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GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

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

GINLING
(Staff Reports)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Letter from Miss Vautrin to Miss Whitmer
of the Ginling Group in Shanghai - May 10, 1938

(A typical letter from Nanking to Shanghai!)

There are scores of things that I would like to talk over with you this morning but I doubtless will forget to mention the most important ones in my haste to get the letter off. Perhaps it will be better to take them up item by item as one would in a regular business letter although some of the items will not be very serious business. We are off-

Your return to Nanking: If you are not needed by over-worked folk in Shanghai, and if you can get the necessary pass, do come along as soon as you can. We have plenty here for you to do and you would love the absolutely glorious weather that we are having. I am sure too that you would refresh our souls. Am enclosing the copies of two letters that I have just written to you to the Japanese authorities - one to a military office and the other to the civil. It remains to be seen if either will be of any avail. I have in mind another that I will write if these do not bring forth an answer soon. It was true that I suggested your coming long ago, and then when Mr. Mills felt that it was wiser not to put anything in the way of the evangelistic workers coming back I did nothing further about your coming. I hope now that you will push ahead and do all you can from your end to come up - that is, if Ruth does not need you in the office there. I feel that her claim should be the first one on your time and strength for I imagine that she is just at about the end of her strength.

Mosquito netting: I will reiterate what I have written in a previous letter, that I do nothing further about purchasing it. It seems that Lewis Smythe has been able to find the quality of thread from which he can weave a good net, something like the sample I sent to you, and therefore we prefer to get more, if needed, here in Nanking. The cloth that you sent for nets, we felt was rather heavy so Mr. Tsen is having it dyed by the laundryman and is having it made up into trousers for men and children out of the clothes for wounded soldiers which were left here in Nanking. Mrs. Tsen has the sewing work well organized and is doing a very helpful piece of work along that line.

Poisons: Mrs. Tsen will use the bedbug poison very soon now and I will give her all the detailed and careful instructions you gave to me. The others have been turned over to Lao Shao. Please send a carefully itemized bill for these chemicals as some are for his family use and some are for our faculty garden and we must divide accounts. You will be interested to know that Lao Shao is now in the University Hospital having gone there last week for an operation on his leg. I saw him on Sunday and he is much better now. His son who evacuated to the country north of Kofei has returned with his wife and the old father is very happy to have his only son back safely. He was sorry many times that he let him go. When we asked him last November what to do, I said that if he were my son I would keep him here, but that he and the son would have to decide. They decided in favor of going. I guess this does not come under the topic of poison but I will leave it there hoping that you will see there is a distant connection.

Order for Rachel Wang: Will either Joy Smith or yourself get the following for Rachel and either bring or have it sent to Nanking at the first opportunity?

12 yards of the natural colored raw silk, not the cotton mixture, the kind that ordinarily sells for 40 or 50 cents per yard. She wishes to use it for pajamas. She would also like for you to get three packages of the fast color bias tape in the following colors, -medium green, rose or pink and light blue. Also purchase for her two copies of the book called "Jesus" written by a group of missionaries in West China. It really is selections from the New Testament and the one she wishes gives both the English and Chinese.

Check from Mrs. Thurston: By the next boat I will send a check of \$25.00 gold from Mrs. Thurston which she says she would like to have used to make Christmas for the Ginling family. "I want the servants to have some word of greeting and some Christmas gift." The letter and check came on May 5, but still I think that it would be well to spend at least a part of it for the servants. I would suggest that you go to some store where you can get soap in boxes and that for each servant you purchase a box say, containing two cakes of Lifebuoy and one cake of that nicer soap called Boracic, I believe. I used to get it at Whiteaways. You would have to purchase about 30 boxes to have it go the rounds. You could give one box to Wang in Shanghai. I rather think it would be nice too, to give a New Testament to each of them. She mentions Han Sao-ds who is no longer here, but the gift could be kept for her. I am sure that she would also want something of the check given to Miss Lo whom she has been helping through the years. You could send the rest of the money up here and then we could distribute it as it seemed best. Our cook is in Wuhu now, but I am sure that I could get something to him. It would not hurt to give Wang a gift of money out of it as she was fond of him and he of her. If you want to put in some gifts for children I would give them to the children of the servants and it would bring happiness. You use your judgment about it. She would also want to have gifts for the others here such as Mrs. Tsen, Blanche, Mr. Chen, Mr. Li and Mr. Hsia.

Will you please cooperate with Eva and Florence in getting my various accounts straight. I will, on a separate sheet, give some suggestions and may decide to send that all down by boat including check for same.

Clothes for Minnie. Poor Minnie, is almost like the Wonderful One Horse Shay. Six years means that her wardrobe which might once have been in medium style and sufficiency is no longer so. During the last six months I have not as much as thought of clothes seriously. Fortunately I had several garments made in Shanghai about two years ago which keeps me from looking too bad. If that "light colored dress" which you think would fit me is still available please send it along. And please ask Florence if she is keeping my copies of "Vogue" down there? If she is make her thoroughly ashamed of herself. Several times I have threatened to^{go} over the American Embassy to see if I could see some kind of styles in the Sunday edition of the New York Times which they take there. They say that Mei Hwa is back from the north country so that I can have something made if I can find the time to plan it. I do not need sweaters for I have several that can still be used. I do need some more hair nets - dark brown and single mesh. Florence is looking for some for me. I can't understand why they are so difficult to get unless it is that I am the last female wearing them.

Harriet's shrubs: The deodar has grown beautifully and the maples and the pines near the two new academic buildings. Some of the mimosa grew. The refugees have broken off most of the cherries and crab apples that we planted and we had to cut them low. Some of them may grow again. You must do the south hill around the faculty houses.

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from Letters from President Yi-fang Wu

Hankow, May 10, 1938 - Just before I left Shanghai I received a letter from Madame's Chiang's secretary, inviting me to attend a conference of women workers on May 20th. As I had booked passage to fly to Chengtu on May 10th, I did not think I could go to this conference. I flew here from Hongkong on May 8th and saw Madame Chiang yesterday afternoon. I have now learned that she is calling about 50 women for a 4-day conference to observe how to promote women's work along various lines during this time, under the auspices of the New Life Movement; and she hopes that after this conference a training institute will be organized during July and August to train leaders to go into the interior. She had expected me to give her help, both now in the preparation and during the conference. It was so difficult to decline from such work. So, after my conference with her, I had to promise to stay for this conference from May 20-24, and it means I can't go back to Chengtu until May 28th. I am trying to attend to some urgent business through letters and leave the others to the Faculty and the Board Committee in Chengtu to decide. I have come to realize more keenly that I either have to stop attending to outside activities or to secure a very strong dean for Ginling, otherwise the College is to suffer much from my inefficiency in administration.

When I reached the air drone at 12:30 on Sunday, Anna Moffet gave me the word that our Alumnae were having a meeting that afternoon to welcome me. I was weary and famished (for I had had no breakfast) but of course I wanted to be with ~~25~~ of our graduates. So I spent three hours with 25 of our alumnae at Djou Yu-Yin's school telling them the activities of Shanghai alumnae, Miss Vautrin's work in Nanking, and our plans for the College next year.

This morning I went to the Ministry of Education and saw the two vice-ministers. While the minister was not there, they both supported our decision to concentrate in one place and showed interest in our plan of modifying the curriculum. I am ashamed of myself for being so slow in getting the plan into concrete form so that I could send you a copy. The main purpose is to get freshman to know life and life's actual needs through study of a rural community and then the faculty will guide them to see how the various subjects are related and how to solve problems in meeting these needs.

Through Mrs. New Ginling requested \$3,000 to help Miss Vautrin start her industrial classes for the widows, and it was already granted (\$3,000 in Chinese currency), by the Executive Board of the Chinese Women's Club in Shanghai.

Hankow, May 27, 1938 - Much has happened since I wrote last. The most important thing is the informal women's conference called by Madame Chiang, to discuss women's work during this time. Over 50 delegates came--the farthest from Kweiyang in Kweichow, and Kweiling in Kwangsi. Also Foochow, Miss Lucy Wang of Hua Nan and her sister took the difficult journey from Foochow. There were also delegates from Hongkong, Canton, Nanchang, Changsha, Chengtu, Chungking, and a large group from Kankow.

The main purpose of the conference was to get the women leaders to know each other and to know about the work that has been done in various places; to draw up a general plan for the mobilization of women to take part in helping the resistance and in reconstruction work. The Women's Committee of the New Life Movement was recognized as the National Central Body to correlate the various

existing women's organizations in taking part in this program. Madame Chiang attended all of the sessions, and was wonderful in giving her leadership, around which the women rallied, in the tasks that women are eager to take up for our national cause.

I was asked to relieve her from the strain of presiding, so I had the first experience of working closely with her throughout the conference. I am deeply impressed with her ability, as well as her desire to do her utmost for the country. There was no doubt that all the women were inspired and ready to support her in any program for getting the women throughout the country to do more to help the war resistance. Enclosed I am sending you a picture of the Ginling group who attended. The youngest girl on my left is Miss Chang su-e, who studied only a year in Ginling, and then had 2 years in England before she returned last fall. Her father is the governor of Hunan, and Miss Chang is doing a great deal in training women workers, who will be sent to the country places. Phoebe Ho, Ginling 1920, and Liu Y-hsia, Ginling 1929, were invited, because of their experience in rural work, and Deng Yu-dji, Ginling 1926, you know because of being industrial secretary of the Y.W.C.A. for so many years. Dr. Djang Siao-mei, Ginling 1926, was asked because of her understanding of economic problems. She is no longer connected with the Bank of China, but is editing an economic journal in Chinese, and helping informally in some government bureaus.

On definite piece of work the women decided to do was to assist the government in starting small scale factories in order to increase production and also to give livelihood to refugeeswomen.

Another thing I wish to speak about is the change of emphasis in our curriculum, which the faculty in Shanghai decided upon. As I wrote you before, we aim at starting the freshman to face the needs and actual conditions of life, in order that they may relate their studies to the solving of problems of living. We also definitely decided to establish a rural service station, which can be used as a laboratory. At the conference, it became clear that there is a great need for women who have been trained to do rural work, and who have the interest in country women, and the spirit of service. Besides the few of our own graduates who have actually worked in the villages, such as Phoebe Ho, Liu Y-hsia, Tsu-Yu-dji, and Wu Suen-i, there are mighty few women who have had such actual experience. Tsu Yu-dji was also invited to the conference, but was kept from coming because of urgent duties at the Y.W.C.A. in Changsha.

It seems then that our plan made in Shanghai is really meeting a great need at this time. I have invited Miss Phoebe Ho and Wu Suen-i to come to Chengtu to help start this rural service station. I have just had a talk with Miss Wu, who made very valuable suggestions. We have decided to have her go to Nanchang and Kweiling, to see the various types of work that are being carried on for women. And, as soon as I get back to Chengtu, I will get in touch with the provincial government, so that we shall not be working isolated as a small group by ourselves, but with the approval and cooperation of the local government. I also hope to get cooperation with the University of Nanking Agricultural College to get their help along technical lines. Any worker who has tried to help the country women has found out that the first thing to be done is to help improve their conditions of livelihood - in other words, to earn more money for the family. Therefore, technical advice as to how to improve the crops, and how to help the women earn additional income through handicraft or subsidiary farming such as poultry raising, pig raising, silk culture, etc. is of value.

All this will show that we have a large field of service, and we need to concentrate in planning and starting our station on sound lines. Personally I hope to secure some subsidy from Szechuan. Yet even should we get some, it may not be enough for us to carry on a good program of work.

Will you please keep this in mind, to see if you may find some potential giver or some organizations that may be interested in supporting this type of work.

[17]

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Plans for 1938-1939 written in a letter from Shanghai on May 11, 1938

Dr. Wu came from Szechuan and stayed for a few weeks. Now she has gone back again. After many discussions, it was decided that college is going to move to Szechuan, since Shanghai is not the place to train for the kind of students we wish to have. Probably, we shall leave sometime in July. We shall carry a different kind of program to train for students for rural and other service to meet our special needs. The students would be all working as one group for the first two years and then get into their special field for the last two years. Instead of dividing into departments, the students would work under five different fields, such as Physical needs, Economic needs, Social needs and Moral needs. The students would go to the more practical side first. They have to do surveying at the beginning to find out the needs themselves before the years of studying begin. I do hope that we shall succeed in making an ideal and practical program for our new Ginling.

Before Dr. Wu left, we have talked over several times about our Physical Education staff members. Since everything was so unsettled, nothing could be decided. Just a few minutes ago, I have written to Dr. Wu recommending a staff of four - Tsui Ya-lan, Ettie Chin, Smith 1936, Lo Hwei-lin and myself. Miss Tsui and I shall teach mostly theory. Ettie is strong in sport and Hwei-lin in dancing and gym. In that case we might be able to keep up shortly under difficult financial conditions, any kind of a P. E. Program.

Every one of us is well, except En-lan who is having dysentery and is staying in the Lester Hospital. Her case is not very serious. I am thrilled about our new program. The more I see the P.E. training in Shanghai, the more I feel the need of continuing our special course. I am sending you a copy of the outline of the proposed program.

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Proposed Program of Study for Ginling College during the present crisis in China

Purpose of this special course.

1. Training of students for rural and other service including
 - a. Knowledge of sciences, social sciences etc. needed for such work.
 - b. Knowledge of the rural community and its needs.
 - c. Training in methods of work with rural people.
 - d. Training in methods of research and independent study.
 - e. Character training for sacrificial service.
2. Conducting of research into needs of rural communities and ways of meeting those needs.
3. Direct and immediate help to the community in which we work.

Organization of the curriculum. Breaking away from old organization around departments and organizing our work instead around certain basic human needs;

1. Physical needs, such as food, shelter, clothing, health. This would chiefly concern biology, chemistry, physics, household economics, hygiene, and P. E. departments.
2. Economic needs such as sufficient income to provide adequately for physical needs and leave some margin for other needs, security for the future correlation of economic life of the community with that of nation etc. Social sciences, sciences and perhaps others.
3. Social needs such as recreation, wholesome community and family life, good government in which they have some share. Sociology, P.E., music, art and literature, history and government etc.
4. Intellectual needs. All departments would contribute here for content and for methods the education department and for materials the Chinese and English departments.
5. Moral and religious needs. Psychology, religion, philosophy, education.

Probably almost every department has something to contribute to each of these fields, those I have suggested being some of the more obvious ones.

The committee felt it would be best to concentrate on working out the freshman program first and later make such adaptations as we can for upper classmen who desire it. The following plan for freshman work is therefore given in more detail.

First year. The object of the freshman year would be to give each student some insight into all these five fields of human need and some practical work in each, together with a little elementary work in the knowledge and principles involved. Two months might be spent on each field, concentrating nearly the whole time on the one field, studying the actual conditions and needs of the rural community, the practical work needed to meet those needs in both the rural and college community, the ideals we should aim for etc. Along with these brief studies in different fields should go a course to which different departments would contribute, to give them methods of work and standards. For example, methods of obtaining and using data, statistical methods and scientific reasoning would be one unit. A survey of the historical

development of these needs and ways of meeting them, and of the contributions of the different departments to each of them would be another part. Other important things to include in this course will emerge later, no doubt. It should be not more than the equivalent of one 4 credit course through the year, as most of the time should be given to the study of these needs, one by one.

Sophomore year. Each student should choose one of the five fields as her major interest and spend most of her time on fundamental courses in the field chosen.

Junior year. Further specialization in major field and additional foundation work in a second or minor field.

Senior year. Work largely individual including some research and practical work in the community in major and minor fields.

I would urge that the whole life of the college community be organized also about these different fields of need and that each student and faculty member contribute along some line to the life of the whole group. For students, at least, these contributions should rotate so that they get some experience as freshman in all the different fields, and later do more creative work in their major and minor fields.

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

May 29
1938

The Ginling College Unit in Shanghai

Letter written by Ruth Chester, March 3, 1938.
Received in New York in June, 1938.

I will try now to give you some picture of the Ginling unit in Shanghai as it is organized for this spring term. We have rented altogether six rooms in the Y.W.C.A. building - a large, modern downtown office building, just two doors from the missions building. Three of these rooms are fitted up as class rooms with furniture borrowed from the Mary Farnham School (Presbyterian High School in Shanghai), which was glad to have a chance to move it from its own building where it was constantly in danger of being stolen. Blackboards are painted on the walls. A very nice corner room is being used as a reading and study room for the students - possibly this might be considered a bit of a luxury, but it is one that the girls much appreciate and which will certainly improve the quality of work done, for most of them have no quiet place to study. This is also furnished with Mary Farnham furniture including a magazine rack which is already full with regular library magazines which are coming here. Part of the mail for the college lands here and part goes via Hongkong and Hankow to Szechuan, so our files are not complete, and very likely some are lost, but at least what we have is available for student and faculty use. I think we now have one or more copies of 30-40 magazines. Those four rooms are on the fourth floor and on the fifth we have a large pleasant faculty office with five large desks, and two small ones. Each desk is used by two people and the room does not offer ideal conditions of quiet for study, but at least gives them a place to keep books and papers and to work an hour or so between classes. There will be some periods when class rooms can be used for conferences so that will help some. Next to the faculty office is a small administrative office where Wang Ming-djen and I have our desks and do a little work occasionally between interruptions. In addition to these rooms, Mrs. New has taken a good sized room on the third floor, partly as an office for herself and partly to give us a little overflow space, so we take refuge there sometimes for committee meetings and for rest and quiet. I think she had Dr. Wu in mind too when she took that room and she will find it a great help when she gets here.

We have thirteen faculty here now and Miss Whitmer will be here in a few days. All of them belong to the regular teaching staff so we have had to "learn by doing" on the administrative side. Wang Ming-djen has made an excellent registrar and general partner in the multitudinous details of administrative work, and I really don't see how the job could possibly have been done without her. Her experience in the curriculum committee and as class schedule officer for some years past meant that she was familiar with all the registration routine. We did not even have a sample copy of any of our registration forms, and altogether had one English and two Chinese catalogues! The rest of the administrative work has been my job, with the help on the more important problems of Mrs. New and Liu En-lan as an administrative committee. Various parts of it have been delegated to other faculty members, but most of them are pretty busy as teaching under these conditions is not as efficient as in normal times. Everyone has helped and they have all been patient with the many irritating inadequacies, Mr. Sung as chairman of the equipment committee has done a great deal to get us properly set up.

Our faculty is good as far as it goes, but it certainly could not be called a well balanced one, from the curriculum point of view. Some departments are very well represented with two or three members, and others are entirely lacking. We could not possibly have done an independent piece of work, but cooperation with other East China Christian Colleges has made work possible. Six colleges are here in some form, but only five have enough courses to affect the curriculum much. So when our students needed courses we could not offer we have sent them to any of these other

institutions and we have a very large number of such cases. All of them have registered with us and paid their tuition to us, and then the college will pay to other colleges at the rate of \$3 per credit for courses elected by our students. It is supposed to be a mutual arrangement, but of course we need them more than some of them need us, especially the two who belong in Shanghai and have somewhere near normal curriculum, so we are sending out more students than we receive, but we do have quite a number of University of Nanking students in our classes, since they are giving only one or two courses themselves. We have been very generous in allowing the girls to choose outside courses, perhaps too much so, but we all feel it is more important to give them a reasonable range of choice than to save a few dollars by forcing them into our courses. We have a few who are not taking any Ginling courses except Physical Education - seniors who are majoring in Sociology and minoring in psychology for instance, for we have nothing here in either of those departments. Co-operation is also helping to solve for us all the very difficult problems of library and laboratory facilities. St. Johns is the only one of the six institutions that has anything in these lines and they have very generously made them available for us all. The joint library has a large reading room in the building where the St. Johns classes are held and reference and reserve books for all courses in all these institutions are on those shelves. Their card catalogue is also there and faculty can order any books they need brought in from their main library out on the campus. So we practically have their whole library available. We all help finance it and each student has an identification card and is entitled also to take out books under usual restrictions. In addition to this the city library and a number of other specialized libraries are available so we shall not do so badly for books I think, only it takes a lot of faculty time to go all over town hunting them. The English department is borrowing books from all our friends and they have been most generous. The Morris family has provided many books for English, Music, and History and is lending records for Hu Shih-tsang's course in Music appreciation. I don't quite see how we could do without their assistance.

The joint laboratories are also housed in the St. Johns building and have been equipped with gas and water and they have moved in their laboratory desks and their apparatus. Work is being scheduled so that the rooms and apparatus are being used all day by different groups, St. Johns, and ours in the afternoon, mostly, and the University of Shanghai and one or two others in the morning. There are going to be many difficulties of administration, due to having so many people use the same outfits, but I guess it will work out somehow and will be better than no laboratories at all. Only science majors are being allowed to take laboratory courses and they won't get all they usually do, but last term they had none, so this is at least some improvement. All laboratory fees are to be paid to St. Johns and it is hoped that most of the additional expense will be covered either by the Council of Higher Education or by a special grant from the Associated Boards. If this is not forthcoming we shall each have to help cover the cost, but I hope that will not be necessary.

For our Physical education work we have the use of the Navy Y.M.C. A. gymnasium which is only a few minutes walk from here, from 8-11 each morning. They are also being very generous in their charges and it is fine that we can have this place so near and so well equipped.

With the approval of the administrative committee I took the liberty of adding one part time person to our staff. For years we have wished for a really good Art Appreciation course and when I saw that Mrs. Ely was giving one at St. Johns I thought it would be fine to have her do it for us. We shall not have to pay much and it is our largest class - 19 I think, and she limited it to 20. Several alumnae and other specials are taking it and their fees alone will cover quite a part of it. I hope it will be really interesting and valuable for the girls. Mrs. Ely seemed glad to do it and is a most enthusiastic teacher.

Now for a few statistics. We have a total of 54 regular students, 22 seniors of whom 14 will finish in June I think, 13 juniors, 9 sophomores and 9 freshmen. In addition we have about 15 University of Nanking students taking from 1 to 4 courses each, and a few specials taking English or Art or music. About ten of the students I expected transferred to St. Johns, so our total regular enrollment is less than I hoped for. I don't know all the reasons for these transfers but I think family pressure in favor of Shanghai institutions which would not be liable to move out of town had something to do with it in some cases. Outside of faculty salaries I think we are sure of covering by fees taken in the cost of running this unit, but I had hoped it might do a little more than that and help carry part of the salary budget.

This week we had the privilege of meeting Mr. Rabe, the German who has been chairman of the relief committee in Nanking. He began his talk by paying great tributes to his fellowworkers there in Nanking. The first one he mentioned was Minnie Vautrin. He said something like this: "I shall never forget the sight of Miss Vautrin leading a line of girls and young women through the streets, on December 13th to the safety of the Ginling refugee camp, past groups of soldiers out hunting for women - it was a man's job, but she did it!"

Letter from Ruth Chester - Shanghai
April 21, 1938.

The biggest event here since we wrote last is Dr. Yi-fang Wu's arrival, which as she may have told you, was perfectly timed so she could come right in to our assembly which comes only once in two weeks. Probably she has written some about the Shanghai situation and how it affects us. Just about the time she arrived we were beginning to feel more concerned about the many stories of girls and women being kidnapped and carried off to "the other side of town". I don't doubt there are more stories than cases, but I know of one or two that have come pretty straight and that I feel are substantially true and they are enough to make us a little uneasy all the time about our students who have to be on the streets so much. Just last week and this one of our seniors has had some disquieting attentions. First she was followed by three men in a car who took her picture three times. Then day before yesterday, the same men, who, she says, are Japanese, followed her on foot for some distance, waited outside while she ate a hurried lunch in a restaurant, and then followed her further until she took a bus for home. She is sure they were the same men, and saw them get into the same car and drive off. We don't know just what this means - perhaps nothing much, but it has enough possibilities of seriousness to cause us a good bit of anxiety.

Her family is here, fortunately and she is living at home, so we don't have to take responsibility for telling her what to do. Her father is a prominent Christian leader and was in to see me with her yesterday. I can't help wondering just a little whether it is an indirect attempt to put pressure on him and frighten him into silence and inactivity. I hope that is not the case. I was told by quite a responsible Chinese in the educational field here, that they have definitely traced the murder of Herman Liu to Japanese sources and that they had 50 men in wait for him that morning at various places! I cannot check that information, but I don't think he is the sort of person who would repeat such a story without adequate evidence. It all gives one a rather creepy feeling and it is so easy in such a situation to get into an excessively suspicious state of mind and take some things more seriously than they should be. From this point of view I am glad that Dr. Wu will not be here very long.

On Sunday April 10 the alumnae here had a meeting to welcome Dr. Wu and also to welcome the seniors. Dr. Wu spoke about her experiences in these last months, Dju Gieh-fang described the work various alumnae have done here for relief, etc. Then Li-ming read the list of alumnae whose whereabouts are unknown and found quite a number of them were known to someone present. They also collected that day a small loan fund for alumnae who are out of jobs and in urgent need. It will mean a lot to those who are in need to have the backing and sympathy of other alumnae as well as the financial help, and the idea is that the money will be repaid when they get back on their feet, financially.

Searle Bates was here for about ten days and we all listened with great eagerness to all that he had to say. They are preparing a survey of property and live stock losses in and around Nanking.

It is decided that I should go home this summer. I am both glad and sorry, but on the whole it seems best, for if this unit is to be stopped there will not be any urgent need for me. I have a sailing for July 10 on the Empress of Russia.

Letter from Ruth Chester - Shanghai
May 12, 1938

Mrs. New went with Dr. Wu as far as Hong Kong so I can't very easily share your letter with both her and Minnie, at least not very promptly unless someone copies them. Also as far as Minnie's concerned our communications are rather erratic these days on this sort of thing. Strictly college business, or harmless personal letters can go through readily by post now to Nanking taking about two days. But we don't feel it wise to put into the post anything that might cause any unpleasant reactions on the part of the censors, so that limits us a good deal. I think it would be better in writing to Shanghai if you avoided the use of names of people from here who are speaking, or whose letters or reports are in use.

Yesterday at our "Presidents" meeting plans for the joint commencement and Baccalaureate were discussed. Seven institutions are joining together - we, University of Nanking, Soochow, Hangchow, University of Shanghai, St. Johns and the Women's Medical, for these two functions. Baccalaureate will be held on Sunday afternoon, June 19 at 4:30 in the Moore Memorial Church, with Cheng Ching-yi the speaker, we hope. Commencement will be Saturday morning June 25 at 10 in the Grand Theatre which I think is about the largest one. It seats about 2000 I believe. They have given it free and the radio company is giving free use of the amplifying system. They are going to see if it is possible to get the program broadcast, and also will try to get movies if possible, but I don't know what luck they will have on those. W. W. Yen will be the speaker. The seniors are planning some sort of modified class day program on Friday afternoon, June 24. The faculty are having the banquet for seniors immediately after commencement on Saturday noon.

This office will close officially June 30. I will see that mail gets taken care of if it arrives after that time, so I think you had better continue to use this address as long as you write to Shanghai at all. Florence Kirk and I will be leaving our apartment the end of June also. If I can do as I want to I shall be in Nanking for a week or so before I sail. I shall try to arrange a day or two here before sailing anyway to catch up the last loose ends. Wang Ming-chen is going to America towards the end of August but will be here until she sails, staying with her sister. You can address her at 411 Yu Yuen Rd. She is very capable and dependable and has been my right hand man in the office this spring.

I think we shall graduate 16 or 17 seniors here, including two or three who will not be quite finished but very near it. There are 14 really finishing before commencement. You probably know there are 5 more in Chengtu, one in Wuchang and two at Yenching, so our total will be around 25 I think, which ^{is} doing pretty well considering.

Letter from Ruth Chester - Shanghai
May 29, 1938

Miss is bringing you the rest of the movie that took of the Ginling camp activities. I put the explanations and captions Minnie Vautrin wrote out into the box with the film. It is quite interesting, I think, and it is good to find an oasis of constructive work in this awful desert. All the Nanking folk agree that the best piece of work that has been done there is this Ginling work. Not all the credit is due to Ginling, for many others helped in it, especially the Episcopal Mission men, but it was doubtless Minnie's vision and faith which laid its foundations and she was certainly its guiding spirit.

As for Shanghai life has settled down again to a more normal state, after the rather uneasy month of April. I have not for weeks heard any reports or rumors even, of girls being taken or molested in any way. Quite a gang that had been doing systematic traffic in women was arrested and convicted and given fairly heavy sentences and that seems to have had a wholesome effect. Probably the large number of Japanese women who are now available has helped too. There has been a lot of minor bomb-throwing and hand grenades and such and police have been combing certain parts of the city for trouble-makers, but the outlook for our particular little group coming through the term without any misfortunes, looks good.

I think I shall probably go across to Montreal and direct to Sutton Island, Maine till the end of the summer so will not be around N.Y. till sometime early in September.

Letter from Florence Kirk - Shanghai
May 13, 1938

Liu En-lan, who has been in the hospital for a few days with what has been diagnosed as bacillary dysentery, is feeling quite perky. Yesterday the faculty played the students in volley-ball, and each side won a game. The stars were Chen Yu-hwa (Li-ming's husband, brought in, perhaps under false pretences), Ettie Chen, and Hwa Li-ming. The weak spots were Eva Spicer, Alice Chang and Hwang Dzun-mei! Ettie insists that I tell you that everyone did nobly. Today at noon we have our luncheon-discussion group. We have about a dozen members of the group, and we take turns in providing the luncheon. We settle down to about an hour and quarter of discussion and reports

Letter from Florence Kirk - Shanghai
May 29, 1938

Whether we can get any supplies from Nanking before we start for Chengtu is still a question. The more than twenty applicants to return to Nanking were to have known yesterday whether their passes came through or not - and at the military pass office, it seemed very promising. However, it is now to be decided "next week", and so it goes on. Eva and I have applied to go down for not more than a week, beginning June 8, and when we left our applications, it looked hopeful!

The plans for Commencement seem to be coming along favorably. The faculty banquet committee is at work (Harriet, En-lan and Ettie Chin). The seniors are at comprehensives this week, and last week the sophomores took their comprehensives.

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from Letters from Dr. Cora D. Reeves

March 24, 1938 - I cannot see that producing the college woman who can only work in the conventional Middle School at a price and on a definite job is going to far into the needs of the case, also the social workers need to be in constant touch with rural as well as city problems. I wonder how many of our alumnae can have U.S. \$10.00 a month from friends or church funds. Bishop Ward assures me of support if any alumnae are ready to adventure. Our church has no end of places where property is held by them without any workers or none that are trained. All church groups up here are the same.

April 8, 1938 - You may have already learned that the law forbidding Bible training is rescinded. It should challenge students who intend to teach to consider what they have of value in having faith to share with their students. Our girls were holding student meetings and asked the faculty to come with them. A serious problem is that P. E. is at five, supper is at 5:30 and the large body of which they are a small part does not wish to change. The noise of students and amah's shouting at each other in the dormitory halls and rooms is like nothing I've met - nor they. Since each ten students or some such number have their own amah it makes plenty of shouters. Also they were talking of what they could do as a group for soldiers or to help Mrs. New in civilian relief. Guess I've told you how fast they work. Perhaps my feeling of their speed in getting things done comes from my own slowing down, but I think not since we used to feel how very slow they were in going over their lessons. That is true of the students of this University but seems not to be the case for Ginling College or University of Nanking in their English assignments. While there Dr. Yuen told them of the death of Herman Liu. They at once thought of Dr. Wu. The leader of the Christian Student Federation asked that I lead the Passion week Wednesday evening service.

As to our needs for next year, one hesitates to say how badly books are wanted. There are plenty at the old home but can they be shipped? National Szechuan University librarian told me they have 1500 volumes in Hong Kong. On the other hand Paul Meyer thinks the British India road may be used in October. The report of shortage of chemicals has been vexing some and since transportation in normal times doubles their cost here it may be that chemistry will of necessity become a demonstration course next year in both University of Nanking and West China Union University.

May 5, 1938 - A note from Phoebe Hoh (Ginling 1920) says she expects to be here tomorrow. There is discussion of her helping a national children's rehabilitation scheme and at least two churches (Methodist and Episcopal) wish her to live in a village station with "power to act" as it were, in setting up village betterment programs from the church.

A problem awaiting my reply is whether I'll study fish in the field at Kiating and Yachow for the Smithsonian Institute, expenses paid, this summer.

May 7, 1938 - Phoebe Hoh has just come in. She has been touring this province from Chungking here with a group made up of preachers, public health nurse, doctor and foreign friends. She is being snatched away to go to a conference. The women leaders who gather there will be many of our alumnae. It is planned to get help for orphans and probably widows. I suppose the 10,000 orphans will be scattered but I understand the province has agreed to become responsible. Over against this

war work by the province here, Chengtu has more ragged beggar boys than all the cities I've ever visited combined. says when she was up here twenty years ago. There were no beggars for the government then had institutions and organizations to care for the needy. In the month among our churches Phoebe has found the jealousies of the people, their desire for favors. It's worth very much to hear her say, "I know I used to be that way." She tells how they talk of her as "The old scrub woman". She dresses in common blue cotton dress for traveling, and then some of the group introduce her as a former teacher in the college, a returned student, etc. and she stands watching their jaws drop. Then she begins to speak and they understand every word partly because they want to, partly because she uses her Hupeh dialect which is nearer this speech. She has found some hsien magistrates who are good who desire Christians who are real to teach and to help in their administration but she says, "Where can we find them?"

I may have written of a Yenching man I met on the boat who was coming up to work here. He got picked up by this government for economic survey of the province. The old Chinese system of the magistrate being appointed from away certainly helps now in letting a new government put in hsien magistrates from a distance. Some of them are "Jimmy Yen's" men who were trained and experienced in the Ding hsien project. Others who have had training here in this University are doing good work.

My Chinese friend of Ann Arbor days came back from the meeting in Hankow thrilled by the unity of the conference while others are pained by the factions that still appear. It's quite plain to me that there must come to us such a letting go of show and things for show, and that we must put into our work a concentration of kindness to others we have hardly seen. If only others may follow Phoebe's lead as she now sees life and its challenge! At least at present she is ready to be as poor and selfless as St. Francis. She has all the old time vigor with confidence as to what she can do but a humility in her desire to be used of God that thrills me. I've always remembered Dju Luh's dislike of Paul for his boasting. So I better not spend too much time in my enthusiasm for Phoebe.

Mr. Hsiung, Dju Luh's husband, gave a lecture on the drama for International Association of University Women as a unifying force. He gave a performance here, which a very smart professor in West China Union University pronounced as "wonderful" in which he used 2000 or more school children. He reports that Dju Luh (Ginling 1922) will soon be here.

Eleanor McNeal Anderson said last evening her husband, who is a T. B. specialist, is really distressed by the number of down river people who are suffering from attacks of active tuberculosis largely from the strain and the hardships of the trip up here.

Friday of this week the students gave a "Ginling Concert." A University of Nanking man conducted. They did a good part of the singing. Two men played the violin very well.

Chang Kwei Chi and Mary Chen played a piano duet and did part of the accompanying while Imogene Ward did the rest. Ginling College girls were in the chorus and helping with ushering, etc. It was all classical music and not too bad as to style and interpretation. West China has an unusually fine conductor in Dr. Agnew. He builds voices, and the work of the choir shows quality and method of singing better than any I've heard.

May 20, 1938 - The enclosed program tells of a very nice party given by the Womans College yesterday to the seniors; Ginling College, 5 seniors; Nanking University, 6 seniors; Central China College, 1 senior; Yenching University, 1 senior; Shanghai University, 1 senior; West China Union University, 20 seniors.

June 5, 1938. While fifty women were discussing the need for increasing the productivity of women who must earn the family's income, when husbands were lost in war, one Ginling College alumna was teaching poultry raising to fifty women. Hu Sui-ying is talking of the water chestnut culture. We have only seen small ones here. Fish are few and expensive. "Mosquito Control by Fish", I'd like to have some of this year's graduates working on. Even \$100.00 mex. a month would let us put a group on that problem. In the old home in Nanking, we must stand by. What would you think of my writing an article for Poultry Magazine. The movie shows our one research worker, and the story of sheer grit, courage and devotion to a problem.

Chen Ping-dji going a quarter of a mile to get her test tubes into an auto clave, and then finding them all contaminated because it was not working well, makes me know that we have to have a pressure cooker. If our group were coming by Hongkong it would be more simple. I am writing to Catharine to see whether there is one in Hankow. If I don't get an answer that someone has gotten one in China, I'll have to depend on you.

June, 1938. As I see one thing which has been different and which counts now - it is this - when work here began there were no business positions open to the young men who knew English, there were therefore no parents who insisted that their young people learn English. So all work was done in Chinese. This meant that the foreigners must learn Chinese and do all work in Chinese, which, since in some subjects there were no Chinese texts, limited the course given to what a foreigner could pass on in a limited Chinese language as a tool or medium. I've not realized before coming up here the amount which our girls get by wanting to know English and by the habit of getting things for themselves in a foreign language. The mastery of a new tool does something to the character which seems to me far more important than the mere knowing of English indicates.

June 7, 1938

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

FIFTY CHINESE DOLLARS AT WORK ON THE GINLING CAMPUS

Fifty Chinese Dollars is less than Nine U.S. Dollars

Through a friend in China, a group of American women interested especially in helping a group of children in China turned over to Miss Vautrin for the Ginling Refugee Camp for Women and Children a sum of fifty dollars Chinese currency. Ten different women were helped, after investigating some of the most pressing needs. A brief story of the investment follows:

- Case 1. A woman whose married name is Chen and whose maiden name was Li. She is 60 years of age and her husband is 62. On December 16th her three sons were taken by the victorious army and have not been heard from since. The eldest was 35, is married and leaves a wife and four children. He was a seller of fish. Her second son was 29. He leaves a wife who is expecting a little child very soon. He was a maker of dumplings. Her third son was 17 and unmarried. He sold papers for a living. This woman was given \$6.00 with which to start up a small business. She now sells a kind of doughnut which Chinese people eat for breakfast. This will enable her to increase her business and her income.
- Case 2. Hwang Yung-chow. Aged 70. His wife is dead. He and his son were tailors. His son, aged 32, was taken on December 13th and has not been heard from since. He has a daughter-in-law of 30 who is blind, and three little grandchildren, the eldest aged 9 and the youngest aged three. By giving the old man \$6.00 we thought that he would be able to make a living for his family.
- Case 3. Li Yung-shi. This woman is 35 years of age. Her husband was an umbrella maker taken on December 15th and has not been heard from since. She is left with two little girls, aged 14 and 5. She is now living at the home of some neighbors who feel worry for her. Her home was burned by Chinese troops for military purposes and she has nothing left, not even chopsticks. Her bedding was taken by Japanese soldiers when they entered the city. She was given \$6.00 with which to start a small business in which she will sell candles, soap, etc. and try to make a living for her children.
- Case 4. Yang Ta-shi. This woman is 43 and her husband is 47. On December 16th two of her sons were taken, the 25 year old son who worked in a pawn shop, and the 18 year old boy who had at great sacrifice on the part of his parents just graduated from a primary school. When asked if she implored the soldiers when they took her two sons she said she was afraid to do so for the soldiers were very fierce. This woman also has an old mother of 80 living with her and a little daughter of 10. She was given \$6.00 and she and her husband hope to start a little curio shop again.

- Case 5. Wang Hu-shi. This woman is 52 years old and her husband is 60. Two sons were taken on December 16th. The eldest who was 30 had a small electric shop, and the second was 17 and worked in his brother's shop. She was given \$6.00 to help her start a small laundry.
- Case 6. Shen Tsien-shi. A woman of 29 with three little children, 6, 4 and 1 respectively. Her husband left the city during the troubles and she has not been able to find him. She was given \$5.00 to help her start a small business with the hope that she can make enough for the three children.
- Case 7. Liu Ying-shi. Woman of 49. Her husband, 61, was taken on December 13th and has not since appeared. At the time he was hunting for one of the daughters. She has a married daughter of 29 whose husband is dead. Three daughters aged 17, 14, and 9, and a little son of 12. There is a son of 21 who has gone to the west. We gave her \$6.00 with which she will buy materials for the making of shoes - an industry which the daughters will carry on in the home. She herself will go out to do washing for others.
- Case 8. Wang Siu-ching. A young girl of 21. Her mother died last autumn of fright during the air raids. On December 16th, the father, a man of 45, her uncle, 31, and a young brother of 16 were all taken by the Japanese soldiers and have not been seen since. They have probably been killed. This girl is left with three younger brothers, one a boy of 16 who is not normal in intellect, the two others 13 and 6. We gave her \$5.00 with which she will try to start some business. They have gone back to the house of a friend of her father and mother, but these people are also poor and cannot help them.
- Case 9. Ma Wu-shi. A refugee from Shanghai who has two little children, 7 and 2. She was separated from her husband during the evacuations last fall and does not know where he is. She was given \$2.00 to help her temporarily. She is still in a camp and is getting free rice.
- Case 10. Dhou Liang-shi. A woman of 35 who has three little children. Her husband was taken for work for the Chinese army last fall and she does not know whether he is living or dead. She is still in a refugee camp and the sum of \$2.00 was given her to buy food for her little children.

Written June 7, 1938.

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Letter from Dr. Cora D. Reeves, Department of Biology
Written in Szechuan Province, China, Summer of 1938.

Eel
Ginling
(Staff Reports)

June 19, 1938 - It's interesting that a Yenhsing man who was on the boat with me coming up from Hankow last July and with whom I visited is now the conductor of the party of students who are out at work, doing "patriotic service" in Wenkiang about 40 li from Chengtu. They are living in a school some 40 or 50 of them from West China Union University,, University of Nanking, and Ginling College. They have five divisions in their program:- Propaganda, Agriculture, Health with clinic and doctor, Recreation, Religion.

Dr. Reeves enclosed a letter written by a Ginling Student who was a part of the project referred to above. The letter is dated August 24, 1938. It illustrates the patriotic zeal of young China and the provincialism of old China in this western region.

One week has elapsed since I came back from Wanchiang. We arrived there on the 16th of July. We stayed four weeks and two days. The heavy rains made us stay the two extra days. We came back on foot as we went. Treading in the mud and shallow water was really very interesting.

Now let me tell you how we got on in Wenchiang. In the morning we got up at 5:30 as the bell rung; after washing etc. we had the flag raising ceremony, then morning drill followed. We had morning prayer after this. Breakfast was served at 7:10. At 8:00 A.M. all of us started out for work, either in the city, or outside of it. We had four places to work, one five lee away, one eight lee away, one nine lee away, and one is perhaps 15 lee. I joined the Anti-Japanese Aggression Propaganda group. The work of our group was to present patriotic plays, to teach country folks to sing patriotic songs, to give speeches either formally or informally. Sometimes we talked with illustrations, with pictures, cartoons, telling what Japanese have done to us. We pasted many slogans and had very simple wall newspapers. Dr. Reeves, the work was quite hard to do: (1) the difficulty of Szechuan dialect; (2) our too refined literary terms which were too hard for country people to understand; (3) their (the country people) low intelligence and illiteracy; (4) their obstinate conception of us city people, especially university students, especially girl students. None of our members (9 in all) can talk Szechuan dialect well. Though the majority of our audience were convinced by us, but still we really felt very disappointed and discouraged.

Dr. Reeves, the second thing I am going to tell you is that not a single hydra was found. Tomorrow I will be going out again looking for some hydra. If I can still find none, what shall I do?

The mass military training will start on the 1st of September.

April - June 25, 1938

GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

Excerpts from letters from President Wu Yi-fang .

April 1, 1938 - Shanghai, China. West China University has given a most cordial welcome to the refugee institutions from down river. At present there are on the campus the following guest institutions: The Medical and Dental Schools of Central University; Cheeloo Medical School; the University of Nanking; Ginling; Biology and Supplies Departments of Soochow University, a total of six institutions on one campus. The medical students from Cheeloo University have been taken into the classes of West China Medical School. All the other institutions are giving their own courses with some cooperation from our host institution. Ginling gives her own courses and takes her tuition fees, but sends out students to West China University and the University of Nanking for those courses we are not able to offer ourselves. In return for the facilities given us, our faculty give courses to help West China. Laboratory fees are paid to the institution giving the course, and dormitory fees are paid to West China, for our girls are being housed in their women's dormitory.

Mr. Cressy was in Chengtu for a week and advised the refugee institutions there to work out a much more co-ordinated programme. There is a somewhat lower standard at West China than at Ginling and at the University of Nanking. Another handicap is the getting of books and laboratory equipment.

I got an air passage on March 23 from Chungking to Hongkong, sailed from Hongkong March 26 and reached Shanghai March 28. I found the situation in Shanghai quite uncertain, not merely in the political sense, but also in daily living. As a result of the intention of the Japanese military to spread a reign of terror, and the fact that there are a large number of Chinese rascals ready to get money by serving the Japanese, there are unimaginable incidents. For instance, the sister of my cousin's wife - a graduate of the University of Shanghai - was stopped on the street one day by a Chinese who offered to take her in his car. She became frightened and quickly took a ricksha. Then the man with his car cut in front of the ricksha, urged her to get into the car, and said he would take her wherever she wanted to go. Luckily there were pedestrians approaching and her ricksha went on.

Another authentic incident is that of a girl and her sister-in-law who were leaving a store when they were forced into a waiting car; when it was seen that the sister-in-law was pregnant, she was pushed out and the girl was taken on off. Several days afterwards, the girl returned to her home and committed suicide because she had been mistreated by Japanese soldiers.

These and similar happenings have made our Chinese faculty and girls quite nervous, even about coming to classes. Yesterday Mrs. New, the adviser to the Freshman Class, was having her weekly informal gathering with them, and several told her that each evening when they arrive home, they say to themselves, "Well, another day has passed and nothing unpleasant has happened." From this you can imagine the nervous strain in what is apparently a quiet situation.

From the academic point of view, it is impossible for Ginling alone to provide a complete curriculum, and there are also difficulties in cooperating with other institutions as we are doing this spring. The basis of cooperation among the Christian institutions here was the understanding that all institutions would leave their students free to elect courses in other institutions wherever more suitable courses were available. Nevertheless, in practical application, it turned out that other institutions seemed to prefer to limit their students to their own courses. For our students, this cooperation means running to different institutions to get all the necessary courses, and from Ginling they do not receive what we stood for when we had our own campus life. Now that both St. Johns and the University of Shanghai are ad-

mitting women, we ourselves can easily understand how many families may prefer to have their daughters enter an institution where they can get their entire work! Since we came from Nanking, parents also think we may consider returning there and they do not wish their daughters to go to Nanking. In view of such difficulties and this other factor of fear in Shanghai, we are not so sure now as we used to be that we want to continue the unit in Shanghai.

I am calling a Board meeting next Saturday, April 9; a real majority of the Board are here in Shanghai. Before I left Chengtu we had several meetings of the Faculty Executive Committee, and yesterday I met the Shanghai Administrative Committee.

The line of least resistance is to continue the two units at Shanghai and Chengtu. The other alternative is to concentrate our personnel and financial resources in one place only - either to take the risk of staying in Shanghai, or going to West China. When I was in Chungking I saw the new Minister of Education, who shows a keen understanding of the present situation in Shanghai and is in favor of the Christian institutions continuing their work in Shanghai because no government university can re-open here.

If we should decide to go to the interior - that is, free China - we also have two alternatives: one, to remain in Chengtu, in cooperation with the University of Nanking, and two, to go to some smaller place and endeavor to work out a modified programme in training workers along special lines. If we follow the first, it will mean more or less the continuation of the conventional programme. If we choose the second, it would involve much harder work along experimental lines, but we may be able to train workers who can render service to meet the urgent needs in the various fields, of rural social workers, and of Physical Education.

For China during her life-and-death struggle there must be special needs which a Christian institution like Ginling ought to be able to meet. And we should be ashamed of our own callousness and inertia if we are not spurred by such tremendous misery to do more than in normal times. Miss Vautrin's work on one hand, and the need for strong personalities in all lines on the other, make me very uncomfortable to be just following conventional lines of education.

If we should require the construction of simple buildings in Szechuan, I should start back early in May, because the rainy season comes soon. The Szechuan Educational Commissioner has given me assurance that he would give Ginling grants for the necessary buildings for our work; and people in the Ministry of Education are quite ready to consider special projects for this emergency period.

April 28, 1938 - Shanghai, China. I'll tell you what I heard from Mr. Plummer Mills about Miss Vautrin's classes on the Life of Christ. He told me that he was on the balcony of our chapel when the pageant was being presented by the students in those classes. The stage was beautifully decorated and as he looked down from his seat at the refugee girls filling the auditorium he could for a time have taken it to be a college performance. Mr. Magee has taken a movie film of this performance. We have seen another film taken in March, and we are endeavoring to get a copy made of that to send now. It will show life of the refugee camp on the campus. We were all thrilled to see Minnie looking so natural. (N.B. These films are now in the Ginling College office in New York).

I want to tell you a little about our plans for the trip to West China in the summer. We have made inquiries about two possible routes: (1) To go to Hongkong and from there by rail to Hankow and by boat to Chungking and then bus to Chengtu. (2) To go to Hongkong, from there by boat to Haiphong in Annam, then by the French R. R. to Kunming (Yunnanfu) and then by bus to Chengtu via Kweiyang and Chungking. We are not deciding now as to which route to take because it will depend on the condition of the Canton-Hankow Railroad. When I was in Chengtu a group of Canadian Missionaries

returned after their furlough and they came by way of Haiphong and Kunming. The women took the easier way by flying and the men came with the baggage on the buses.

There are ten students who have definitely decided to go with the College and there are eight more who have not made up their minds. It is difficult for the girls and families to decide so far ahead, but we are inclined to think that there will be about twelve or fifteen girls that will be going with us. For the rest, some will be guest students in other institutions temporarily and others will just transfer. From this you see it does mean the losing of some students, yet we feel that we may get new students in West China. Furthermore, quite a few girls have found it difficult this term to go to two or three institutions in order to get all the courses they want, so if our unit stayed here, these girls may wish to transfer just the same.

As for faculty, Miss Spicer, and Miss Kirk will go West. Among the Chinese members I think there will be five or six including Ettie Chin, that will take the journey. We have to increase the staff of the Department of Sociology, because we need to invite those who have had experience in rural work. The total number of our faculty will be at least the same as we have this year.

You will be interested to hear that it was announced in the paper two days ago that the Minister of Education is advocating student camps for the teachers and students of the Middle Schools that have migrated from the war areas. It shows the tendency for the students to get close to life and to be more practical. It may be also because the families are too poor to pay tuitions and in the camps the students are expected to work half time and study half time.

I am leaving Shanghai on May 3. Mrs. New and Peter are going with me. They will stop in Hongkong while I will proceed by air to Hankow. I need to see the Minister of Education for we still have the hope of receiving government subsidy and we wish to get his approval of our plan for next year. From Hankow I shall have to fly again to Chengtu because the rainy season comes in early summer and since we need to put up the simple houses for our faculty and student dormitories I need to be back there as soon as possible. I hate to be spending so much money on travel but when it seems necessary and there are generous providers I take to flying. Eva Spicer made it possible for my first air passage to Chengtu and my coming to Hongkong by air, and now Mrs. New will give a substantial gift. If the college had to pay out of college funds I just would not because the travel allowance to the faculty members is on such a minimum basis.

Yesterday noon we had a luncheon for the Presidents and Deans of the East China Colleges and Universities. It was definitely decided that the six institutions here will have joint Baccalaureate and Joint Commencement exercises. The former will be held in Moore Memorial Church and the latter in Grand Theater, which has become well known because of the Sunday services of the 4th U. S. Marines. Dr. W. W. Yen is expected to give the Commencement address and we hope to secure Dr. C. Y. Chong to give the Baccalaureate sermon. The conditions in Shanghai are still somewhat unsettled, so St. Johns will continue for one more term in their present quarters and so there will be the joint library and the laboratory there for the four institutions. Margaret Williamson Hospital which rented the Orthopedic Hospital buildings through June has decided to stay for six months longer. So far as I know McTyler is the only Mission School that has been able to function on its own campus.

May 10, 1938, Hankow, China. Just before I left Shanghai I received a letter from Madame Chiang Kai-shek's secretary, inviting me to attend a conference of women workers on May 20th. As I had booked passage to fly to Chengtu on May 10th, I did not think I could go to this conference. I flew here on May 8th and saw Madame Chiang yesterday afternoon. I have now learned that she is calling about fifty women for a four day conference to promote women's work along various lines during this time, under the

auspices of the New Life Movement; and she hopes that after this conference a training institute will be organized during July and August to train leaders to go into the interior. She had expected me to give her help, both now in the preparation and during the conference. It was so difficult to decline. After my conference with her I had to promise to stay for this conference from May 20-24, and it means that I can't go back to Chengtu until May 28th. I am trying to attend to some urgent business through letters and leave the others to the Faculty and the Board Committee in Chengtu to decide. I have come to realize more keenly that I either have to stop attending to outside activities or to secure a very strong dean for Ginling, otherwise the College is to suffer much from my inefficiency in administration.

When I reached Hankow at 12:30 on Sunday, Anna Moffet gave me the word that our Alumnae were having a meeting that afternoon to welcome me. I was weary and famished (for I had had no breakfast) but of course I wanted to be with our graduates. So I spent three hours with 25 of our alumnae at Djou Yu-yin's School, telling them the activities of Shanghai alumnae, Miss Vautrin's work in Nanking, and our plans for the College next year.

This morning I went to the Ministry of Education and saw the two vice-ministers. While the minister was not there, they both supported our decision to concentrate in one place and showed interest in our plan of modifying the curriculum. The main purpose is to get freshmen to know life and life's actual needs through study of a rural community and to have the faculty guide them to see how the various subjects are related and how to solve problems in meeting these needs.

Through Mrs. New, Ginling requested \$3,000 to help Miss Vautrin start her industrial classes for the widows, and it was already granted (\$3,000 in Chinese currency), by the Executive Board of the Chinese Women's Club in Shanghai.

May 27, 1938, Hankow, China. Much has happened since I wrote last. The most important thing is the informal women's conference called by Madame Chiang to discuss women's work during this time. Over fifty delegates came - the farthest from Kweiyang in Kweichow, and Kweiling in Kwangsi. Miss Lucy Wang of Hua Nan and her sister took the difficult journey from Foochow. There were also delegates from Hongkong, Canton, Nanchang, Changsha, Chongtu, Chungking, and a large group from Kankow.

The main purpose of the conference was to get the women leaders to know each other and to know about the work that has been done in various places; to draw up a general plan for the mobilization of women to take part in helping the resistance and in reconstruction work. The Women's Committee of the New Life Movement was recognized as the National Central Body to correlate the various existing women's organizations in taking part in this program. Madame Chiang attended all of the sessions, and was wonderful in giving her leadership, around which the women rallied, in the tasks that women are eager to take up for our national cause.

I was asked to relieve her from the strain of presiding, so I had the experience of working closely with her throughout the conference. I am deeply impressed with her ability, as well as her desire to do her utmost for the country. There was no doubt that all the women were inspired and ready to support her in any program for getting the women throughout the country to do more to help the war resistance. Enclosed I am sending you a picture of the Ginling group who attended. The youngest girl on my left is Miss Chang sue, who studied only a year at Ginling, and then had two years in England before she returned last fall. Her father is the governor of Hunan, and Miss Chang is doing a great deal in training women workers, who will be sent to the country places. Phoebe Ho, Ginling 1920, and Liu Y-hsia, Ginling 1929, were invited, because of their experience in rural work, and Deng Yu-dji, Ginling 1926, you know because of being industrial secretary of the Y.W.C.A. for so many years. Dr. Djang Siao-mei, Ginling 1926, was asked because of her understanding of economic problems. She is no longer connected with the Bank of China, but is edit-

ing an economic journal in Chinese, and helping informally in some government bureaus.

One definite piece of work the women decided to do was to assist the government in starting small scale factories in order to increase production and also to give livelihood to refugee women.

Another thing I wish to speak about is the change of emphasis in our curriculum, which the faculty in Shanghai decided upon. As I wrote you before, we aim at starting the freshmen to face the needs and actual conditions of life, in order that they may relate their studies to the solving of problems of living. We also definitely decided to establish a rural service station, which can be used as a laboratory. At the conference, it became clear that there is a great need for women who have been trained to do rural work, and who have the interest in country women, and the spirit of service. Besides the few of our own graduates who have actually worked in the villages, such as Phoebe Ho, Liu Y-hsia, Tsu-Yu-dju, and Wu Suen-i, there are very few Chinese women who have had this actual experience. Tsu Yu-dji was also invited to the conference, but was kept from coming by urgent duties at the Y.W.C.A. in Changsha.

It seems that our plan made in Shanghai is really meeting a great need at this time. I have invited Miss Phoebe Ho and Wu Suen-i to come to Chengtu to help start this rural service station. I have just had a talk with Miss Wu, who made very valuable suggestions. We have decided to have her go to Nanchang and Kweiling, to see the various types of work that are being carried on for women. And, as soon as I get back to Chengtu, I will get in touch with the Provincial government, so that we shall not be working as a small group by ourselves, but with the approval and co-operation of the local government. I also hope to get cooperation with the University of Nanking Agricultural College in order to get their help along technical lines. Any worker who has tried to help the country women has found out that the first thing to be done is to help improve their conditions of livelihood - in otherwords, to earn more money for the family. Therefore, technical advice as to how to improve crops, and how to help the women earn additional income through handicraft or subsidiary farming such as poultry raising, pig raising, silk culture, etc, is of value.

All this will show that we have a large field of service, and we need to concentrate in planning and starting our station on sound lines. Personally I hope to secure some subsidy from Szechuan. Yet even should we get some, it may not be enough for us to carry on a good program of work.

Will you please keep this in mind, to see if you may find some potential giver or some organization that may be interested in supporting this type of work.

June 6, 1938 - Chengtu, Szechuan Province, China. We shall need Stella Graves in Chengtu. Please have her plan to reach Hongkong to allow time enough to be in Chengtu by September 15th. Please let us know the boat and we will have letters in Hongkong giving instructions about the trip to Chengtu. Perhaps it will be necessary for her to travel by air, but conditions are changing so rapidly these days we do not feel we can give a definite answer today. We will have word in Hongkong - it may be best for her to go by Indo-China to Kunming and then to Chengtu, but in any case she would have to disembark at Hongkong.

We are continuing the major in Physical Education and also giving a two year special course here. It seems there is a need in Szechuan for well trained physical education directors and there may also be a need to develop some work in community recreation. The Ministry of Education has just sent us a communication to the effect that colleges and universities should turn their attention toward serving the community, and when I talked with the man in charge of popular education for the ministry, he seemed to think it would be a good thing to have group recreation devel-

oped for the community people, especially with reference to the people and children who are not attending schools. Since Ya-lan Tsui is especially interested in recreational work and was very resourceful in thinking of new forms, we may be able with her help to do a great deal in our training in the field of Physical Education especially along these special lines of developing a new type for the future directors to use.

The idea of starting a Rural Service Station originated, as you know, in our discussions of faculty and the members of the Board in Shanghai. After the Women's Conference it became very clear that we had anticipated a real need felt by women workers all over the country. Following the conference I had a good talk with Dr. James Yen, who was in favor of Ginling starting work in training women for rural service. His association has not yet, even after ten years of mass education and rural reconstruction work, developed any program especially for women's work. He was very courteous in welcoming Ginling to pioneer along that line. Here in Szechuan we are helped because of the program of the College of Agriculture of the University of Nanking and their Rural Leaders' Training School, and also by the fact that the province has started work in rural cooperatives. Furthermore Szechuan has been chosen as a foundation province for Rural Reconstruction for China, and leading people both inside and outside the government are interested in promoting work for the rural population, so our tentative proposal from Shanghai seems to have received enthusiastic support from every one and this is a time when Ginling can fill a real need if we work hard in developing the program and succeed in getting a strong staff for this work. I wrote you from Hankow that I was inviting Phoebe Hoh and Wu Swen-i (who had two years experience in rural service in Kiangsi) and after Phoebe Hoh returns to Chengtu, we shall work out the program more in detail and will know more definitely some of the staff that will be needed. In my own mind, I feel we should have as our aim in training the following lines:- Mass Education, Home and Community Hygiene, Home Handicrafts, Secondary Farm Industries (raising of chickens, pigs, silkworms, etc.) Nutrition and Child Care, etc. It is a very challenging piece of work but we shall have to experiment a good deal because there are no ready made experts along the various lines but from conversation with different people, I am encouraged to feel that sympathetic support will be coming from those who wish to do constructive work for the people of the country. Dean Chang of the College of Agriculture of the University of Nanking is considering a location for the Rural Leaders' Training School, and there is some Canadian Mission property in a hsien district available for use and probably there will be enough room for both of us to share the buildings. If we decide to join this proposition there will be no problem concerning the buildings, but if not, we may have to put up simple buildings for this work. In that case we shall apply for government subsidy from Szechuan and I feel it may be possible to secure this aid.

We have given you the figure of US\$5,000.00 as the amount needed to establish this Rural Service Station, and hope it may be possible to secure a contribution for this purpose.

I have not given a definite answer about Madras to the National Christian Council, although the Board was ready to grant me a leave of absence in order to take the trip. I think our new work is very important and unless I find it well started by November, I think I ought to stay. However, I promised that I would give my final answer early in October. The large delegation will sail from Hongkong November 30th, and if I go I can fly down and don't need to leave Chengtu earlier than say November 27 or so. If we return right after the conference, we'll get back to Hongkong on January 13th. My term as chairman of the National Christian Council will be up next March normally, but if I do go to Madras, I'll prepare to have the Executive Committee of the National Christian Council hold a meeting in Hongkong after the delegates return to China, and then I'll hope to be relieved of this honor.

I am scared of the many demands that come to me and again and again I struggle in deciding whether to accept or decline. I question seriously if it is wise to spread too thin and to accomplish nothing. On return to Chengtu I was asked to speak at the Baccalaureate at West China University; this morning I weakened and consented to speak.

June 14, 1938 - Chengtu, China. The war situation is serious, but one thing good is that I found in Hankow that the people in the responsible positions in the government are working in good spirit of unity and with determination. So, even with the evacuation plans and the Wuhan region threatened in the not distant future, they are calm and are prepared for the worst. The drop in the Chinese dollar, is, of course, very bad; but I have heard that there is hope of it's going up somewhat and be maintained there for a time yet.

We are getting our piano up from Hankow, bought as second hand, but Miss Cox knows the piano. How we wish getting equipment up to West China were not so hard and so expensive !

I have been asked to speak at the Students' Summer Conference and also the conference of Middle School Principals in July. I expect to remain in Chengtu through July, but may go away for two or three weeks in August to Mt. Omei.

June 25, 1938 - Chengtu, China. On June 15th the Executive Committee in Chengtu held its first meeting in Chengtu. This group was appointed by the Board meeting in Shanghai and consists of the regular members of the Board now in Chengtu (Miss Mary Chen, Mrs. Li Fang-hsuen, and Dr. Y. G. Chen) with the addition of Bishop R. A. Ward, Miss Pearl Fosnot and Mrs. Daniel S. Dye. Miss Fosnot represents the Methodist as does Bishop Ward while Mrs. Dye will represent the Baptists.

After the Board of Directors meeting in Shanghai when it was decided to concentrate all work in Chengtu, it became evident that living quarters would have to be provided for the women staff and students. Before I returned to Chengtu, Miss Priest and Dr. Chang approached West China Union University for a site on the campus, and through the help of their Building Committee, plans have been made and the work has been started. It is placed on the University property immediately back of the Library and near the Woman's College. We have planned the building to house 100 students and 16 faculty. Miss Fosnot has kindly agreed to allow those of our Western faculty who cannot take Chinese food to eat with their faculty. We shall have no facilities for serving anything but Chinese food.

The Executive Committee in Chengtu also approved the application for a subsidy from the Szechuan Provincial Government to meet the cost of this building to house the staff and students as well as the cost of constructing a simple gymnasium that will be necessary when we carry on the work of our Physical Education Department. The official application has been sent in and the Educational Commissioner has kindly indicated that he will manage to make us a grant of at least twenty thousand dollars. Our plan is to keep all bills for the building and equipment within the grant from the government.

Miss Sutherland has consistently expressed her desire to stay in China during this difficult time. I have invited her to come to Chengtu both because there will be several music teachers and because she will help me as a part time secretary. Furthermore, she will be of invaluable help in many ways while we are starting in our new living quarters.

Miss Tappert has decided to go home for the summer and expects now to return to Chungking University next autumn.

Miss Chester is planning to sail on the Empress of Russia July 10th from Shanghai.

I had fully expected to stay in Chengtu during July to plan everything for our work next autumn, but unfortunately I found my name on the list of delegates to the newly formed "Guo Ming Tsan Djen Hwei" - (Citizens Advisory Council to the Central Government) which is supposed to meet every three months, each time to be one to two weeks. The first meeting is being called to start from July 1st. Both for the sake of the College and for my own I do not want to go but it seems there are only ten women in a body of two hundred so I had better not reduce that representation. President Chen of the University of Nanking is also a delegate. Dr. Chang Bo-lin of Nankai University is the Vice-chairman with Mr. Wang Ching wei the chairman.

The government is ordering military training for all college students with the exception of the entering freshmen class for a period of two months from August 20th to October 19th. The women students are supposed to go into hospitals to gain knowledge of first aid nursing etc. Since we feel the hospitals in the city may not be able to accommodate the girls full time, we may need to provide part time class work or some sort of a program for them. This would apply to the upper classes for we shall have the freshmen all here.

GINLING COLLEGE

COMMENCEMENT, 1938

The graduation exercises for the Class of 1938 were held in two centers, 1300 miles apart, Shanghai and Chengtu.

Shanghai. Commencement events began with Class Day, for which the seniors accepted the hospitality of the McTyeire School (a girls' High School). The program was simple but effective, modelled for the most part on certain features of Commencement at Smith College, such as last Step Sing.

The Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies were shared by the seven institutions co-operating in Shanghai during 1937-38. The Grand Theatre was lent for Commencement, at which W. W. Yen, one of China's most honored statesmen, delivered a stirring address, full of hope for the future. Music was provided by the Fourth Marine Band (American). Finally, there was a faculty-senior banquet to serve as a farewell to the graduates. Miss Liu En-lan, Ginling 1925, and Instructor in Geography, was toastmistress and the speeches centered around the idea of "Roads", very appropriate in this time of rapid changes in personal and official plans.

To the Class of 1938 their senior year will always be a mixture of regret and gratitude. The majors in English, History, and allied subjects will remember their search for books, the generosity of other parts of the war-time university in lending necessary texts, the hours of roading which were spent standing or sitting just anywhere because of lack of study-hall space. The girls who took their degrees in physical education and in laboratory science will recall in the years to come the strenuous efforts necessary to complete their credits in borrowed quarters and with very limited equipment. The enthusiasm of the newest addition to the department of physical education, Ettie Lentoy Chin, Smith 1936, was a definite asset. Those who studied with Miss Liu En-lan will think with admiration of the success with which her dynamic enthusiasm and her vivid descriptions supplied the teaching materials which under normal conditions would have been gathered in field trips.

Both teachers and students of Ginling's Shanghai Unit of 1937-38 will treasure the memory of a united life in study, in relief work, in the sharing of all sorts of meagre resources, in anxiety for family and friends, in longing for the beloved campus in Nanking, and in daily triumph over disturbing fears. As Acting Dean of the Unit, Ruth Chester, Smith 1914, contributed a poise and wisdom which will always be a part of this chapter of Ginling's history.

Chengtu. On the campus of West China Union University at Chengtu a smaller group of Ginling students was graduated. President Wu herself gave the Baccalaureate address for our hosts. Ginling's separate graduation ceremonies, marking the end of a year as guests on a friendly campus, were carried on very quietly in Vandaman Hall. The students in Chengtu seem conscious of the blessing of being in the part of China which is called Free, because it is untouched by actual fighting, and is considered out of range of the present conflict. They are devoting themselves with fine spirit to the requirements of their courses of study. *

* For details of the revised curriculum, see accompanying announcement.