just two days ago when I was again down in that section it looked very different. Life had returned to it and the older members of the community had returned and some of them were rebuilding little shops out of the remains of the big stores. The development that had taken place on Shanghai Road in

January and February had been transferred to the "Street of Sorrows", excepting that not so many temporary shops had been built - the display was on tables and on the sides of the street. Patiently people are beginning to rebuild. Loot is still being bought and sold - it is the only way that people have of making a living for nothing is being created in the city as far as I know.

Conditions in the surrounding country are not as peaceful as in the city. Beginning late in January women began to steal their way in from the country villages, disguised in every possible way. To get past the soldier guard at the city gates was the dreaded ordeal. Older women came in first, having heard of the refugee camps, they came in first to find out if they were really existing. They begged us to accept their daughters and daughter-in-laws if they could get them into the city saying that for weeks and weeks they had been hiding them in carefully concealed holes in the ground or between double walls in their homes, but even in these places they were not always safe. During the past two weeks we have received more than five hundred into our camp from the country places and the University has received an equal number. In addition to the scourge of soldiers there has been the scourge of bandits and often when people try to come in they are robbed of everything they possess - money first, then bedding and even part of their clothing. Some of our Chinese friends who evacuated to the country places last autumn are now returning. The men come first to make sure that they can get in, they register with the local government, and they go back to bring in their families. During the last two weeks, Mr. Handel Lee, Mr. Shao Dehsing and others have come. Just yesterday Wang Bao-ling's brother came from Sanho south of Luchowfu. They all look as if the past months have been months of strain and deep anxiety for themselves, and we realize that most of it has been worry for the women folk in their families.

B. Conditions in the Ginling College Refugee Camp. Our camp was one of the four selected to continue its existence by the Nanking International Relief Committee. According to the recommendation of the Committee we have organized into four departments or sections, namely, business, supervision, education and health. Having been granted a small allowance by the Committee for two assistants, and four servants for each one thousand refugees, we have felt justified in taking on extra staff. These have been mostly from our "invited" refugees such as Miss Rachel Wang, Mr. Wang and Mr. Djao, personal teachers of Chinese of members of the regular faculty, Mr. Chen, the assistant registrar and a Mr. Swen who is a neighbor who has been living down in East court. A new office has been started in the former guest room in the Arts Building and it is a busy place from morning to night. Mrs. Tsen has also invited three refugee women to assist her in distributing milk and cod liver oil. Keeping statistics up-to-date in a shifting refugee camp is no light task. During the first week in February we had a formal registration of all our refugees when the head of each family group was given a white cloth tag bearing her name and the number in her family group. These tags were sewed on by our workers with a special color of thread so that they could not be transferred to others when they wished to leave. According to that registration we numbered 3,200. By the middle of March our new staff felt that it was necessary to re-register all, and they prepared a lavender cloth tag which has been given to each member of the refugee group excepting babes in arms. According to this registration our number is now 3,310. Mr. Chen who is head of the business department is now with his staff working on the very difficult problem of the free rice group. Naturally many people want free rice who can afford to pay for it, and so to separate this group from those who have absolutely nothing with which to pay is a most difficult task. The free rice group were the first given red tags; a month later they were rechecked and given yellow tags, and now a third system is being worked out and will be put into operation this coming week. If people were always sincere our work would be infinitely lighter and incidentally our dispositions would be better.

After our refugees had been with us about three months we decided that we simply must work out some system whereby we could have baths. We had been playing with the idea before but were not able to get coal. We made our plan and presented it to the International Refugee Committee and they agreed to furnish us with coal and the funds for one fireman and two women to look after each house. For two weeks now, under Mrs. Tsen's supervision we have been operating two bath houses where 168 women and children can take baths each day. The price is four coppers for adults, two for babies and children, and nothing for those who are too poor to afford even this small amount. In addition to the joy this privilege gives to the women, it also gives a livelihood to five persons.

Our camp has also been granted a fund for cash relief and another to loan to individuals. Women who are very poor, whose homes have been burned and whose husbands have been taken are given a sum in cash when they are ready to go back to their homes. This helps them to start again and has been deeply appreciated by all who have received it. The loan fund has given loans to a number of women whose husbands are in other parts of China and are earning a salary. A good many women of this type have been left stranded in Nanking and as yet have had no means of getting funds from their husbands.

Mrs. Tsen who is head of the Health Department of our Camp has carried on very successfully the distribution of milk and cod liver oil for babies and children. Children who are undernourished are given this extra food each day, the three women who have been taken on as assistants in this department distribute the milk and also attend to the mixing of it. Both of these foods are furnished us by the International Relief Committee. Mrs. Twinem and Mrs. Tsen have also been responsible for the distribution in the other refugee camps and have spent many mornings visiting these other camps and getting the distribution organized. Under our health department we also have had three vaccination clinics when almost two thousand were vaccinated by Dr. Brady of the Christian Hospital Staff. During these long weeks of simple living we have had more than 30 deaths and 40 births on our campus. The disposal of the night soil is still one of our major problems, but we are gradually getting the problem solved. Fortunately we have a large campus so that we have room for the huge trenches which we have dug for this purpose. Dai, the regular college bell ringer, sounds a gong about eight in the morning and again at five in the afternoon and this is the time for the women to empty the buckets and clean them.

C. A Project in Religious Education:- For the six weeks from January 17 to February 26 we limited our religious work to two meetings a day, one for adults and one for the children. As I reported in my previous letter, five pastors from the American Church Mission very generously and faithfully came each afternoon during the week, excepting Saturday, and spoke. In addition the women learned some simple songs. On February 27 we started another project, this time in the Life of Christ, which is to culminate in an early service on Easter morning and in a pageant that afternoon or evening, also in special services being held throughout Holy Week. Miss Rachel Wang is dean of our Educational Department and as such she has organized 23 classes according to educational ability, all of them studying the Life of Christ in one form or another. You will be interested in the classes so I will give you the details:-

- 2 classes or sections of Junior-Senior Middle School ability.
 - 2 classes or sections of 6th grade elementary school ability
 - 2 classes or sections of 5th grade elementary school ability
 - 4 classes or sections of 3rd and 4th grade elementary school ability.
 - 6 sections of those who have studied in private school a few years.
- These are divided according to age, some are children, some adults.
- 3 sections of adults who have never studied. They are being taught a Gospel Primer.
 - 2 sections of illiterates from 18-19 years of age.
 - 2 sections of illiterates from 12-17 years of age.

These last two sections meet five times each week and are taught by Mr. Wang and Mr. Djao. Our enrollment is something over a thousand and our attendance each week is perhaps between seven and eight hundred. The older women try to attend regularly but if a baby is ill they have to miss and often they have to go back to their homes during the day or on some other errand. All the classes but the two I mentioned meet three times each week. In addition to lessons in the Life of Christ all are learning certain selected Psalms and hymns and other passages from the Bible. Miss Wang has selected the 23rd Psalm, the 121st, the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer. How they love to sing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "Jesus Lover of My Soul". Just now they are learning Easter hymns, the one for this week being "The Day of Resurrection". The teachers have wanted to share with their students those hymns and scripture passages that have been of greatest comfort to them during these days of suffering. All of our teachers, excepting Miss Hsueh, the day school teacher and myself, are refugees, some of them were invited to come, to be sure, and yet they know what it means to be refugees. Our afternoon preaching service continues but now it is held in the big chapel. The attendance varies from 150 to almost 400 and is usually largest on Sundays. The topics for these meetings have been carefully selected by the five men who come to us from the Episcopal Church. You should hear a group of 300 refugee women sing. We take turns in leading the singing and in other duties, so that the work does not fall too heavily on any one person.

One of the difficulties connected with our class work was our lack of class rooms for as you may realize, every room in the Arts Building where our classrooms are, is occupied by refugees. We have converted the North Studio into a very good classroom, the Grecian statues in that room which were stored there by Central University when they moved last fall, being gracefully draped with a big curtain. The stage of the big auditorium is also used as a classroom and makes a very good one indeed with space for more than forty chairs. Another class meets in the Chemistry laboratory which we never used for refugees, and many classes meet in the science lecture hall. After Easter we shall have a week's holiday and then begin work again. At that time we shall hope to add different types of classes such as poultry raising; personal, home and community hygiene; child training. We shall also try to teach some industrial work but that will need more of a staff than we have available now. Yesterday several of us went on an expedition to the South city to see if we could find some looms and stocking knitting machines. To our disappointment we found that they had all been looted. But where there is a will there is a way.

D. Another Project: Early in January we became conscious that many of our refugee women - especially wives and mothers were in deep distress because their husbands or sons who had been taken soon after the entry on December 13, had not returned. Many of these women were left with little children and often one or two old people and they had literally no means of support - nothing they could do but beg and even that is impossible now in a community so poor as ours. Again and again they would come to us asking if there was anything that could be done to secure the return of these men, all of them civilians as far as we were able to ascertain. We finally went to the Japanese Embassy and talked it over with one of the more thoughtful officials there and he suggested that we furnish him with the facts and he would see if he could do anything with the military about it. From January 24 to February 8 we were able to secure 738 civilian records. These we handed in not only to the official with whom we had the first talk, but also to a higher official who had come up from Shanghai. As far as we know, nothing has happened for we have not heard of any men returning. In the meantime rumors began to reach us that there was a large group of civilian men imprisoned in the Model Prison over near the Central University. A trip over in that direction confirmed the rumor. The exact number of men we could not determine but we learned that men were there and in a pitiful condition. Soon the older women began to come to our campus saying they had gone to the front of the prison and had seen the men being taken out to work each morning in trucks. A number of the women have told us that they have actually seen their husbands and some of

them have been permitted to talk to them. Again the pleas began to come to aid them in securing the release of these men. Chinese men in local government administration suggested that we have our women prepare a petition to be handed in not only to the head of the local government but also to the Japanese military. From March 18th to 22nd, 1245 women came in to sign this petition - most of them were very poor women and could only make a finger print underneath the name which was written in their behalf. Such a pitiful group of women I have never seen before. Most of them were poor, farmers, gardeners, coolies, little merchants; and most of them had had their only means of support taken from them. One woman had lost four of her sons; another had had five members of her family taken; another had lost three sons. There were a goodly number of young women who had been left with three or four little children and they could not possibly make a living for the children. It seems that the petition has borne some fruit for now the women are asked to make another giving more data with regard to the time the men were taken, their occupations, etc. Tonight Mr. Wang is making the announcement in the dormitories and tomorrow six people will begin work on this new petition. It will take from three to five days to complete it as the women will come from miles out in the country. Such news spreads like wild-fire and the poor women come trudging in even if there is but a very faint hope. One of the greatest problems facing the people interested in rehabilitation work for this district is that of the women who have been left with no support and whose husbands will never return. I long for Ginling to help in the solution of this problem perhaps more than anything else.

E. Ginling Losses: Since the last report sent to you we have had time to secure facts with regard to the college and faculty losses. The loss to the college property from the looting of Chinese soldiers was nil; from the looting of Japanese soldiers not exceeding \$300.00. About fourteen faculty and two servants lost a certain amount from the looting of the Japanese soldiers and this we estimate at about \$1,200.00. By far the greatest loss has come from the use of the academic buildings as a refugee camp, for the housing of 10,000 women and children even for a short time means much wear and tear on woodwork and floors. The best estimate that we have been able to secure sets the loss at about seven or eight thousand dollars, and it will probably be higher than that if our refugees continue with us through the coming months. I feel sure that somehow we can raise the money needed to put the buildings back in good repair, but even if we cannot raise the funds it is better for us to face the future with marred and soiled walls than not to have done this humanitarian service for the women and children who have come to us. We could not have closed our doors against them.

This letter is brought to a close with greetings to you from the members of the staff. You must not feel sorry for us thinking that we lack for food or social life. We can get the kind of foods now that we need to keep us well. Some of us have even been to two feasts during the past months, one at the Japanese Embassy, and another at the Hwei Wen Girl's School. Tomorrow, Mrs. Tsen, Mrs. Twinam, Blanche Wu and myself are giving a simple Chinese meal to a group of friends whom we are inviting to the South Hill Faculty Residence. This afternoon we went up and folded up the garment scattered in the living-room since the looting we had never taken the time to do that. The big dining room we shall not disturb, but keep it for the enjoyment and amusement of our friends. Conditions in the city are such that more and more we are able to leave the campus and not feel that our three thousand three hundred will be in danger when we are away. This past week I have had my bicycle brought down from the attic and oiled and I have ridden it when going on an errand down to the South Gate. Mary and I are planning to ride out to the National Park very soon for the thought of the blossoms there is enticing us and it is difficult to resist. We have had some illness among our staff members but all are well now. Blanche Wu was ill with a very severe case of bronchitis and was in the hospital for three weeks. The day she returned Mary Twinam went over with the same malady and was also there for three weeks. Mrs.

- 8 -

Tsen has had several very severe colds and has been confined to her bed for a number of days at a time. I have had a few days off but otherwise have been feeling very well.

Puh, the shrub man is busy with his work and the campus is beginning to look neat and clean once more. The Practice School campus is at its loveliest now and is a constant delight to those of us who live here. The little children who live at East Court and Mrs. Tsen's grand children are having great fun tending to the student flower garden at the Practice School. Every day they spend many hours there watering the flowers. Life would be so lovely if this terrible war and destruction would cease, and if families could be re-united and the nation go forward on its plan of reconstruction which has been so bravely started. The scores of heavy bombers which fly over us to the northwest each morning make us realize that the end is not yet and that destruction and terror and suffering continue.

Not many letters have come through from friends but those that have come have been deeply appreciated. If when you write you prefer to send my mail to our Shanghai office at Room 512 A, 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, I will receive it in good time. I fear that this general report must be accepted in lieu of more personal letters.

It is now almost noon. At one o'clock, Mrs. Tsen, Mary Twinem, Blanche Wu and I are having our Chinese dinner party up at the South Hill Residence. We have just prepared some great bouquets of daffodils for the living room. We are having all of the foreigners from 3 Ping Tsang Hsiang, Dr. Rosen from the German Embassy and two men from the American Embassy. It is our first real dinner party.