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FIRST GINLING JOURNEY BY THE BURMA ROAD

RANGOON TO KUNMING JANUARY 18-27 1939

<u>Departed</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Elapsed Distance</u>
<u>Rangoon</u> , Wednesday, January 18, 11 p.m.	<u>Pegu</u> , January 19, 1 a.m.	57 miles
<u>Pegu</u> , Thursday, January 19, 9 a.m. (Time out for two meals at restaurants)	<u>Mandalay</u> , January 20, 2 a.m.	397 miles
<u>Mandalay</u> , Friday, January 20, 10 a.m. (Time out for one meal at railway station)	<u>Lashio</u> , 7 p.m.	182 miles
Stayed at Lashio two nights and one day.		
<u>Lashio</u> , Sunday, January 22, 9 a.m. (Time out for one meal at Kutkai)	<u>Chefang</u> 8:30 a.m.	139 miles
Crossed border about 5:30 p.m. 115 miles from Lashio.		
<u>Chefang</u> , Monday, January 23, 7:30 a.m.	<u>Mangshih</u> 9:30 a.m.	30 miles
<u>Mangshih</u> , Tuesday, January 24, 6:30 a.m. (Time out for one meal at restaurant, customs, and one snack along the road.)	<u>Baoshan</u> 7:30 p.m.	129 miles
<u>Baoshan</u> , Wednesday, January 25, 9:40 a.m. (Yunnan time)	<u>Hsakuan</u> 11:30 p.m. (Only snacks along the road)	157 miles
<u>Hsakuan</u> , Thursday, January 26, 8:30 a.m. (Snack along road - highest point reached, 9500 feet)	<u>Tsuhsiung</u> 5:30 p.m.	137 miles
<u>Tsuhsiung</u> , Friday, January 27, 6 a.m. (Time out for one meal at restaurant)	<u>Kunming</u> 2 p.m.	122 miles

Total distance about 1350 miles.

MEMBERS OF THE PARTY

Ralph A. Ward, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church.    Organiser and Leader.

Frank W. Price, Professor of Religious Education and Chairman of Rural Church  
Department, Nanking Theological Seminary.

Robert B. McClure, Missionary Surgeon of United Church of Canada, Honan Mission.

Wallace Chun-hsien Wang, Dean of West China Union Theological College.

K. S. Mondol of Bengal, India	) Fraternal delegates to China from the Southern Asiatic Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
On Kun of Rangoon, Burma	

Eva Dykes Spicer, Head of the Department of Philosophy and Religion, Ginling College

CHINA'S NEW GATEWAY TO THE SOUTHWEST  
FIRST GINLING JOURNEY BY THE BURMA ROAD  
RANGOON TO KUNMING, JANUARY 18-27, 1939

Eva Dykes Spicer

Member of the Faculty of Ginling College.  
 Representative of the London Missionary  
 Society at the Madras Conference.

After adventuring in the realm of the spirit at the Madras Conference some of the delegates felt they would like to explore other new roads by returning to China by way of the very recently finished and opened road from Burma to China. Bishop Ward, Methodist Episcopal Bishop of Szechuan, was the originator and organiser of the scheme, and would if necessary have gone alone, but there was no need of that, and the final number of his party was seven.

The members of the party were Bishop Ward and Dr. Frank Price, Americans, Dr. Robert MacLure, Canadian, Mr. Wallace Wang (Dean of the Theological Seminary in Chengtu), Chinese, the Rev. K. S. Mondol, Indian, and the Reverend On Kun, Burmese, fraternal delegates to China from the Southern Asiatic Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this hour of need, and myself, Eva Dykes Spicer, British. We were a miniature Madras Conference in ourselves, and I think it can be said that we continued the same spirit of fellowship. We had a common language in English, and the difference in other tongues was only a convenience - as no matter what language was called for - Burmese - Hindustani - Chinese (Mandarin or Foochow) - English or American - we could supply the need. Four of us knew something of each other beforehand; the other three were strangers to each other and to the rest of us, but we settled down quickly to a real understanding. It was our practice - omitted only once or twice, due to special circumstances - to have morning prayers each day, thus recognizing naturally and openly that which bound us together, and gave us a common outlook on life.

We gathered in Rangoon, for we were motoring all the way from that city to Kunming (Yunnanfu). It came as a surprise to me personally to find that the new road was not altogether popular in Burma. There is a considerable amount of unrest at present in Burma - strikes of various kinds were the order of the day while we were there - it is probably part of the growing pains which accompany the development of self-government, but complicated by the presence in Burma of large groups of Chinese and Indians, so that the Burmese are apt to look a little askance at a new means of communication which may bring not only goods but people into a country which they are desirous of keeping for the Burmese. Undoubtedly, too, the Japanese are a factor in the situation, seeking to stir up feeling against the new road, which is easily done as the road is promoted by the British, and there is much anti-British feeling in Burma. In their propaganda among the Burmese the Japanese make great play with the fact that they also are a Buddhist people, for Buddhism is the national religion of the Burmese, and monks take an active part in politics. The Chinese, however, also have their place and their supporters in Burmese life, and if the road develops along sound lines - carrying other goods besides ammunition - it will doubtless become an accepted and welcomed part of the national life.

Our original intention had been to travel in one 3/4 ton Dodge truck with

a station wagon body, but seven people with luggage, bedding, etc., proved too much - so after various experiments with other means we got another 3/4 ton Dodge truck, though with a much less elegant body. Into that we put most of the luggage, and the petrol that we would need for that part of the road along which there were no service stations. Dr. Maclure was the chief driver of that car, with Frank Price as relief, while Bishop Ward was the driver in chief of the first car, with Mr. Mondol as understudy. Our equipment besides the two cars, four drivers, petrol, provisions, bedding rolls, etc., included many letters of introduction to people along the way - especially to the officials of the South West Transport Co. who have charge of the road on the Chinese side of the border - also letters from the Red Cross to whom the trucks were going to be sold. So that we were well equipped in every sense of the word.

The first car left Rangoon at the rather unusual hour - but there were good and sufficient reasons - of 11 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18th, and we arrived in Kunming on Friday, January 27th at 2 p.m., so that the journey took us something under nine days. We stopped one whole day as well as two nights at Lashio, and also most of one day at Mangshih, so that the actual time on the road was more like seven days, and the journey can be done in that time, though I should not recommend it, as some of the stages were a little too long for real comfort and enjoyment. The route from Rangoon to Lashio, which is the head of the railway, is for the most part over well-made, much travelled road, though the last part from Maymio to Lashio still leaves much to be desired, and we did that - a distance of 641 miles - in two days. The remainder of the journey, approximately 710 miles, took us five full motoring days, but the road was almost continuously through mountainous country, and it was impossible to go much beyond an average of 15 miles an hour. In the second half of the journey, the longest distance that we covered in one day was 157 miles, and that was rather too much, as it meant driving until 11:30 p.m. at night. It was true that we had started rather later than usual that morning, but even had we started at 7:30 instead of 9:30 we should have had to keep going for at least three hours in the dark, which on some of those roads is not really too pleasant, though in dry weather perfectly possible with a good driver. In the most difficult section of the road for driving, that which lies between Lashio and Hsakuan (20 miles from Dali) - a distance of 455 miles - the itinerary which we had been given allowed for three days, but five days would be far more enjoyable. The highest point is not reached on the road until the last day before Kunming, when the road goes well over 9000 feet, but you get a much greater sense of altitude on the road between Baoshan and Hsakuan, when it actually rises only just above 9000 feet, and the road on that day has the steepest grade - so steep that our luggage truck failed to make it by itself, and had to be assisted twice by the strength of five nationalities pushing from behind.

I am no expert in the making and engineering of roads, so that any of my remarks on that subject are almost without value. It is clear that it was a great enterprise, which has been accomplished in a remarkably short time. At the moment the road is very good in places, and only lacks a surface finish in others, but there are some places where it is still very narrow, and many more places where the bridges over the culverts are not yet finished, and the detours to the side are inconvenient and bumpy. The road is so continuously a mountainous one, climbing and descending, winding in and out, that a flat straight road becomes something almost unthinkable, but there is only one place where it seemed as though the grade was so steep as to cause real inconvenience. The most obvious question that occurs to anyone's mind is what the rain will do to some parts of the road. We went over during the fine season, and had beautiful



clear weather right through, warm by day and cold by night. But the rains come in April and May, and the earth in many places is so soft and loose that it seems as though it would be easily washed away. Also the twists and turns which are perfectly possible on a dry surface would become rather like a nightmare, I should think, on a slippery, greasy surface. However, I am very little of a judge, and at the moment there are hardly any places where one is tempted to ask "Can we make it, or shall we go over the side?"

There is one aspect of the road on which one does not need to be an expert to speak, and that is the beauty of the country through which it goes. About 20 miles from Mandalay the road begins to climb, and from there right through to Kunming, which is itself over 6000 feet up, one is never out of the mountains. Sometimes you can see range after range of hills as you wind along at a high level. Sometimes you descend deep into valleys, where you can see little but the hills on either side of you, sometimes you journey for a short time over a wide plain surrounded by hills, sometimes the mountains are wooded, sometimes they are bare, but always you are aware of the heights above you or beyond you. One of the most spectacular descents is that to the bridge which crosses the Salween river. The range over which you approach the river is about 7750 feet, the level of the river is 2800 feet, so the valley is deep and impressive. The other big suspension bridge crosses the Meekong river, along which you motor for some time before reaching the bridge. It is not such an impressive valley in depth as the Salween river, but it is a very beautiful mountain stream at that point, and lends colour and variety to the scene. The only place where saw any snow was on the mountains above Hsakuan, where there were only a few streaks, but the landscape does not need snow to give it variety and beauty. How useful the road will be for the transport of goods is still to be seen, but no one who has ever been over it can doubt that it is now and will remain one of the great scenic highways of the world.

It is not a road which has yet finished laying itself out for tourist traffic, though there are signs that it is being planned for. So long as we were in Burma we stayed mainly at the Rest Bungalows provided by a thoughtful government, which afford shelter and a bed, but no bedding and no food. In China we stopped at a variety of places. The first night after we crossed the border, which you do 115 miles from Lashio, we stopped at a place called Chefang; the inns of the place proving not very acceptable, Frank Price, who was in charge of the night's lodging, got us permission to stay in the school, which was at least clean. There was also a schoolmaster's wife under the same roof, so I might be said to have had a chaperone. The men laid down straw at one end of the schoolroom, and I put up my camp bed at the other end, with all the desks between us for additional protection. The next night some of the party stayed at the Rest House of the Swabaw, a kind of local hereditary chieftain at Mangshih, where the accommodation was simple but adequate, while two others who had gone ahead stayed at a very clean and pleasant newly opened inn at Lungling. The next night at Bao-shan we again had some difficulty in finding accommodation, but finally discovered the local China Inland Missionary, and were very hospitably entertained. The next two nights at Hsakuan and Tsuhsiung, we stopped at the South-West Transport Co. Rest Houses. One of them was hardly finished yet on the inside, and carpenters' tools and shavings were still lying around, but in both cases there was a wooden board on which to spread one's bedding, and a roof over one's head as a shelter from the wind, and separate rooms to enable one to conform to the conventions. In our eating we started off by being international. The first day out of Rangoon we had breakfast in the British style, lunch in Chinese, and supper in Indian, but after we crossed the border we ate mainly Chinese food, especially in the morning and at night when we got a hot meal at one of the local

restaurants. It is amazing how good the food is at any small Chinese restaurant. Sometimes when making a very early start we had to start off with nothing or cook it ourselves, but we did very little of our own cooking, just twice in fact - the night and morning at Hsakuan - but we often ate from our own provisions in the middle of the day such things as biscuits, cheese, tomato juice. We celebrated our stay with the China Inland Missionary, with a really first-class foreign breakfast.

Considering that we were a party of seven travelling over a new road with two new cars, we really fared very well indeed, and had no major accidents of any kind, though one or two minor ones. At Mangshih, for instance, we had to pass over a covered wooden bridge, the station wagon had a railing on top, and we put our bedding on the roof of that car. When we went over the bridge we failed to observe how low the roof was, and when we arrived at the other end, we found that the railing of our wagon-top had been wrenched off, and all the bedding rolls strewn along the ground. It was easy to replace them, but it took a blacksmith several hours to replace the railing, and in the meanwhile we had to wait. However, we might have had to wait in any case, as we had letters to the Swabaw at Mangshih, and he was busy with the burial of his mother - a really great affair, with a wonderful procession of paper images - and could not be seen until evening. We had, therefore, a double reason for waiting, and that was where we lost almost the whole of one day, as we covered that day only the thirty miles from Chefang to Mangshih.

Our letters and visas were sufficient to get us through the formalities without difficulty. Actually at the border there is no examination of any kind, indeed, only by reckoning distance did you know when you crossed the border. You pass across a very small bridge over a very small stream, and that is all there is. The people on both sides of the border belong to various tribes, very picturesque in their costume, neither Burmese nor Chinese, though in looks they seem more like Chinese. We saw a very gay looking market of the tribespeople at Kutkai, the last town of any size before crossing the border. The Chinese customs office is now established at Lungling, about 58 miles from the border, and thanks to our various letters we had no difficulty there. Crossing the Salween bridge another effort was made to examine us, but Dr. MacLure began examining them, and we drove on.

We passed relatively little traffic on the road, a private car or two, buses on certain sections, and a few trucks, but the road is not yet fully opened and the heavy traffic has not got going on it. It is good to think that in the order of events two of the trucks which passed over that road in its early days came laden not with materials of destruction, but with goodwill and sympathy for China from five different nations, with various skills for the healing and upbuilding of her people, and, above all, with the knowledge of Jesus Christ in whom there is already a fellowship which transcends the barriers of nation and race, and through whom wars may yet cease and men live at peace with one another.

# Ginling College in China

1938-39

First Semester, November 3 - March 15; second semester, March 22 - July 25

IN CHENGDU: REGULAR COLLEGE PROGRAM AND RURAL PROJECT.

IN NANKING: REHABILITATION TRAINING FOR WOMEN AND MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES FOR GIRLS.

IN SHANGHAI: 33 GINLING UNDERGRADUATES, GUEST STUDENTS IN ASSOCIATED SHANGHAI UNIVERSITIES.

## OUR PRESIDENT

An exacting schedule has filled President Wu's crowded days this year. There has been the task of adjusting the Ginling family to its present home on the West China campus, consultation on many problems involving the family of five institutions sharing West China's hospitality, attendance at the People's Congress in Chungking,



and finally the chairmanship of the China Delegation to the International Missionary Council at Madras. She returned to the campus in Chengtu late in January,

somewhat refreshed. (The inset was taken at a gathering of 28 alumnae in Hongkong, November 27).

## OUR FACULTY

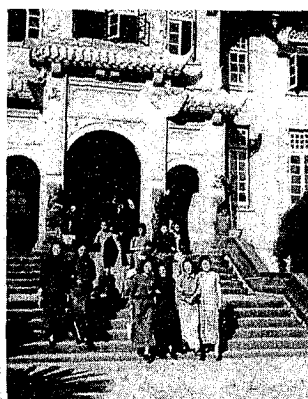
34 full-time and 4 part-time teachers make up this year's faculty. The 6 Westerners are all veterans: Miss Graves, Miss Kirk, Dr. Reeves, Miss Spicer, Miss Sutherland, and the Treasurer, Miss Priest. Several members of the Chinese faculty are well known in America: Miss Chang Siao-sung in Psychology, who has repeatedly taken administrative responsibility in Dr. Wu's absence, Miss Li Dze-djen in the Department of Religion, Miss Chen Pin-dji in Biology, Miss Phoebe Ho in charge of the Rural Project, Miss Tsui Ya-lan and Miss Ettie Len-toy Chin in Physical Education.

Tutorial regulations recently promulgated by the Ministry of Education give five or six students to each faculty member for special guidance in personal life as well as in studies. The text of the Government order states that the intention of the edict is to correct "emphasis on the mere handing down of knowledge and the neglect of guidance in moral education."

## OUR BUILDINGS IN CHENGDU

Living quarters for the students and for women faculty members are provided in the new dormitory, built with a \$25,000 grant from the Province of Szechuan. Classrooms are lent by West China Union University in Vandeman Hall. Life and work go on under Spartan conditions of comfort and space. A small single room serves each faculty member as sleeping quarters, study, and conference room. Four students, using double-decker beds, share each dormitory room, 10½ feet square.

In process of construction are a small building for the Music Department, an emergency gymnasium, and a building to house the men faculty.



## OUR STUDENTS

On November 3rd - after the preliminary month in which the three upper classes had special training under the government - college work began. On November 24th, the enrollment was 140: in Chengtu, 107; in Shanghai 33, enrolled as Ginling students on guest privileges with the Shanghai Universities. This privilege is given for one year only and the work is supervised by Mrs. Chen Yu-hwa (Hwang Li-ming).



Ginling Headquarters-Vandeman

In her report to the Board of Directors, President Wu comments on the good sportsmanship with which both students and faculty members faced the dangers and difficulties through which they reached Chengtu. "The final test of their fine spirit," she says, "came when the first bus load arrived from Chungking on September 4. I had to tell them that the Women's College dormitory was too full and our own building was not finished, so they would have to sleep on the floor. The girls answered most cheerfully that they were used to sleeping on floors. Workmen were still in the building and there were no lights, but they were happy after two months' travel to arrive at a place they could call home."

# The Journey to Chengtu

[2]

The larger party of students bound for West China took the 2600-mile trip from Shanghai to Hongkong, Hankow, Chungking, and then Chengtu: ocean liner, railroad, river steamer, and bus. Others went from Hongkong to Hanoi in Indo-China, thence by railroad to Kunming (Yunnanfu) and by bus or airplane to Chungking. By whatever route the journey was made, it was one of severe trials of discomfort, long delays, and not infrequent emergencies, best met by those with a sense of humor and a steady purpose.

On the Canton-Hankow railroad the party had more than one initiation, including the technique of breathing through moist filters in long tunnels and response to air raid signals.

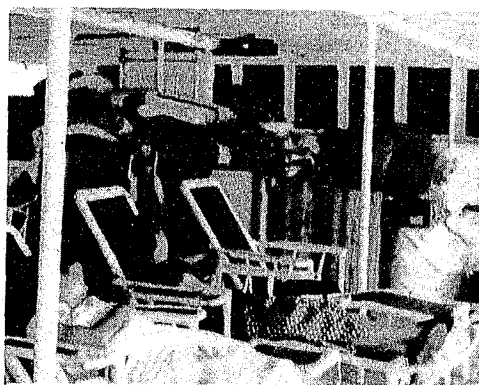
Wherever delays came, the days were well used, first in making up lost sleep, then in becoming acquainted with work going on in schools and relief centers. In Hankow, a long wait for up-river passage made it possible to give a substantial amount of service in the Red Cross Headquarters. In Chungking the Ginling travellers gained some insight into the serious difficulties courageously met by refugee units of Government universities.



Lost in the Beauty of the Gorges



Up the Yangtze on the "Wan Liu"



Letters written by the travellers from the journey's beginning to its end minimize all that made the days trying and the nights long. They record much of beauty and many a reassuring glimpse of the pulsing activity of China's hinterland.



Chungking to Chengtu - A Bus Station

The story deserves permanent record. First of all there is the resourcefulness and persistence of the travellers. Without it they might never have begun the trip, certainly they would never have completed it. The mere fact that 2600 miles took two months of travel time is sufficiently eloquent.

As trained observers, too, the Ginling trekkers rouse our admiration. They have cut deeply into our imaginations the country and the people along the route. Red soil, brown soil, gray soil, buffalo plowing the familiar rice fields, then in far Szechuan many crops less well known: sorghum, taro, cotton, sugar cane, dozens of varieties of bamboo, and the trees of the banana, orange, and pomelo.

"The approach to Chengtu is charming, a wide plain, many miles wide, visible from the tops of the last mountains. . . The city itself with wide streets, bordered with trees, and the West China campus amazing in its spaciousness, covering about 150 acres. . . Our bus rode right up to the edge of the Women's College where Dr. Wu, Dr. Reeves, Miss Fosnot, and numbers of students came running to meet us." Journey's end.

The Ferry is a Sampan

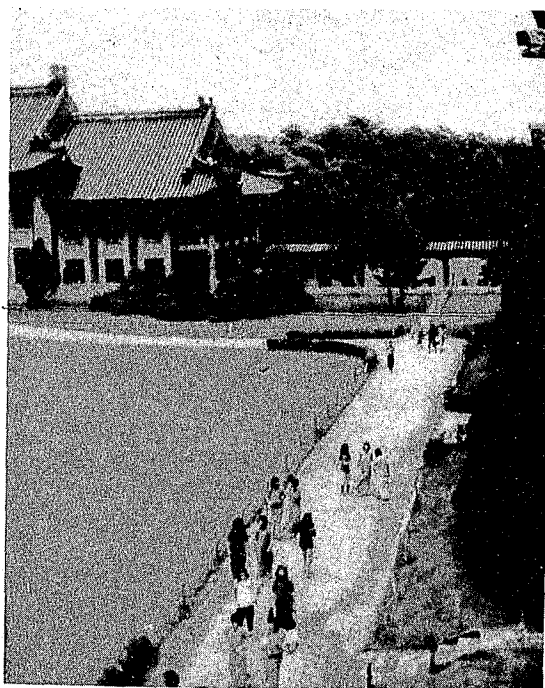


In late November there began to arrive on the West China campus the 300 parcels of books from the Ginling College library which had begun their journey in early summer. The first stage of the trip is shown in the glimpses of their transportation by ricksha to the Shanghai bund, to be loaded on the ship for Hongkong. The last stage was 80 days from Kunming to Chengtu fastened to the backs of donkeys and mules. This miniature library represents a careful choice of the irreducible minimum needed for the College departments. The warmth of their welcome in Chengtu can be easily imagined, as can also the ingenious expedients necessitated by their absence during the early weeks of the year.



## FOUNDER'S DAY 1938

The sense of unity in work and ideals which the war has brought has become very important to Ginling morale: to teachers and students, guests on a campus not their own, and to the alumnae facing more serious tasks and greater problems of loneliness than ever before. Founders' Day has become one of the symbols of unity of spirit, and each year is celebrated by Ginling women wherever they are.



While strange figures pace its walks, the Ginling campus waits - not idly - for the return of its rightful residents.

This year there were celebrations in Chengtu, Nanking, Shanghai, and Hongkong on November 13th. In Chengtu an afternoon service in Hart College chapel included a talk by President Wu, almost at the moment of her stepping into the plane for Kunming and Madras, and an address by Dr. Chen Wei-ping. At half past five the new Ginling dormitory entertained a large gathering, "a jolly yet serious occasion, a breath of the old Ginling."

The Shanghai alumnae and students celebrated in the social hall of the Y.W.C.A. with an audience of 125. Sixteen seniors led the procession, followed by Mrs. Chen Yu-hwa, who presided as Ginling's administrative representative, the Reverend Z. T. Kiang, Dr. Li Tien-luh, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Dr. Liu Gien-tsiu, representing the alumnae. The formal program was followed by tea and informal dramatic glimpses of the Old Ginling.

On the Nanking campus a group of 18 of those most intimately connected with the College met at half past seven in the morning for a service of intercession, and at four in the afternoon a formal anniversary program was given in the College Chapel before an audience of 300. Greetings were read from the group in Shanghai, from the alumnae in Hongkong, and it was announced that two alumnae had made a gift as a beginning of a fund for the rehabilitation of women and girls. A part of the plan is a credit cooperative association, to be called the Ginling Women's Mutual Help Association.



# SERVICE PROJECTS - EAST AND WEST

[4]

## CHENG TU RURAL SERVICE

For the planning and supervision of the rural program of Ginling in Szechuan, Miss Hoh Ying-tsing (Phoebe) 1920, has returned to the faculty. Miss Hoh's long experience in rural work, following graduate study in America, has included service with the Kiangsi Branch of the National Economic Council.



Directors of Ginling's Rural Project visit a Szechuan farm.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL IN NANKING

To consolidate the service of the Ginling campus to women and girl refugees, two types of work are being carried on this year. The first is instruction in middle school subjects to 145 girls. It is reassuring - one of many proofs of the stability of the common

people - to know that 38 per cent of the students are able to pay in full the modest fees, \$46 Chinese currency each semester. A work-relief plan allows others to earn all or a part of their fees. Younger students help with the household duties; older girls are given teaching in the homecraft project or the nursery school.

## THE HOMECRAFT-INDUSTRIAL COURSE

The second project on the Ginling campus in Nanking this year is instruction to rehabilitate destitute women and girls. As the first group to be given six months' training, 100 women and girls were chosen, 16 to 37 years of age. Fifty of these were entirely destitute and fifty come from families in very low income brackets. The thirty children of these women are being cared for in a nursery school on the campus. The women are proving very responsive to teaching in household skills and productive crafts. The future of this work is bright as a factor contributing to a return to normal life. One of Miss Vautrin's dreams which deserves fulfillment is to select next year a group of the most promising girls from a number of villages and farms and prepare them to go back to their homes with training for improved living.

## THE POULTRY PROJECT

One of the pre-war survivals on the Ginling campus is the experiment of the Biology Department in poultry raising. The devotion of a departmental assistant, Miss Blanche Wu, Ginling 1923, preserved this experiment through last winter's experiences. The results have been very satisfactory in the direction of producing poultry of high laying records and disease resistance, the egg records running as high as three times the usual local farmers' records. Another gratifying result is that Miss Wu has been able to supply farmers with eggs to restock their own poultry yards, destroyed last year.

## ALUMNAE SERVICE

The wartime service of Ginling alumnae should be reported more fully than is possible in this bulletin. A good proportion of the present faculty strength of the College is in its alumnae members, many of them holding higher degrees from foreign universities. In gatherings such as the People's Council, the women's relief organizations, and the executive groups of the Y.W.C.A., the graduates of Ginling carry heavy responsibilities. To mention one of these is but to cite a typical example.

Wang Yin-an (1935), as General Secretary of the Wuchang Y.W.C.A., led in relief measures for wounded soldiers and refugees in that area until the fall of the city. She is now beginning social and educational work for women and girls in a very backward district. A Chinese friend writes: "Her Christian patriotism gives her no rest. She works day and night for those who need her."

The Rural Headquarters: Sunning rice straw for mattresses: Miss Kirk, Miss Wen, and an amah.



March 23, 1939

JOTTINGS OF A SPRING DAY ON THE CAMPUS

Miss Vautrin Shares her Thoughts on Ginling's Task in Nanking

It is a glorious day - spring is in the air! The tender green leaves are just appearing on the willow trees and the birds split their little throats with their joyous notes. At five each morning one awakens me from his tree near my window. His song is so lovely that I cannot resent his early call. Chinese jasmine, daffodils, violets, and the blue mustard, "Temple of Heaven" flower are in bloom.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Homecraft Course draws to a close for most of the women the end of this month. A group of about twenty of them who will profit by more training will continue through April.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Experimental Course, in spite of our fixed determination not to take in new girls, is now 180 strong. Of this number 102 are on full or part-time work-relief in order to earn their fees. Of the 102, 21 girls come from homes so poor that they can pay nothing whatsoever.

\* \* \* \* \*

We are starting a loan fund, from which women will borrow in order to purchase looms and stocking machines. Women have decided each to put one dollar in it; if they do not have a dollar, they earn it by weeding on the campus. What they have earned as groups during the past six months is also put in.

\* \* \* \* \*

After trying for nine months to secure more women members for the staff of the Experimental Course, we have at last succeeded in getting one of the graduates of our two-year special course in Physical Education who teaches and will also help with the supervision work later on. She arrived this past week and we were rejoiced to have her come. I might say that we do not blame young women for not wanting to come here, for conditions are uncertain.

\* \* \* \* \*

The work of last semester on our campus went on very smoothly, with no interference from without and no troubles from within. When we opened work last September we dared not hope for such good fortune. What the future holds one cannot foretell, but we can only go forward in faith.

GINLING COLLEGE  
Nanking, China

[2]

CLOSING EVENTS OF HOMECRAFT COURSE

March 25 - April 10, 1939

- March 25, Saturday      Dinner for Teachers of Homecraft Course prepared by women students.
- 26, Sunday              Service at 2:30 p.m.      Mrs. Matti, speaker.
- 29, Wednesday          Dinner for outside group who have helped with the Homecraft Course, prepared by women students.
- 31, Friday               EXHIBIT of work of Homecraft Course women, 2 - 5 p.m.  
                             Guests: Pastors and wives  
   Mr. Sone, Dr. Hsu, and Mr. Mills, of the International Relief Commission.  
                             Tea to be served by women at 4 p.m., cakes (dien sing) to be made by women.
- April 1, Saturday       EXHIBITION AND SALE of Homecraft Products, 2 - 5 p.m.  
                             Guests: Chinese and foreign friends.  
   Students and staff of Experimental Course.
- CLOSING SERVICE for Homecraft Course, 8:30 p.m.  
   Short talks by members of staff.
- 2, Sunday                SPECIAL SERVICE - Palm Sunday      2:30 p.m.
- 3 - 7, Monday through Friday      HOLY WEEK SERVICES for both courses, 9:30 a.m.  
   April 6, 7 p.m. Communion Service for Christians  
   (Above services in the College Chapel)
- 9, Sunday                EASTER SUNDAY  
   7 - 8 a.m.      Special Early Service  
   Simple Pageant. (In garden if possible.)  
   9:30 a.m.      Children's Party  
   Children of Nursery School and Staff  
   2:30 p.m.      Special Easter Service.  
   Both courses and neighborhood women.  
   7:00 p.m.      Farewell meeting of Homecraft Women  
   (In Science Hall)  
   Special Service by girls of Experiment Course.
- 10, Monday               Majority of women and their children plan to leave, some to their own homes if they still have them, others will be helped to find places where they can start to work. Miss Lin, the dean, is now working on this problem of finding places for them.



GINLING COLLEGE  
Nanking, China

QUOTATIONS FROM MISS VAUTRIN'S REPORT OF MARCH, 1938

In the Industrial-Homcraft Course we have 100 destitute women and older girls between the ages of eighteen and thirty. These women brought with them 30 little children, who are now in a little nursery school on the campus - the happiest place you ever saw. The women study courses like reading, home arithmetic, home and community hygiene, singing, and religion for half of the day, and the other half they work with their hands. They must learn to cook, clean, garden, make garments and shoes for themselves and their children, knit, weave towels and stockings. Because of generous gifts, we have been able to plan this homcraft course with the training of these women as our goal rather than making the course pay for itself.

The other project is for 145 girls of high school age and is called an Experimental Course. Using the former Junior-Senior middle school curriculum as our foundation, we have tried to enrich each course with the vitally important related materials. For instance, a course in social problems has been substituted for college algebra; washing of dishes, the cleaning of dining and classrooms, and the making of padded garments for the poor have been substituted for the usual handwork course; and the washing and salting of vegetables for winter use has been done in place of physical education.

For many months last year we neglected our neighborhood work, but that has now been revived in a most interesting way. In our Neighborhood Center there is a little day school for children of primary grade, taught by a former Christian primary school teacher who returned to Nanking in rags, accompanied by his three little motherless sons. When we asked him if he could take responsibility for starting a day school, he replied that he would like nothing better and within a few days he opened the school with 150 poor children coming to register the first day. From personal gifts which some of you have sent, we have been able to purchase rice tickets, and from the International Relief Commission we have secured padded garments, so that when the poor come asking for food and clothing, their plight can be investigated and aid given accordingly.

If I were writing a book about this section of China I would bestow upon it the title "This Brave Old World"! That fittingly describes the condition in Nanking now. As soon as it was possible last year, the elderly members of families came out of hiding from villages and refugee camps and returned to their shops and business. Out of the charred timbers and broken bricks they built booths and homes and have taken up the burden of life once more. Such uncomplaining persistence I have never seen equalled!

Those whom I miss most, and whose absence breaks my heart, are the forward-looking hopeful, energetic younger leaders who, two short years ago, were so enthusiastically creating "New China". I want to enlist your active interest, and where possible, your cooperation in the dreams for next autumn. We wonder if it will be possible to invite from villages and farms fifty to eighty young women of outstanding character, Christian or non-Christian, educated or illiterate, and plan for them a six or eight months' course in rural reconstruction, planning for them a curriculum which would prepare them as fully as possible to live and share the new life back in their little villages. This would take the place of our present Homcraft Course. We would like to convert our Experimental Course for high school girls into a training course for leaders and teachers of village groups. It might even be possible to arrange for a few alumnae to come back to do research work in rural rehabilitation.

Our work has been carried on, upheld and strengthened by our knowledge that we had the constant thoughts of Ginling students, alumnae, faculty members, and supporting friends both in the Orient and in the West. If you can all continue to stand by, this work can go on at the heart of this city, still great in the midst of suffering.

C O P Y

Chengtu  
May 21, 1939

To a few of you:

Here goes a weekly account, ala Eva, who always sends home a nice chatty review of the week, and last year when I was in Wuchang she was kind enough to mail one to some of us there, so that we kept up so nicely with just what they were doing in Shanghai.

This has been such a full, fuller, fullest week, that has made us feel in some sense as if we had begun to "wake up and live;" for it has included a series of stimulating and almost fiery addresses by Dr. Lautenschlager, missionary from Shantung who has been lecturing with a team from the National Christian Council in different educational centers for over a year. He is much more brusque than Stanley Jones, but perhaps a little more helpful, to me, in most respects, though I would not be clear about all his theories as to what following Christ means. But it seems all in all the most complete interpretation of the Christian message that I have heard. He is a socialist and historian, so goes at it from that standpoint. He has been speaking too many times a day, one would feel, for he sometimes seemed almost too tired. Fortunately most of his talks were interpreted, and he frankly said it rested him to have the breathing spaces in between. I think he did not find the same response in numbers who came to hear him as in a number of other centers, and there may be a number of reasons for that. One is, that just this week an intensive training in first aid took place for six nights, two hours each night, and six days. I did not get started as I wanted, but went for the last two nights, and was much interested in the group there, and their enthusiasm. About 300 attended, and are divided into squads of 30 each, who will go out in case of air raids to help the wounded. It is so fine to have this, for in many of the other places the red cross and first aid help has been far too inadequate.

An interesting young doctor gave the lectures to this group. He happens to be Manchurian, and later was a surgeon in Nanking Hospital. He was several times beaten by the Japanese in Manchuria and just escaped, so he knows whereof he speaks when he tells the students they must take this seriously, meanwhile being so humorous that he has them in uproar most of the time. He is the most outspoken young man I have seen (he is over 40, but young in spirit). There has been a shortage of gauze for bandages and it is hard to get enough looms going to supply the demand. He mentioned this and also the fact that he had seen a lot of the gauze confiscated by hospital nurses and staff for their own use, for mosquito nets, hangings, bedding, almost any use. "What can we expect", he said, "when we who are trained act like that?" I was glad I could remember at least one similar instance of that kind of illigitimate use of things by an American after the Great War. (Dr. L was also very fair in almost always giving measuring any evil or corruption he mentioned on the part of the Chinese by a similar instance among Americans or Europeans. Which seems to be the chief point - the fact that human nature is the same everywhere, and with the same needs.) Dr. Chiang also stirred the courage of those students by telling them how to proceed, in case any of their squad should be bombed in action. They were to choose several sub leaders, so that if No. 1 fell under a bomb number 2 took charge, followed by No. 3, etc. I believe they will measure up when the time comes, or if it does.

We have also been cutting and rolling bandages every evening in our dormitory from 9 to 10, just to have them ready for need. Not all the girls came to help, in fact only about a fourth or fifth, but when one realizes that their regular class work is supposed to go right on, and that some of them are teaching in the servants' night school, and doing other things, then it isn't surprising that the whole group doesn't turn out.

We have such a nice funny lot of servants, and I am glad that our girls have a real social consciousness about them. The girls clean their own rooms and do not expect private service of the servants, and are rather badly censored if they demand it. Since so many of them are used to it in their homes, it is easy for them to forget. Every night there is a night school, for the girls feel that the servants must learn to read, and sometimes the poor things, especially the ladies, beg off because of sleepiness, but they must go on just the same, and now education is compulsory for them. If they miss school three nights, they must quit the job! The other night they became quite convulsed, and we did too over their learning of the party song, which every loyal citizen must know nowadays. They finally got it so as to be recognizable.

I just had my first and probably only ride in Dr. Wu's private ricksha in order to get off a cable for her. She has never had that before, refusing to do so in Nanking, but here it is such a saving for her in going over the long distance of this campus. She carries on with splendid courage in the face of great difficulties and problems.

## GINLING HOLDS FAST IN ANOTHER ORDEAL

The Bombing of the West China Campus, 11 June 1939

### I Ginling in the Month Preceding the Attack

#### THREATENED AIR RAID (from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 8 May 1939)

At 1:20 this morning we were roused from sound sleep by the shrieking of the siren announcing that Japanese planes were headed this way and were already inside the boundaries of Szechuan. Our college group followed quietly and promptly the rules of action for times like this: all dressed as quickly as they could without any light (all electricity having been turned off when the signal was given). Most of the students and faculty took refuge in the two dug-outs near our buildings and a few went farther into the surrounding fields. The night was bright with moonlight, and it seemed impossible that death-dealing planes should come into such beauty. I was spending the night at a home on the campus and walked back to be with the group here. The Chinese pursuit planes kept guard above, but there seemed to be no battle in the air and no bombs fell. The release signal sounded about 4:30.

No sooner were we all in bed again than another signal came, just as the sun was rising and the moon still in sight. At a quarter of six the second release signal came, and you can well imagine that everyone was sleepy throughout the day. We are told that no damage was done, for the planes could not locate the city.

We are eager to have you know the meaning of reports you may receive that the schools in Chengtu are being obliged to move. The truth of the matter is that the Educational Commission has ordered the primary and middle schools inside the city wall to move into the country in order to reduce the congestion of population. We are outside the city wall on a spacious campus, so that we make a much less attractive target for bombing planes and are not liable to the high fire risks of the city. Please do not worry, therefore, if you hear repeatedly that schools are being obliged to leave Chengtu, while the four college and university institutions stay on.

#### COMPARATIVE SAFETY OF THE WEST CHINA CAMPUS

(from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 10 May 1939)

After the bombing and fire in Chungking, people are scared and schools inside the city wall are moving into the country. We don't plan to move and the girls are quite calm. The bombing in Chungking was terrible because of the fire, the houses are built of wood and continuously, without any breaks, or only narrow side streets. And the hills, too, make the fire at any lower slope climb up easily. Houses are also built of wood in Chengtu, hence the scare. But they are only one story and the streets are wider and the city is level. As for us, the campus population is around 1000 now and the buildings widely apart, so we are not afraid of fire. And there are not any objectives - either military or business - near the grounds. So we are all right, and please don't worry over us. But I am very glad I have decided to stay; for I would be leaving here in three days if I were going to America.

I Ginling in the Month preceding the Attack (continued)

PREPARATION FOR POSSIBLE RAIDS

(from Miss Elsie M. Priest, Treasurer, Chengtu, 16 May 1939)

During recent days Chengtu city has been very tense, and much worried over rumors and reports that the city is to be wiped out by air raids after the 15th! - - - - - The five universities on the West China campus have decided not to attempt to move for the present - the large government institution inside the city wall is moving at once to Mt. Omei. Instead, precautions will be taken to guard against as many potential dangers as can be imagined at this stage. All the most valuable books and scientific equipment have been packed into boxes and scattered around the different buildings on the campus - there is no one place that seems to be safer than others, but we cannot feel the entire campus will be destroyed. All schools have done this - and in addition our families in the University of Nanking (there are 80) who are living in the city have packed their winter clothing and sent it out to the campus to be stored here lest fire breaks out and destroys everything in the part of the city in which they are living.

Each institution has organized students and staff into groups - first aid, fire prevention, building patrol, monitors, etc. The spirit among students has been excellent - many have not experienced air raids previously and some show nervousness. Ginling has built two dugouts of the only type that can be used here, because water lies everywhere so near the surface, above-ground shelters, built up of sand piled on timbers. Of course, these shelters are useless for direct hits, but will give protection against flying fragments. The girls are not compelled to go into them - every student makes his or her own decision as to the best place of safety. The only thing required is that students report what they intend to do, so we can make a survey more easily after each raid.

And the future - I wish I knew. What a lot of difference it would make to us if we could look ahead a week, a month, a year, and see what is to develop. Instead, we must keep the work going as normally as possible, keep our faith and courage. - - - The four Christian university presidents have been in session all the morning, planning for next year! I was called into their meeting for a period, and had great admiration for their ability to sit there calmly discussing entrance examinations, change of calendar, recommendations to be sent to the Ministry of Education for improvement in curricula matters. I am sure they discussed the war - but they did not spend the entire time on that subject, but rather devoted most of their energies toward constructive planning for a new year of work.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS FOR 1939-40

(from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 22 May 1939)

We have received letters of inquiry from Shanghai, Hongkong, and cities in Hunan, about dates of Entrance Tests. We shall give tests in such cities in June, but the tests for people in Chengtu and Chungking will be given later, after the provincial examinations are over, most likely in July.

II Story of the Bombing of Chengtu, 11 June 1939.

Cable from West China Union University to the New York Office  
12 June 1939

CHENG TU BADLY BOMBED UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS DAMAGED ONE  
CHINESE STAFF ONE STUDENT KILLED SEVERAL INJURED URGE  
BRITISH CANADIAN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS STRONG PROTEST  
(signed) ROBERTSON PRIEST

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Cable from the New York Office to West China Union University  
13 June 1939

ASSURE STAFF STUDENTS DEEP CONCERN GREAT ADMIRATION CALM  
COURAGE NEED NAMES COLLEGE CONNECTION STAFF STUDENTS KILLED  
INJURED

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Cable from West China Union University to the New York Office by way  
of the State Department of Washington, D. C. 20 June 1939.

ALL STAFF STUDENTS GREATLY APPRECIATE CABLE SYMPATHY WEST CHINA  
STUDENT HWANGHSIAOCHO KILLED CHEELOO WOMEN STUDENTS LIUTEHCHIH  
TSUCHIWA SEVERELY WOUNDED NANKING STAFF CHIANGIHCHENG KILLED  
PRESIDENT CHENYUWAN FAMILY ALSO KOSIANGFANG CHENSIHTSUN BADLY  
INJURED BUILDINGS DAMAGE CONSIDERABLE

WHERE THE BOMBS FELL

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(from Mr. Spencer Kennard, member of faculty of West China Union  
University, Chengtu, 12 June 1939 - received in New York 23 June)

Yesterday evening at about 7:20 we heard a great roar of Chinese pursuit planes in the sky, little realizing that something had gone wrong with the warning siren and these were climbing to meet Japanese bombers. We had just finished supper when suddenly there were a terrific series of explosions, and I realized that a raid was on. I dashed to a previously selected spot in the house and threw myself on the floor, as there was no time to get to the dugout. Almost immediately there was a burst of flame and dust accompanied by a deafening explosion, which sent glass and plaster flying about me. I thought our house had been hit. Pausing a moment to make sure there would be no more bombs till the planes had a chance to turn I dashed in search of my wife, and then with her and other friends made for the dugout. Two of these had gotten up out of sick beds. When it seemed safe to do so I set out to learn what had happened to others on our Baptist row. Except for my wife who had a splinter of glass narrowly miss one eye which made a minor cut on her forehead and the servant of our next door neighbors who had a more serious wound, the only damage had been to our buildings. All of them had suffered a measure of damage, several including ours with windows and doors wrenched from hinges and littered with plaster and glass. At first I could not make out where the bomb which had done all this damage had landed, but presently the spot was located across the tennis courts at a corner of our Baptist middle school dormitory. The wing had been largely demolished. Apparently it had been intended for the large new

WHERE THE BOMBS FELL - from Mr. Spencer Kennard - Continued

hospital buildings just beyond, but had fallen a bit short. Two women servants were injured, but no one fatally. The dormitory is used by the refugee professors of National Central Medical College of Nanking. They are crowded a whole family to one or two rooms. The bomb had actually exploded in the air through hitting a large tree. This explained the wide area affected. Pieces of the shrapnel entered the Dye, Moncrieff, and our houses, one being found this morning by the desk at which Mrs. Dye usually sits. At the Moncrieff house shrapnel had been driven through several walls.

While calling at the dormitory I learned from a physician friend of the killing of Miss Huang Hsiao-cho, a student in West China Union University, a lovely girl who was studying to be a pharmacologist. Later I learned that she had been struck in the head by a missile and killed almost instantly.

This morning we were enabled to appreciate how extremely fortunate we had been as a university community, for out of the six bombs dropped on us three were duds and one did not land near buildings. After the 26 attacking planes had left a wake of destruction across the city, part of the squadron at least made straight for our campus. The first bomb exploded on the river bank and in the water. It was the one which did the most damage, wrecking a good part of the house now occupied by President Chen of Nanking University, and doing much destruction also to that occupied by Dr. Liljestrand. Both these are Methodist residences. Mrs. Liljestrand was injured on arm and breast by glass. President Chen who had started downstairs was hurled in a somersault to the bottom and landed on his back. He suffered considerable injury and will be laid up for at least some days. His sister, Miss Mary Chen, who is also on the faculty, suffered a deep scalp wound and is receiving tetanus inoculation. His mother also suffered injury - how serious I am not informed. The second bomb landed just to the rear of the house occupied hitherto by Dr. and Mrs. Lewis of the Methodist mission. Fortunately it was a dud. If either this bomb had exploded or the first one had fallen ten yards further, the missionary residence portion of the Methodist compound along with the occupants, none of whom had had time to take refuge in dugouts, would have been practically obliterated.

Two other bombs, both duds, landed one on either side of the University library. Had they exploded not only would this splendid building have been destroyed, but the recently erected temporary buildings of the Ginling Women's college along with their occupants. I am not clear as to location of the sixth bomb. Except for it all bombs fell immediately adjacent to large buildings.

Part of the University Administration building was turned over for use as emergency hospital, mangled forms of men, women, and children being brought in and laid on straw throughout first part of the night. During the night six died, and several others are so injured that they will also probably die. Physicians and students of the joint universities rendered splendid service in caring for these.

Those of us trying to carry on here under these conditions are curious to know how much longer America is going to aid and abet Japan's bombing atrocities by supplying her with the sinews of war. We have long been aware over here that it is such assistance which protracts the war, and that the planes that came here were powered by American oils and gas, and the bombs dropped were made in large part from American scrap iron. Can selfish fear of angering Japan atone for such guilt?

HOW GINLING TOOK IT.

(from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 12 June 1939 - received in New York 29 June)

Our cable will have told you that we came out of the first bombing of Chengtu all safe and well at Ginling. The first air alarm was sounded about 6:25 p.m. just after our supper. Those of our students that were on the first-aid teams went at once to their places of assembly. These teams were trained and organized under the leadership of the medical doctors on this campus after the bombing of Chungking. After these people left our dormitory, some of the rest went to the shelter dugout in our back yard and some waited on the ground floor of our dormitory for the second signal, because the dugout is very near and sometimes the first and second signals may be quite a time apart. At supper I had suddenly remembered that the next day was June 12th, and I wanted to send a cable to President Neilson, so I was just working with Miss Spicer on the message, and we had just about finished, when we heard bombs falling and machine-gunning not far from us. We then scattered from the social room to corners of comparative safety. The whole thing was over in a few seconds, and then we all went to the dugout, for occasionally the enemy planes come back again. As soon as the release signal was sounded, we went to the headquarters of this campus for information, and then we found that three bombs had been dropped on this campus.

\* \* \* \* \*

One of the miraculous escapes was that of our graduate Hu Siu-ying, whose home in Changsha was destroyed in an air raid last year and who had her mother staying with her in a tiny house near the Liljestrand home. She and her mother escaped just in time from the complete destruction of this building. The West China woman student, Hwang Hsiao-cho, was with Miss Hu and her mother when she was killed by a flying fragment.

\* \* \* \* \*

The first-aid teams and quite a number of the foreign men of the campus helped in the bringing in of wounded, mostly from the vicinity of the new south gate. Our faculty and staff, headed by Lillian Kirk, took turns in helping the doctors take care of them. Some had only minor wounds, but quite a few were very seriously wounded and by this morning seven had died. The rough estimate I have heard is that a total of eighty were cared for. While shifts of our group were helping there, the rest were busy rolling bandages, and cutting gauze, and we also helped by the sending of boiled water and soft rice. One doctor told me the soft rice helped a great deal to sustain the wounded after midnight. Most of them have now been moved to the hospital.

After this experience, which came very suddenly without a second warning, we shall be better organized and prepared for possible raids in the future. When I was in Nanking, I had an understanding with our New York office, particularly in regard to our foreign staff, that if we do not send word of any emergency, it would mean that we are safe, and so I now repeat the understanding that "No news is good news."

(from Miss Graves of the Ginling Department of Music, Chengtu, 12 June 1939 - Received in New York 29 June 1939)

You will know something of what has happened, perhaps a good deal, but I want to tell you of our end of this story. Last night they came, twenty-five or six planes. Chengtu is largely defenseless - no caves like Chungking which



HOW GINLING TOOK IT - from Miss Graves - Continued

is built on solid rock - water just a little below the surface of the land, so good dugouts are impossible. We have them, but they do not provide much safety. And last night the siren blew but an uncertain second signal and very faintly, so we did not know it was urgent. On the sounding of the first signal we had gathered in the living room on Dr. Wu's order, when we saw our planes going up. Then suddenly the enemy air planes were on us and though our dugouts were very near, I doubt if any one got there before the bombing was over. Five bombs fell on this campus, ruining two residences, and hitting a dormitory of the Central University faculty, or, rather, shaking it nearly to pieces. The President of Nanking University and his family had the worst family experience, with nearly everyone injured to some extent. The house of Dr. and Mrs. Liljestrang, also, was shaken badly by bombs falling very near. Mrs. Liljestrang was slightly injured. The old medical building had a corner torn off, the building used by the University of Nanking for offices and classrooms had all doors and windows blown in, and one corner of our gymnasium was injured. Two bombs, which failed to explode, fell very near us, and if either one had gone off, perhaps we would not be here now, or many would have been injured, and our dormitory down.

We worked throughout the night, some making bandages and others serving in the previously organized first-aid groups, bringing in the wounded to our administration building. One girl of that group died. The girl's father said when he came for her body that it was his family's glory that she had died trying to help the wounded. All of the city's hospitals are crowded with the wounded. How many were burned to death in the city we still do not know.

Monday we had no classes, and today we are the only institution beginning classes again. Others will begin tomorrow or Thursday, the medical school is helping with the wounded, and their building is so badly affected that they are delayed. People are pouring out of the city to try to find some farmer's house in which to live. Now Chungking is so well organized that while they had a raid the same time we did, only nine people were injured. But that is because there are caves to escape to and some seventy or eighty per cent of the population of that city have left.

I do hope every one of you will write to your senators and representatives urging them to insist on stopping the sale of war materials like scrap iron, oil, and cotton to Japan. How can American business men continue to make money out of the destruction of so many lives?

We are still rather gasping in the good fortune of the two women's colleges next door to each other, to have three bombs fall so near us and none of them explode! Sally Downer of the Women's College laughingly said "The Lord surely must have had His hand on those bombs." Students of Chengtu colleges that have not moved are being sent home excepting seniors who will be held for exams. We have held to the rules about the number of weeks in the college term so we are keeping open until nearly the end of July because we began so late. Perhaps if air raids continue we may close earlier, but our students have no homes to go to.

GINLING GOES FORWARD (From President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 19 June 1939 -  
received New York Office 29 June 1939)

We resumed regular classes from Tuesday, June 13 - the second day after the bombing! - and our whole family have been splendid and calm in attending to the regular College work. The two Music major students gave their graduation recitals on Friday and Saturday evenings, and both did very well in spite of the upset week before. The big question of College policy was first considered by the Ad Interim Committee and later by the whole faculty. It was very clear to us that we should carry on, right here on this campus, and finish the term's work. One minor change we made was to shorten the term by one week of instruction and cut the examination week by two days. It will mean that the school will be closed ten days earlier than originally planned. This was partly because the summer vacation is very short and partly because the University of Nanking had made the suggestion, and, with our exchange of courses, it is much better for the two institutions to keep the same calendar.

You may have heard that immediately after the bombing, West China Union University decided to let their students go home, with the exception of seniors. This is because they had finished their class work for the term and the families of many students wanted them to return to their homes. The seniors are taking their graduating examinations now and will have their commencement soon. The difference between West China and Ginling is that their students are practically all from Szechuan and our students are mostly from other provinces, and only a small number have homes to go to anyway.

On Saturday morning, the Universities Joint Council had a meeting to consider the policy for the next school year and the decision was to plan to carry on as usual on this campus. Most people feel that after the summer months the weather conditions of Chengtu form a natural protection and there can be only occasional raids. The main factor is that University work depends upon books and equipment and it will be very difficult to find any suitable place to move to which all the necessary equipment could be taken. On this campus more shelter dugouts will be prepared, and a better system of warnings has been arranged. The casualties of last Sunday were in reality due to the fact that the air-alarm siren in the city was too faint for this campus to hear clearly. We did not hear the second warning and had not sought shelter.

In regard to equipment and books, the faculty decided that we should work out minimum lists for the various departments and get these brought from the campus in Nanking. This will serve a double purpose. The first is to supplement the equipment already on the West China campus and facilitate our own work in the sense that we do not have to be entirely dependent upon other institutions; and, secondly, if by any chance the air-raids should become frequent and the interruption of classwork too serious, we may have to make another temporary move. If this should occur, we could take with us our own books and equipment. We all feel rather sure, however, that Chengtu will not be bothered as often as Chungking because there is no important Government organization here and Chungking is the war-time capital.

I am glad to tell you that no casualty has happened to our alumnae scattered in the various cities that have suffered bombing. In Chungking, for instance, several had narrow escapes, and two also had narrow escapes last winter in Hunan, but thus far we are able to report that the members of the large Ginling family are all safe.

June 20, 1939

The following cable has just been received from Elsie Priest on the West China Union University campus in Chengtu, by way of the State Department in Washington D. C.

"ALL STAFF STUDENT GREATLY APPRECIATE CABLE  
SYMPATHY. HUATA STUDENT HWANGHSIAOCHO KILLED  
CHESLOO WOMEN STUDENTS LIUTSECHIH TSUCHIWA  
SEVERELY WOUNDED. NANKING STAFF CHIANCIHCHENG  
KILLED. PRESIDENT CHENYUTWAN FAMILY ALSO  
KOSIANGFANG CHENSIHTEUN BADLY INJURED. BUILDINGS  
DAMAGE CONSIDERABLE."

Miss Kirk's Story of Ginling Life in Chengtu

Chengtu, July 1, 1939

Dear Mrs. Macmillan,

I have wanted for a long time to tell you something about life in our "temporary" dormitory in Chengtu.

As pictures will tell you, it is a U-shaped building, two-storied, with grey brick below, and white construction above made of bamboo base with mud and straw plaster, and whitewashed. The three-sectional windows varnished the yellow-brown so common and cheap here relieve both the grey brick and the white plaster. Everyone has sash window curtains, white with the block printed patterns in dark blue. This linen material is most ordinary here, but to us it seems beautiful, and represents an old art of this province. The roof is covered with tile, laid merely on top of one another, with the result that any slight displacement brings the rain pouring in, and necessitates wash basins and towels. For months the open court was ugly earth, but Dr. Reeves has been at work and we are getting a fair growth of grass, a border of various flowers, and lots of clover. Behind this U-shaped space is another long building for kitchen, servants quarters, bathroom cubicles, and laundry. Beyond that are the two dugouts, zig-zag channels a little below the earth and heaped up and around with earth and sandbaskets, inside are narrow benches on each side. The grass growing on the earth is fast making them fit into the landscape. Near the gate is one room for guests, where the students may have their callers until 3 p.m. each day, and where a few pedlars of linens, and embroideries and cotton material by the yard undo their packs. Just outside our gateway just now is a hot corn-cob stand, and the girls bring to their rooms hands full of delicious hot cobs of sweet corn, and devour them -- just any time of the day between classes. At other times there have been baskets of peaches for sale, peanuts, cookies, and for the winter months, oranges of many varieties.

And what is the inside like? Student rooms on both wings, and faculty rooms upstairs in the connecting section, with common rooms below. All the bedrooms are ten and a half feet square. The student rooms are crowded -- with two double-decker beds, and four tiny tables for study, four chairs and one chiffonier. Now the rooms look queer with their cloudy mosquito-nets over each bed. The girls plan to do most of their study in the spacious library next door, for there is confusion and noise most of the time in the dormitory. Their washroom is at the end of the hall, so their rooms are not cluttered with basins and towels. No one likes the upper deck beds, but we hear little grumbling over anything, though there are dissatisfactions we know - as there are in any dormitory! I am always thinking the girls do not get enough sleep: the light-out comes at 10:30, and many of them are up at 5 or a little after. They learn, however, to get real naps even when halls are not quiet, and so perhaps make up for shortened nights of rest. They spend very busy days: breakfast at 7, classes normally at 8 but some have had to be put earlier, and we have quite a group going to classes at 7 after an early breakfast, and one group goes even at 6! Classes start in the afternoon at 1 and finish at 5, so a girl may have her work stretched out from 6 to 6! And the Three Principles Class comes in the evening - so they are never free from scheduled work! We think this is most undesirable, but many factors enter into the question, and it is not easy to adjust, as it might be in normal times.

The meals? The Chinese food is the same for faculty and students - four bowls

of meat and vegetables and a bowl of soup. The crockery is of the plainest, the bowls such as coolies use, a heavy ware with blue patterns that we like. Dishes are reduced to a minimum: bowl, saucer, china spoon. Then there are the very cheap wooden chopsticks. No cups are provided. If one wishes hot water (the only drink available) she uses her bowl either before or after the meal, and fills it from the hot water tank at either end of the room. There is one cupboard in the dining-room where students may put the extra dainties they prefer to have. To combat flies there are hanging on the walls net-covered boxes open on the bottom which are put over the food as soon as it arrives. The girls help themselves from the big gongs of rice, so once the meal begins there is no servant in the room. Tables are crowded together, and the noise can be most trying for those with sensitive ears. The Szechuanese cook has orders from Mrs. Wang, the dormitory supervisor, to put red pepper in only one dish, but occasionally it creeps into a second, and then on each table you will see food left over. I suppose he finds it difficult to understand that we really do not want peppery food, for it is the custom here.

Next door to the dining-room is the general living-room, a nice square low-ceilinged room the whole width of the building the walls whitewashed brick, windows on either side. On the floor are straw rugs, and the furniture is wicker, unpainted. Each variety of furniture has its own story to tell: for instance, in the dining-room the stools are continually falling to pieces, so are the chairs in the bedrooms, the reason being that no nails are used, and the glue eventually dries out and the furniture collapses. With the wicker furniture, it was that when it came back after being ordered, it was found that split bamboo had been used instead of the whole wicker; the man perversely insisted that the split variety was stronger, but Miss Dze Yu-lin insisted she had ordered the other and would have none of this. So back to the shop it went and we waited two more weeks with a desolate looking room. I forgot to mention another kind of furniture, if it might be called that, the palm fibre hassocks (Eva calls them "tuffets" and reminds us of Little Miss Muffet) of various depths, from 20 cents to 70 cents each. These are piled in three piles around one of the supporting pillars, and are placed on the floor in a circle for a class meeting, or in rows for chapel, one high one to a person or two thin ones. They make an ideal kind of movable furniture, and are carried out to open-air Easter services, and the like. There are a couple of book-cases for papers and hymn books, a fireplace, a table, a hat stand, and that is all.

You never saw a room used for a greater variety of purposes than this. It starts off the day with students in hot weather doing their before-breakfast studying in some of the chairs near the open windows. Then it is chapel at 7:30, with the hassocks doing duty. From that time on it is living-room, practice room for some special concert, a playroom for the children, committee-room, faculty discussion rooms, ad. infin. In winter, there is a continued succession of students gathered around the corner fireplace with books, or just chatting. Recently in air-raid times, we made bandages and dressings there, and lint and cotton covered everything. It looked as if it could never be gotten clean, but a good scrubbing and it was again livable. The tiny guest-room of the faculty serves many purposes too, but it is too small for faculty meetings, so we gather in the living room. Before the gymnasium was completed, it was often in use as a regular classroom, particularly if the weather was raw. I forgot to mention that we feel quite rich in the possession for the time being of three fine paintings of the Gorges and a summer resort in this vicinity. Mrs. Dickinson is a member of the West China Fine Arts faculty and she has lent us these paintings. These and fresh flowers - also from our neighbor's gardens - give us quite an air.

At Ginling we have made a great deal of being a "family". Perhaps we have never been so much like a family in that we have children and animals so much around

us. Mrs. Wang has a little girl about six, and Miss Phoebe Ho has a niece and nephew here. Also Dze Yu-lin's little brother is here for his school now moved out a few li into the country is not able to keep him. S we have four children between the ages of five and ten. They can make the usual noise of children, too. The dog "Jingo" that started off the year with us was a real part of Ginling; the girls were very fond of him and grieved when he fell ill and died. Jingo now has a successor "Sabre". Also there are two kittens that are having a bad time in becoming accustomed to our attic where they are kept in order to frighten away the rats. They are wild as if completely beyond the ken of mankind, and do a great deal of yowling.

That brings me to the thieves! Many nights' rest were lost in the opening days of school last fall by the presence of thieves. One night a thief made some real hauls, for he put up a ladder against the north wall, entered Dr. Wu's room while she slept, and took valuable clothing and blankets. Finally, a bamboo fence, a dog, and a watchman combined to render us free from attention, though never a week passes that some attempt of theft is not made on the campus.

Air-raids made us feel that thieves were unimportant. In the fall we had several warnings, and one day the Japanese planes dropped bombs on the air-field, netting the death of one sparrow, the men at the air-field like to tell. In May, one Monday morning, about the fifth, we sat in dugouts from one o'clock to four, and again from 5 to 6, but the planes did not reach here. It was bright moonlight, and it seemed eerie that planes might disturb us. Then on June 11th we had our first real air-raid, with four bombs dropped on the campus (two of them duds), damage amounting to one student killed, and one wounded, on the campus, others wounded in the city, property damage to somewhat around \$40,000 to \$50,000 Chinese currency, and in the city about 800 casualties, whole blocks of the city razed, 2,700 homes destroyed, and 6,500 people homeless. Our Ginling group are splendid. I thought of it again this week, when on Friday afternoon just when I came back from lunch, about 1 o'clock, and heard the word, "Yellow flags." In about two minutes the word spread around the dormitory, and though we knew the warning only meant that the planes had entered the boundaries of this province, everyone made some preparations for going to the dugout or into the country. But the girls went to classes just the same, and there was no excitement, though one could feel the tenseness in the air. The first-aid group got out their arm bands which will take them along the streets when ordinary traffic is stopped. About an hour later the green flag was put up on the main gate, which meant safety. After the June 11th raid, we had real trouble with servants leaving, some just to move their families, others losing any interest they had in working in Chongtu. Even now it is not easy to get tailors, or carpenters. The laundry was severely incapacitated, and even now we are getting poor service because of the diminished staff. Economy has become the watchword in the faculty furnishings of their own rooms, and it is almost a contest to see how inexpensively we refugees can equip our rooms which serve as bedroom, study, and conference room. At last there are no restrictions on the use of thumb tacks - except that thumb tacks are very expensive! We use them to put up curtains around wardrobe, and window curtains, etc. I was proud that my lovely bamboo pattern curtains, specially ordered too, cost altogether \$.50 gold. Bamboo vases cost a few cents each. My rug cost \$.50 gold, my palm fibre mattress \$.15 gold. Stella's pretty green porcelain lamps which burn vegetable oil cost 3 cents in Chinese currency, and Ettie's cups of the same material, with out saucers, cost 4 or 5. For flowers we pay just a few cents, and for porcelain vases ten or twenty cents CC. Alice paid \$1.20 for her charcoal box, and for the whole winter fuel paid \$11.00. One of my cushions is stuffed with the fluffy tops of reeds, and cost a few cents. Last time I washed my hair I made the experiment and used instead of the usual shampoo, the fruit of a tree which was soaked and put in the first water making a

kind of soap; and then finished up with an egg. This fruit is somewhat like the inside of a lychee, and is a method used here for washing silk thread. Of course we have no running water. But the faculty have stands and basins in their rooms, and we dip up with bamboo dippers the water, hot or cold, from the big wooden pails placed in the hallway. When we trip over these in the dark, or over the charcoal boxes in winter, we do not feel so kindly disposed to the simple life! To get water containers for the hall has been a problem: we tried tin, and they leaked; then heavy pottery ones, and they leaked too; , now we have wooden ones, and they are only partially satisfactory, and it is no uncommon thing while in a meeting in the common room to find water dripping down through the ceiling. Bath-tubs have been a source of difficulty too: we have two tin oval shaped tubs, but too often at least one is out of commission, leaving one tub for 17 faculty members.

Perhaps this gives a gloomy picture. If so, it is not fair, for we have wonderfully good times together, and feel so happy that life can go on with an approximation of normality. Ginling will not soon forget this phase in its history, and we may one day look back to it with real thankfulness. It is a hundred times better than Shanghai. And if only we saw in the near future a return to Nanking, we would see this in proper perspective - perhaps!

With all good wishes,

Florence Kirk

QUOTATIONS from RECENT LETTERS from the FIELD

From

MISS MINNIE VAUTRINGINLING COLLEGE CAMPUS, NANKING, JULY 3, 1939

This morning at ten o'clock we had our final staff meeting of the Experimental Course. Really the past year was a remarkable one on our campus for we started in with all unknown factors. All our students were new, and practically all the staff members, coming from all kinds of environments and backgrounds. We were bound together in one purpose, however, and that was to provide an educational opportunity for the 80 girls who had been wanderers in villages and in refugee camps for the past year. It has been remarkable that we have gotten through the year so well and with the minimum of outside visits that were unfriendly. Again and again members of our group have expressed thanksgiving for the peace and opportunities of the year. As I write this now a group of five are planning for a simple student retreat for the first Sunday of our autumn semester and they are sending out a few topics for the girls to be thinking about during the summer.

Miss Lin Mi-li, the dean of our 1938-39 Homecraft Course reported to us in our staff meeting today that of the 100 women in the Course 53 are now making a living and have work to do. The other 47 are in their homes or the homes of relatives. Two of the women, both of whom had their husbands killed, are here on our campus learning more about weaving and dyeing with the thought that perhaps they can go out to some Mission station in the autumn and teach others, or possibly stay on with us and help in the new Homecraft Course. - - Recently three Japanese Christian women came to visit our campus and gave us a gift of Yen 62.50. Miss Lin is using it to help six of our most needy women.

You will be interested to hear that our Shanghai Alumnae recently turned in CC \$1,010 for the Homecraft Course for this autumn. We greatly appreciate this interest and help.

I cannot refrain from telling you once more about the Tuesday-Thursday chapels for they have been outstanding. Although attendance has not been required, all students and most of the staff have attended regularly. The two pastors of the city who have organized and given the brief messages have taken the opportunity with gladness and have made excellent talks. The singing, too, has been one of the joys of the service and it has gradually improved.

Charity Fund. The regular Friday "bowl of rice" meal, which for us has usually been a bowl of rice and a bowl of beans, has continued throughout the semester. Classes have given the money they would ordinarily use for the purchase of "dien sing" (sweet meats) for parties to this fund, also. The little Junior I girls a few weeks ago gave a special play on "Sacrifice" and at the close of it presented \$20.00 which they had, by real sacrifice on the part of some, collected from the members of their classes. This semester the total charity fund will be about \$240. Students and staff have decided to use it as follows;

\$100.00 for children relief in West China. This will be sent to  
the National Christian Council.

\$100.00 for underfed children in Nanking.

\$ 40.00 more to the Christian Orphanage in Chinkiang.



From

MISS LILLIAN KIRK, JULY, 1939 - CHENG TU, SZECHUAN

Monthly Citizens' Meeting. These meetings held the first day of each month are organized by the National Spiritual Mobilization Movement and the first meeting in all China was held on May 1st. This first meeting took the form of a torch-light procession in the city. The Colleges took no active part in this meeting but they organized before the June 1st meeting and arranged a special ceremony in which the offering for wounded airmen was presented from the various institutions. It was hoped that there would be a 100% contribution from individuals and organizations. The speaker was the Vice-Minister of Education. 90% of Ginling was present at this meeting which was held from seven to eight in the morning in front of the Administration Building. Everyone stood for one and a quarter hours. On July 1st Dr. Frank Price was the speaker. At this meeting, Ginling specified that their offering, covering the holiday period, be used for the student service group going to serve the wounded soldiers in transit and road laborers. The girls marched off before seven o'clock in the morning in the rain.

Student Service Groups. One group of students from West China Union University and Cheeloo University left yesterday for Shensi and Northern Hopeh to work among the road laborers and the wounded soldiers in transit. The University of Nanking and Ginling groups leave after the joint Commencement on July 15th. The uniform for both men and women is olive green blouse and overalls. Over a hundred students from the various institutions are in this group. Three of our women faculty are going and one of our men faculty is acting as director. The last group is travelling in a cattle truck. Another group of students will do publicity work in several hsien in Szechuan. They will give programs consisting of speeches, plays, patriotic songs at the different places. A third group will attend a Christian Ashram at Mt. Omei conducted by a West China University Professor, and a group of Ginling students alone go to Jenshow where they will do investigative work among the rural families for the rural project there. A few girls leave for their homes so there will not be many in the dormitory during the vacation, but it has been arranged that one or more faculty members will take turns being in charge of the dormitory.

Just one real air-raid alarm since June 11, although there have been numerous false ones. Someone would see a policeman chasing a thief and that would be enough to start an alarm. The students are allowed to choose whether they will go to the surrounding fields or to the dugout in the back yard. Many of us think the safest place is where you feel the safest. Now we have an arrangement by which definite word of an alarm is sent out from the proper authorities in the city, so there is no more dread that we may not know when a real raid does come. There is not the least sign of panic on the campus when an alarm comes.

From

PRESIDENT WU YI-FANG JULY 22, 1939

The activities at the end of the term went off very well. We were specially grateful that we could secure Dr. W. Y. Chen, the General Secretary of the National Christian Council, to give the Baccalaureate sermon, it was a splendid and inspiring message. Commencement also went off well. Both these occasions were held jointly with the University of Nanking. The Ginling tradition of giving a class day program, a farewell program by the Sophomores for their sisters, the Senior banquet, and the Alumnae Association welcoming the new graduates were all kept, but in a much simpler fashion than usual. Both the Senior and the Sophomore parties were very well done, giving good fun and not spending much in the preparation. I could not help thinking of the first graduation at old Ginling twenty years ago, for we too faced big issues and almost did not graduate. It was the first national student movement and the student strike, and we always remember Mrs. Thurston's greatness in facing an almost complete disappointment after four years' hard work.

The twenty-first graduation class showed good numbers in spite of the wanderings of the last two years. The total is 37: 3 finished last February, 19 now in July, and 15 finishing in Shanghai. There is also a guest student who completed her course in our music department, and is counted as a graduate from her own institution. Only a very few of the group here have not settled on their work for next year, but there is no doubt that they will all be placed. The location and kind of work they are going into will make an interesting story.

One other thing to report to you. The Associated Colleges in Shanghai are starting a joint department of Physical Education from next September. Mr. William Sung of St. John's who was planning for it, told me about it in Hongkong and asked my policy in regard to Physical Education for Women. To make a long story short, I may say that it is now satisfactorily settled that Ginling will join in it and Mrs. Chen Hwang Li-ming is to take charge of the women's division. The women students in the different institutions may major in it and graduate as students from their respective colleges but they will receive their Physical Education certificate from Ginling. As one unit in the joint department, we may also take students, but they have to take their general and science work in the other colleges as guest students.

From

PRESIDENT WU YI-FANG SEPTEMBER 4, 1939

I returned to Chengtu after my wonderful vacation on September 2nd and I wish now to send you a Clipper letter while there is still air-mail service to Hongkong. People are saying that I look well and younger. This is good proof that I have been greatly benefitted by my vacation and I do wish to express again my gratitude for the most thoughtful gift that was sent to me through you.

I left Chengtu August 3rd, stopping two nights in Chungking and spent hours in the dugout both nights because of air-raids. On the afternoon of the 5th I left for Hongkong in a Douglas plane of the C. N. A. C. The pilots always time their departure so that the plane arrives in Hongkong after dark. It was a beautiful sight from the air to see the lighted island and Kowloon on the opposite side of the harbor. Mrs. New had arranged to have a private car of one of her friends meet me at the airdrome. It was almost midnight when I reached her home in Stanley.

On August 8th Mrs. New and I went together to Shanghai on the German boat, Scharnhorst. We enjoyed the restful voyage and we had much time just to visit. I had fully ten days in Shanghai. The first part I spent quietly at home visiting my several uncles and aunts and many cousins. Ruth Chester arrived on the 16th and Miss Vautrin had come down from Tsingtao earlier. I was so happy to see both looking well and especially Miss Vautrin, whom I had not seen since December 1, 1937. There was so much we had to tell each other and we certainly enjoyed talking over many things together. The next afternoon Mrs. Chen Hwang Li-ming had arranged an Alumnae gathering and it turned out to be the largest I have ever attended; there were around seventy present. I was very sorry that I did not get into touch with Mrs. Thurston earlier, so that she could have come down to Shanghai to join us.

Mrs. New and I returned to Hongkong on August 23rd. I had looked forward to having a restful and quiet week in Stanley, but the world would not leave us alone. Hongkong was very tense because of the large concentration of Japanese troops just across the Kowloon border, and the military people were busy making all sorts of preparations, including the placing of several pieces of field artillery on the innocent beach next to St. Stephen's football field. When we were trying to have a nap on the 24th we kept hearing machine-gun practice in the neighborhood. I knew then I must try to get away as soon as I could in order not to be shut in at Hongkong. I had made my air reservations before I left Shanghai, but when I went to the office I was told that there were no planes because of the moonlight. When I insisted that I must get back to Chungking the official suggested my taking the Air France to Hanoi and from there to Chungking. I took this advice at once and pulled wires to get a passport and French visa within two days, a process which usually takes two weeks. Those were the days when many people were leaving Hongkong in all directions - the Americans to Manila, the British to Singapore, and others to Java or Hanoi and many Chinese were going to Shanghai, partly because of the high rate of exchange of the Hongkong dollar.

The plane left Kowloon at 2 a.m. on August 30th, and it took three-quarters of an hour of climbing to gain altitude before flying across the occupied area. Aside from the radio news that Chungking had been bombed, we sailed peacefully through the moonlight.

JUL 19 1939

G I N L I N G   C O L L E G E

NANKING, CHINA

CHINESE  
RECEIVED

JUL 18, 1939

Approved

150 Fifth Avenue  
New York New York  
30 June 1939

To Readers of Ginling News:

In our newspapers of the morning of Tuesday, June 13, came the first shocking dispatches, telling of the bombing of the campus of West China Union University in Chengtu in the early evening of June 11. It is there that the academic work of Ginling College is being conducted, and it is there that President Wu Yi-fang, thirty-three staff members, and one hundred and ten students have been resident this year. On a spacious campus of 154 acres outside of the Chengtu city wall, West China Union University is also host to three other institutions from the war area, and the entire student population this year has been well above one thousand.

We have awaited the arrival of letters from the West China campus before sending you the story of June 11; the first of these letters have now arrived. By the Transatlantic air route through Bombay and London, the first letter arrived in New York just eleven days after it left the Chengtu campus, and yesterday, June 29, came others by the Transpacific route, one having taken seventeen days, and another only ten days.

You will not miss a single word of the following pages, and it is unnecessary to point out the many heartening assurances which they contain: the calm courage and steady forward look of faculty and students, and the disciplined experience which the days are bringing. In order to give readers the setting of the campus scene into which the events of June 11 struck without warning, pages 1 and 2 contain quotations from letters of the preceding month, and these are followed by the actual story of the 11th in cable and letter text.

Representatives of the Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China, of which the Ginling Board of Founders are a constituent part, have visited Washington since the bombing, and have seen members of the Department of State, Senator Pittman, and the Ambassadors from China and Japan. The vigorous protest which they took with them on behalf of the twelve million American members of the groups assisting in the support of these colleges had a favorable hearing, and pressure will continue to be exerted to prevent further attacks by the Japanese air force upon university communities.

Sincerely yours,

*Shirley G. Tyler*  
For the Founders

GINLING HOLDS FAST IN ANOTHER ORDEAL

[1a]

The Bombing of the West China Campus, 11 June 1939

I Ginling in the Month Preceding the Attack

THREATENED AIR RAID (from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 8 May 1939)

At 1:20 this morning we were roused from sound sleep by the shrieking of the siren announcing that Japanese planes were headed this way and were already inside the boundaries of Szechuan. Our college group followed quietly and promptly the rules of action for times like this: all dressed as quickly as they could without any light (all electricity having been turned off when the signal was given). Most of the students and faculty took refuge in the two dug-outs near our buildings and a few went farther into the surrounding fields. The night was bright with moonlight, and it seemed impossible that death-dealing planes should come into such beauty. I was spending the night at a home on the campus and walked back to be with the group here. The Chinese pursuit planes kept guard above, but there seemed to be no battle in the air and no bombs fell. The release signal sounded about 4:30.

No sooner were we all in bed again than another signal came, just as the sun was rising and the moon still in sight. At a quarter of six the second release signal came, and you can well imagine that everyone was sleepy throughout the day. We are told that no damage was done, for the planes could not locate the city.

We are eager to have you know the meaning of reports you may receive that the schools in Chengtu are being obliged to move. The truth of the matter is that the Educational Commission has ordered the primary and middle schools inside the city wall to move into the country in order to reduce the congestion of population. We are outside the city wall on a spacious campus, so that we make a much less attractive target for bombing planes and are not liable to the high fire risks of the city. Please do not worry, therefore, if you hear repeatedly that schools are being obliged to leave Chengtu, while the four college and university institutions stay on.

COMPARATIVE SAFETY OF THE WEST CHINA CAMPUS

(from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 10 May 1939)

After the bombing and fire in Chungking, people are scared and schools inside the city wall are moving into the country. We don't plan to move and the girls are quite calm. The bombing in Chungking was terrible because of the fire, the houses are built of wood and continuously, without any breaks, or only narrow side streets. And the hills, too, make the fire at any lower slope climb up easily. Houses are also built of wood in Chengtu, hence the scare. But they are only one story and the streets are wider and the city is level. As for us, the campus population is around 1000 now and the buildings widely apart, so we are not afraid of fire. And there are not any objectives - either military or business - near the grounds. So we are all right, and please don't worry over us. But I am very glad I have decided to stay; for I would be leaving here in three days if I were going to America.

I Ginling in the Month preceding the Attack (continued)

PREPARATION FOR POSSIBLE RAIDS

(from Miss Elsie M. Priest, Treasurer, Chengtu, 16 May 1939)

During recent days Chengtu city has been very tense, and much worried over rumors and reports that the city is to be wiped out by air raids after the 15th! - - - - - The five universities on the West China campus have decided not to attempt to move for the present - the large government institution inside the city wall is moving at once to Mt. Omei. Instead, precautions will be taken to guard against as many potential dangers as can be imagined at this stage. All the most valuable books and scientific equipment have been packed into boxes and scattered around the different buildings on the campus - there is no one place that seems to be safer than others, but we cannot feel the entire campus will be destroyed. All schools have done this - and in addition our families in the University of Nanking (there are 80) who are living in the city have packed their winter clothing and sent it out to the campus to be stored here lest fire breaks out and destroys everything in the part of the city in which they are living.

Each institution has organized students and staff into groups - first aid, fire prevention, building patrol, monitors, etc. The spirit among students has been excellent - many have not experienced air raids previously and some show nervousness. Ginling has built two dugouts of the only type that can be used here, because water lies everywhere so near the surface, above-ground shelters, built up of sand piled on timbers. Of course, these shelters are useless for direct hits, but will give protection against flying fragments. The girls are not compelled to go into them - every student makes his or her own decision as to the best place of safety. The only thing required is that students report what they intend to do, so we can make a survey more easily after each raid.

And the future - I wish I knew. What a lot of difference it would make to us if we could look ahead a week, a month, a year, and see what is to develop. Instead, we must keep the work going as normally as possible, keep our faith and courage. - - - The four Christian university presidents have been in session all the morning, planning for next year! I was called into their meeting for a period, and had great admiration for their ability to sit there calmly discussing entrance examinations, change of calendar, recommendations to be sent to the Ministry of Education for improvement in curricula matters. I am sure they discussed the war - but they did not spend the entire time on that subject, but rather devoted most of their energies toward constructive planning for a new year of work.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS FOR 1939-40

(from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 22 May 1939)

We have received letters of inquiry from Shanghai, Hongkong, and cities in Hunan, about dates of Entrance Tests. We shall give tests in such cities in June, but the tests for people in Chengtu and Chungking will be given later, after the provincial examinations are over, most likely in July.

II Story of the Bombing of Chengtu, 11 June 1939.

Cable from West China Union University to the New York Office  
12 June 1939

CHENG TU BADLY BOMBED UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS DAMAGED ONE  
CHINESE STAFF ONE STUDENT KILLED SEVERAL INJURED URGE  
BRITISH CANADIAN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS STRONG PROTEST  
(signed) ROBERTSON PRIEST

-----  
Cable from the New York Office to West China Union University  
13 June 1939

ASSURE STAFF STUDENTS DEEP CONCERN GREAT ADMIRATION CALM  
COURAGE NEED NAMES COLLEGE CONNECTION STAFF STUDENTS KILLED  
INJURED

-----  
Cable from West China Union University to the New York Office by way  
of the State Department of Washington, D. C. 20 June 1939.

ALL STAFF STUDENTS GREATLY APPRECIATE CABLE SYMPATHY WEST CHINA  
STUDENT HWANGHSIAOCHO KILLED CHEELOO WOMEN STUDENTS LIUTEHCHIH  
TSUCHIHWA SEVERELY WOUNDED NANKING STAFF CHIANGHCHENG KILLED  
PRESIDENT CHENYUKWAN FAMILY ALSO KOSIANGFANG CHENSIHTSUN BADLY  
INJURED BUILDINGS DAMAGE CONSIDERABLE

WHERE THE BOMBS FELL

(from Mr. Spencer Kennard, member of faculty of West China Union  
University, Chengtu, 12 June 1939 - received in New York 23 June)

Yesterday evening at about 7:20 we heard a great roar of Chinese  
pursuit planes in the sky, little realizing that something had gone  
wrong with the warning siren and these were climbing to meet Japanese  
bombers. We had just finished supper when suddenly there were a terri-  
fic series of explosions, and I realized that a raid was on. I dashed  
to a previously selected spot in the house and threw myself on the floor,  
as there was no time to get to the dugout. Almost immediately there was  
a burst of flame and dust accompanied by a deafening explosion, which  
sent glass and plaster flying about me. I thought our house had been  
hit. Pausing a moment to make sure there would be no more bombs till  
the planes had a chance to turn I dashed in search of my wife, and then  
with her and other friends made for the dugout. Two of these had gotten  
up out of sick beds. When it seemed safe to do so I set out to learn  
what had happened to others on our Baptist row. Except for my wife who  
had a splinter of glass narrowly miss one eye which made a minor cut on  
her forehead and the servant of our next door neighbors who had a more  
serious wound, the only damage had been to our buildings. All of them  
had suffered a measure of damage, several including ours with windows  
and doors wrenched from hinges and littered with plaster and glass. At  
first I could not make out where the bomb which had done all this damage  
had landed, but presently the spot was located across the tennis courts  
at a corner of our Baptist middle school dormitory. The wing had been  
largely demolished. Apparently it had been intended for the large new

WHERE THE BOMBS FELL - from Mr. Spencer Kennard - Continued

hospital buildings just beyond, but had fallen a bit short. Two women servants were injured, but no one fatally. The dormitory is used by the refugee professors of National Central Medical College of Nanking. They are crowded a whole family to one or two rooms. The bomb had actually exploded in the air through hitting a large tree. This explained the wide area affected. Pieces of the shrapnel entered the Dye, Moncrieff, and our houses, one being found this morning by the desk at which Mrs. Dye usually sits. At the Moncrieff house shrapnel had been driven through several walls.

While calling at the dormitory I learned from a physician friend of the killing of Miss Huang Hsiao-cho, a student in West China Union University, a lovely girl who was studying to be a pharmacologist. Later I learned that she had been struck in the head by a missile and killed almost instantly.

This morning we were enabled to appreciate how extremely fortunate we had been as a university community, for out of the six bombs dropped on us three were duds and one did not land near buildings. After the 26 attacking planes had left a wake of destruction across the city, part of the squadron at least made straight for our campus. The first bomb exploded on the river bank and in the water. It was the one which did the most damage, wrecking a good part of the house now occupied by President Chen of Nanking University, and doing much destruction also to that occupied by Dr. Liljestrand. Both these are Methodist residences. Mrs. Liljestrand was injured on arm and breast by glass. President Chen who had started downstairs was hurled in a somersault to the bottom and landed on his back. He suffered considerable injury and will be laid up for at least some days. His sister, Miss Mary Chen, who is also on the faculty, suffered a deep scalp wound and is receiving tetanus inoculation. His mother also suffered injury - how serious I am not informed. The second bomb landed just to the rear of the house occupied hitherto by Dr. and Mrs. Lewis of the Methodist mission. Fortunately it was a dud. If either this bomb had exploded or the first one had fallen ten yards further, the missionary residence portion of the Methodist compound along with the occupants, none of whom had had time to take refuge in dugouts, would have been practically obliterated.

Two other bombs, both duds, landed one on either side of the University library. Had they exploded not only would this splendid building have been destroyed, but the recently erected temporary buildings of the Ginling Women's college along with their occupants. I am not clear as to location of the sixth bomb. Except for it all bombs fell immediately adjacent to large buildings.

Part of the University Administration building was turned over for use as emergency hospital, mangled forms of men, women, and children being brought in and laid on straw throughout first part of the night. During the night six died, and several others are so injured that they will also probably die. Physicians and students of the joint universities rendered splendid service in caring for these.

Those of us trying to carry on here under these conditions are curious to know how much longer America is going to aid and abet Japan's bombing atrocities by supplying her with the sinews of war. We have long been aware over here that it is such assistance which protracts the war, and that the planes that came here were powered by American oils and gas, and the bombs dropped were made in large part from American scrap iron. Can selfish fear of angering Japan atone for such guilt?



HOW GINLING TOOK IT.

--(from President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 12 June 1939 - received in New York 29 June)

Our cable will have told you that we came out of the first bombing of Chengtu all safe and well at Ginling. The first air alarm was sounded about 6:25 p.m. just after our supper. Those of our students that were on the first-aid teams went at once to their places of assembly. These teams were trained and organized under the leadership of the medical doctors on this campus after the bombing of Chungking. After these people left our dormitory, some of the rest went to the shelter dugout in our backyard and some waited on the ground floor of our dormitory for the second signal, because the dugout is very near and sometimes the first and second signals may be quite a time apart. At supper I had suddenly remembered that the next day was June 12th, and I wanted to send a cable to President Neilson, so I was just working with Miss Spicer on the message, and we had just about finished, when we heard bombs falling and machine-gunning not far from us. We then scattered from the social room to corners of comparative safety. The whole thing was over in a few seconds, and then we all went to the dugout, for occasionally the enemy planes come back again. As soon as the release signal was sounded, we went to the headquarters of this campus for information, and then we found that three bombs had been dropped on this campus.

\* \* \* \* \*

One of the miraculous escapes was that of our graduate Hu Siu-ying, whose home in Changsha was destroyed in an air raid last year and who had her mother staying with her in a tiny house near the Liljestrang home. She and her mother escaped just in time from the complete destruction of this building. The West China woman student, Hwang Hsiao-cho, was with Miss Hu and her mother when she was killed by a flying fragment.

\* \* \* \* \*

The first-aid teams and quite a number of the foreign men of the campus helped in the bringing in of wounded, mostly from the vicinity of the new south gate. Our faculty and staff, headed by Lillian Kirk, took turns in helping the doctors take care of them. Some had only minor wounds, but quite a few were very seriously wounded and by this morning seven had died. The rough estimate I have heard is that a total of eighty were cared for. While shifts of our group were helping there, the rest were busy rolling bandages, and cutting gauze, and we also helped by the sending of boiled water and soft rice. One doctor told me the soft rice helped a great deal to sustain the wounded after midnight. Most of them have now been moved to the hospital.

After this experience, which came very suddenly without a second warning, we shall be better organized and prepared for possible raids in the future. When I was in Nanking, I had an understanding with our New York office, particularly in regard to our foreign staff, that if we do not send word of any emergency, it would mean that we are safe, and so I now repeat the understanding that "No news is good news."

(from Miss Graves of the Ginling Department of Music, Chengtu, 12 June 1939 -  
Received in New York 29 June 1939)

You will know something of what has happened, perhaps a good deal, but I want to tell you of our end of this story. Last night they came, twenty-five or six planes. Chengtu is largely defenseless - no caves like Chungking which

HOW GINLING TOOK IT - from Miss Graves - Continued

is built on solid rock - water just a little below the surface of the land, so good dugouts are impossible. We have them, but they do not provide much safety. And last night the siren blew but an uncertain second signal and very faintly, so we did not know it was urgent. On the sounding of the first signal we had gathered in the living room on Dr. Wu's order, when we saw our planes going up. Then suddenly the enemy air planes were on us and though our dugouts were very near, I doubt if any one got there before the bombing was over. Five bombs fell on this campus, ruining two residences, and hitting a dormitory of the Central University faculty, or, rather, shaking it nearly to pieces. The President of Nanking University and his family had the worst family experience, with nearly everyone injured to some extent. The house of Dr. and Mrs. Liljestrand, also, was shaken badly by bombs falling very near. Mrs. Liljestrand was slightly injured. The old medical building had a corner torn off, the building used by the University of Nanking for offices and classrooms had all doors and windows blown in, and one corner of our gymnasium was injured. Two bombs, which failed to explode, fell very near us, and if either one had gone off, perhaps we would not be here now, or many would have been injured, and our dormitory down.

We worked throughout the night, some making bandages and others serving in the previously organized first-aid groups, bringing in the wounded to our administration building. One girl of that group died. The girl's father said when he came for her body that it was his family's glory that she had died trying to help the wounded. All of the city's hospitals are crowded with the wounded. How many were burned to death in the city we still do not know.

Monday we had no classes, and today we are the only institution beginning classes again. Others will begin tomorrow or Thursday, the medical school is helping with the wounded, and their building is so badly affected that they are delayed. People are pouring out of the city to try to find some farmer's house in which to live. Now Chungking is so well organized that while they had a raid the same time we did, only nine people were injured. But that is because there are caves to escape to and some seventy or eighty per cent of the population of that city have left.

I do hope every one of you will write to your senators and representatives urging them to insist on stopping the sale of war materials like scrap iron, oil, and cotton to Japan. How can American business men continue to make money out of the destruction of so many lives?

We are still rather gasping in the good fortune of the two women's colleges next door to each other, to have three bombs fall so near us and none of them explode! Sally Downer of the Women's College laughingly said "The Lord surely must have had His hand on those bombs." Students of Chengtu colleges that have not moved are being sent home excepting seniors who will be held for exams. We have held to the rules about the number of weeks in the college term so we are keeping open until nearly the end of July because we began so late. Perhaps if air raids continue we may close earlier, but our students have no homes to go to.

GINLING GOES FORWARD (From President Wu Yi-fang, Chengtu, 19 June 1939 -  
received New York Office 29 June 1939)

We resumed regular classes from Tuesday, June 13 - the second day after the bombing! - and our whole family have been splendid and calm in attending to the regular College work. The two Music major students gave their graduation recitals on Friday and Saturday evenings, and both did very well in spite of the upset week before. The big question of College policy was first considered by the Ad Interim Committee and later by the whole faculty. It was very clear to us that we should carry on, right here on this campus, and finish the term's work. One minor change we made was to shorten the term by one week of instruction and cut the examination week by two days. It will mean that the school will be closed ten days earlier than originally planned. This was partly because the summer vacation is very short and partly because the University of Nanking had made the suggestion, and, with our exchange of courses, it is much better for the two institutions to keep the same calendar.

You may have heard that immediately after the bombing, West China Union University decided to let their students go home, with the exception of seniors. This is because they had finished their class work for the term and the families of many students wanted them to return to their homes. The seniors are taking their graduating examinations now and will have their commencement soon. The difference between West China and Ginling is that their students are practically all from Szechuan and our students are mostly from other provinces, and only a small number have homes to go to anyway.

On Saturday morning, the Universities Joint Council had a meeting to consider the policy for the next school year and the decision was to plan to carry on as usual on this campus. Most people feel that after the summer months the weather conditions of Chengtu form a natural protection and there can be only occasional raids. The main factor is that University work depends upon books and equipment and it will be very difficult to find any suitable place to move to which all the necessary equipment could be taken. On this campus more shelter dugouts will be prepared, and a better system of warnings has been arranged. The casualties of last Sunday were in reality due to the fact that the air-alarm siren in the city was too faint for this campus to hear clearly. We did not hear the second warning and had not sought shelter.

In regard to equipment and books, the faculty decided that we should work out minimum lists for the various departments and get these brought from the campus in Nanking. This will serve a double purpose. The first is to supplement the equipment already on the West China campus and facilitate our own work in the sense that we do not have to be entirely dependent upon other institutions; and, secondly, if by any chance the air-raids should become frequent and the interruption of classwork too serious, we may have to make another temporary move. If this should occur, we could take with us our own books and equipment. We all feel rather sure, however, that Chengtu will not be bothered as often as Chungking because there is no important Government organization here and Chungking is the war-time capital.

I am glad to tell you that no casualty has happened to our alumnae scattered in the various cities that have suffered bombing. In Chungking, for instance, several had narrow escapes, and two also had narrow escapes last winter in Hunan, but thus far we are able to report that the members of the large Ginling family are all safe.

## WOMEN IN THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

### A Trip to Paochi by Miss Phoebe Hoh of the Ginling Faculty and a Party of Nineteen Students

Summer, 1939

Hearing that Industrial Cooperatives are making great progress in the northwest, and that Paochi is the fostering center, I therefore wanted very much to go there. I hoped to see the practical side of the system, such as, organization, training, management, and the actual producing process. During the past eight years working with rural people, I feel more and more keenly that they should be awakened to the fact that they may help themselves if they know how. If they know the principles and technique of cooperating and are able to put them into practice, then their economic condition will surely be improved. Women especially need the strongest push.

"Cooperatives" as a movement are rather popular at present, and many persons working under the Government are organizing and operating them. The Relief Society is also helping to promote Cooperatives. The question in my mind was whether or not our colleges and universities were giving the greatest possible help. Are college graduates giving practical service, especially the women graduates? Women constitute half of the nation, and the wheel of consuming is mostly in their hands. Furthermore, the two economic wheels, producing and consuming, are equally heavy, and the forces which pull these wheels to make the economic cart go smoothly and beneficially depend upon the strength of both men and women. Hence the importance of mass training, especially of women and youths. Who is to teach? We who are rural workers with interest centered in rural women, children and homes, should become more intelligent and be able to give needed information and practical help. The very fact that for the first time that I know of, there are "Industrial Cooperatives" established at Paochi by women is quite alluring and inspiring.

Moreover, "Cooperatives" do not deal solely with the economic side of life. Their success depends upon the true spirit and power of each individual in following the principles of cooperation. This will surely cause a degree of personal revolution, deriving its strength from a source greater than human life. A true and sound cooperation is, in fact, the highest spiritual life expressed through material activities. It was my desire to share in the Moral Rearmament of China through the cooperative movement which caused me to leave for Paochi on July 30, 1939.

The trip was so unique and so full of inspiring events, both in connection with Cooperatives and otherwise, that a full account cannot be given here. After many disappointments we started off in rickshaws on July 30th. These rickshaws took us leisurely to Mienyang in three and a half days. One of the preparations for the trip was to make uniforms. We can hardly tell how much we enjoyed taking off our long garments and putting on workmen's trousers. We felt as proud as if we really belonged to that class. We stopped the first night at Shintu, and there held our first group meeting in the park. The moon was so bright that everything came to our sight as clear as if in the daytime. We sensed the joy of possessing the whole park for there was scarcely another person there. Looking around in four directions we could see the gentle breeze waving the hosts of plants as though they were daintily dancing. The smell was fragrant and the

atmosphere soothing. What I cannot forget is the serious attention and solemn voices of that evening meeting. It awakened a rather deep sense of hopefulness for new China. Those young men and women are so devoted.

I should mention here that the country between Chengtu and Shintu is quite flat. Along the sides of the road may be seen farmsteads, singly or in groups. They look pleasant and pretty with green bamboo and big trees growing around them. No wonder the hsien city (Shintu) is comparatively clean and in good order, for it has been an experimental hsien where some of Dr. James Yen's faculty have spent some time. Last year Ginling freshmen class had also made a fruitful visit to that city. We found that at about 10 o'clock in the evening police, organized by civilians, were on duty, and the whole city quiet and safe.

At day break, July 31st, everybody got up and washed and packed quickly and orderly - like old soldiers in camp. At the blowing of the signal each one took his belongings and stood in a row by his rickshaw listening for the orders of the day. "Ready," our leader said, "Start." With these words we all got in and moved forward like a railroad train, the twenty rickshaws in one line, with the difference that the pulling force was a man bending his back in front of each of us instead of a steam engine at the head. As we plunge into the sea of fresh, bracing morning breeze, we feel nothing is impossible. Occasionally, the group sang together such songs as, "March forward to the fighting field those who would not become slaves," or "Fight on till we get back to our own homes," or "The farmers' marching song." After enjoying the scenery for a while, I began dozing in my rickshaw, and I believe the others did the same. One may think that riding in a rickshaw is very tiresome, but not so, when compared with a big truck with no seats and no cover. In a rickshaw you sit in the only seat like a queen on her throne, and no one can touch you, while in a truck I have the feeling that my old bones and all my inner organs will shake to pieces.

We passed through several market towns before we had our breakfast. All these towns have greatly increased in population and business is enlarged because of the present situation. We reached Dehyang at five o'clock, and we went immediately to the Anglican Church where it had been arranged we should stay. I had plenty of fresh air sleeping in the corner of the open yard, but the fleas were terrible, and I did not sleep well. The following day when we had finished breakfast, the students started work at one of the tea houses with a very well planned program of singing, story telling, and war news. At least fifty people were present and I believe that our rickshaw men enjoyed the rest and the teaching as much as any of the audience.

At Lo Chieng Hsien where we stopped for the night, I overheard some boys in the courtyard preparing their English lesson. They tried so hard to drill in pronunciation and it made me feel guilty to keep silent without helping them. So I gave some corrections, which surprised them greatly. Very politely they drew closer to me for help. After supper the boys came with lamps in hand and I found that the number had increased three times. Some older men came too. With great respect they asked me to explain many words and sentences. The eagerness of wanting to learn makes me feel happy for young and new China. These boys were students of the Shengtong middle school moved to Lo Chieng. They came from good families and were fine boys.

From Mienyang, the next stop, we traveled by Red Cross truck to Hanchang which took five days. From Hanchang, two women and myself, traveled by military truck to Paochi, reaching there August 19th.

Before I speak about the main interest of this trip, the Cooperatives, I must say a few words about the hsien city of Paochi. It is located on the north bank of the famous Wei river. The city wall forms a "U" encircling the South side to meet the hill range on the north. There is only one main street running from east to west. This city was of little importance until the Longhei railway was built, and now it has become their terminal of the railway. The population has been increased seven times with war refugees from Hopeh, Shantung, Shansi, Honan and Hupah provinces bringing with them their business and workmanship. People live mostly in the ancient caves - except those who live in the streets. The city possesses large capacity for expansion. There are three banks on the main street: Shanghai Commercial, Bank of China, and the Bank of Communications.

Cooperatives in Paochi started a year ago, and during this short period the movement has grown enormously. The headquarters are established in the hsien city and the branch offices are located in fifteen different places. According to the August record, they have already organized two hundred and seventy-one cooperatives of various industries, such as candle making, tailor shops, shoe making, tanning, printing, paper making, soap, gauze and cotton for medical use, spinning and weaving of all kinds - material, towels, blankets, cotton for soldiers uniforms, 90 of this number are in Paochi or the nearby district. As you walk through the streets you notice cooperatives everywhere.

Between April 23rd and June 23rd there were ten cooperatives organized by women, a unique development. Women have been given the opportunity to work out their own plans through the general office at Paochi. Right now they are busy weaving and spinning in order to produce army blankets. All upper grade women are sent out to train local women in the use of the improved apparatus, and also to direct the organization of women's cooperatives. A great number of the women members are war refugees from Wuhan, who had been skilled workers in the cotton mills before the war. Some told me of their gratitude to Madame Chaing for helping them to come out from Wuhan.

Some of the workers are illiterate country folk. Some are wives of army officers, and some are student refugees, eager to help build the national economic defence rather than make a personal living. Nine reading classes for both members and non-members are functioning at Paochi now, the total attendance being 137. The plan of the classes is (1) to learn three to five new words a day, (2) to practice writing Chinese characters, (3) to learn the principles of the cooperative movement, (4) Spiritual talks, (5) lectures on common knowledge, such as war news and stories of national heroes. One recreation club for women and children with 70 women and 30 children as members has been established. Reading classes for children are operated at 14 places for the children of members. The courses of teaching are like those of a regular grade school except that they are shorter. The text book for language is specially edited to suit interest and needs. Besides these classes there are periodical gatherings of educational value.

Training courses are arranged which last two months. The second month is devoted to practical work, such as methods of weaving, best way to join broken threads, how to use the new spinning wheels, and the weaving of towels. They start the day with morning drill and end the day with recreation: singing is enjoyed most. Public speaking and methods of conducting meetings are given every week. It is most interesting to see young girls and older women (over 40) sitting among the men to be trained managers of the cooperatives. The total number of women trained in this first session is 40, of whom 33 are natives of Paochi. Discussion meetings are held at which the work that has been done is reviewed, decisions made about future work. At the summer vacation institute besides reporting on work and discussing problems, such subjects as the future of the present war, international problems, and problems concerning manners and cooperatives in general are discussed. They concentrate on one subject for one week. An effort is being made to recruit students to work as local leaders. At present the aim is not to increase the number of the cooperatives, but to improve the quality of those already in existence. A children's home and day nursery will be established for children of workers. They are very enthusiastic about education, not only for children, but for officers and members.

Our day spent at the village of caves was really unique. Many spoke of my good health! They did not know that I had been ill not long before I came to them. I, myself, wondered how I could climb up and down the steep paths between the caves without feeling the least bit tired. We rested and had lunch - and such good food - in the well-equipped house which is a big cave. Our ancient poets described these caves, and in them lived some of the young ladies described in some of the love songs. I studied these stories as a young girl, but never dreamed that I would actually see the caves described. Modern industry and civilization has gone back to the caves, and if China shines, she must shine from there.

Although I did not get very tired, a day beginning at six and lasting till nearly 11 o'clock is really too full. I told them that I came to learn and not to teach, but they insisted on my speaking to them. I wished for more learning so that I could answer the questions put before me.

The general office for Paochi consists of two rows of new buildings in the shape of an "L". Part of it is the men's dormitory and part is for offices. The offices are crowded with desks where men are busy at work. The walls are covered with charts and posters of all kinds of facts, and diagrams of systems and organizations.

A good half day spent in the Paochi hsien magistrate's office taught me much about the hardships and problems and importance of a magistrate's job. Mr. Wong, the magistrate, showed me charts and explained what was being done with rural problems.

My visit in Paochi made me realize the complex organization of Industrial Cooperatives. Although at Paochi there has been enormous growth in a comparatively short period, the task is difficult. Able specialists with zeal to work are not easy to find, and favorable conditions are not available everywhere. The quick and large growth of cooperatives at Paochi is partly due to local conditions and partly to the efforts, ability and true patriotism of the workers



there. To build a national economic defence is the slogan with which they operate. The war has crippled the large manufacturers and made impossible the importing of much goods. This gives room for the development of the moderate, moveable unit of manufacturing concerns. Whether this movement is to be permanent or temporary will depend upon how we go at it. This is a unique time, a favorable time to mark out an economically democratic nation. Interest will not be hard to arouse among persons who are to gain profits. The problem will be to manage things so that no unhappiness between classes will develop.

The whole trip took one month, and seven days, out of which some sixteen days were spent in travel. During this time we stopped from one hour to three days at some twenty-four hsien cities or small market towns. Nights were spent in both government and missionary school rooms, in newly built modern hotels with tub baths and fairly comfortable rooms furnished with wooden beds, and in very small straw huts about six feet square. Many a time the only way to get a bath was to go to the brook and dip in our towels.

The highway into the north-west from Chengtu is of tremendous importance right now, and it is very busy. Counting roughly on one day, August 19th, there were some two hundred big trucks which passed us. At one place the traffic became so congested that it took quite a while to get through. There are no regular cars; all were for military purposes, or at least connected with national defence. Beside the trucks there were numerous old-fashioned cars drawn by donkeys. They are all required to use rubber tires instead of iron wheels in order to protect the road. The loads were of wool, salt, cotton, cloth, paper, peanut oil, gasoline, and other articles for civil and military use. The loads were sometimes ten feet long and nine or ten feet high. In a great many parts these form an unbroken line on one side of the road. Among them were quite a few carts drawn by man-power. The drivers and pullers usually sleep under the cart all night, the wheels being big enough to leave a rather spacious room beneath. There were no women carrying loads as we often see in Szechwan.

#### The Shi Li Poh Weaving Cooperative

The name means "ten li marketing place" and it is a smaller place than a regular town. The Shi Li Poh Weaving Cooperative was organized by seven native farming women. The story is that when they learned of the possibility of organizing cooperatives, they gathered eight women and tried to organize themselves but when some of the teachers told them of the responsibility they would have to share, they became indefinite and discouraged. It took a long time for some of the native men to persuade them to continue, telling them that if they all worked hard they would not lose money.

#### Chien Chin Women's Weaving Cooperative

Chien Chin means "advancing." This cooperative was organized by both native women and wives of soldiers. The leader is the wife of a wounded army officer. She said, at the opening meeting, that when our men are fighting at the front, we women at the rear ought to work hard to produce supplies just as fast as we can, even without pay if necessary.

## In Government Service

### The Five Universities' Group

Summer, 1939

On July 17th a group of forty-three students from the five universities on the campus - Central, Chasloo, University of Nanking, West China and Ginling with one Primary school teacher - started out on a circular tour of Szechuan cities. There were sixteen girls in the group, nine of these being Ginling students. Six cities were visited in this order: Chienyang, Lewweichang, Tzeliutsing, Kungying, Junghsien and Kaiting. Usually, three or four days were spent in each city and short trips made into the country from these centers daily.

A girl student from West China University was the leader and she had assistant leaders working under her. There was an Administrator of Living and a Librarian in charge of books and magazines loaned by West China University for the use of the group. The students worked in four divisions, medical, propaganda, dramatic and comfort. The personnel of the medical division remained the same but the others rotated.

The entire trip was made on foot and the money thus saved given to the people they visited. If occasionally one of the girls used rickshaws, fare was paid by the girl herself. The record shows that the group walked more than a thousand li. Three cooks were taken on the trip which were called No. 1 cook, No. 2 cook, and No. 3 cook. The girls helped wash dishes and also with general household duties while the men took turns going shopping with the cooks. It was cholera season so they had to be especially careful. Twelve dollars was the amount allowed for all the expenses of one day, which meant that only seven or eight cents (at present rate of exchange about one-half cent gold) could be used to purchase food for one person for one meal. The students being extra hungry from their long walks and outdoor exercise, often left the table feeling that they did not have sufficient food. The local governors of these cities asked them to feasts but there were so many speeches on these occasions that there was no time to eat and all they could do was look at the food. At the end of each day the whole group held a simple prayer meeting.

A goodly number of wooden plaques about six by six inches cut in the shape of a plum blossom were taken on the trip. Two girls were in charge of painting these and writing a character, in color, in each of the five petals. Four of the characters, translated, read, "This family has glory from war," and the fifth character stood for the Five Universities. When visiting homes where sons had gone to war, the group would sing special songs and then the plaque was nailed over the doorway.

Soldiers homes and camps were visited where they found many of the occupants suffering from skin diseases. Here the leader would give the main talk and then the soldiers would divide into smaller groups according to rank and a student would take charge of each group. It was interesting to hear that the soldiers learn to read and write one character each day. The soldiers sometimes challenged the boy students to a basketball game, and they would always ask the girls to cheer for them.

Work was done in groups of three or four, and several methods were used. The propaganda group started by going to a tea-shop, the social meeting-place, and singing a patriotic song. Soon a crowd would gather around them and one of the students would make a speech which might last for five minutes or an hour. Down-river people did their best to speak the Szechuan dialect and could answer questions quite well, but the Szechuan people gave the speeches. Propaganda pamphlets prepared with just a few characters so they could be easily read were handed out and two boys painted patriotic pictures on the wall with Chinese ink. The people asked many questions, mainly about the war and Chengtu bombing. Sometimes one of the students, who slightly resembles a Japanese, would be dressed in a Japanese coat and provided with a moustache and he would mumble something which was neither English, Chinese or Japanese. The others would then pretend to translate his speech saying that the Japanese did not want war, etc. The Chinese inhabitants were startled to find a Japanese in their city.

The comfort groups first visited individual homes where sons had gone to fight for China, but found this took too much time and later asked the heads of one hundred families to have these people meet together. A bonus is given by the government every three months to families who have sons at the front. But if the heads of one hundred families happens to be dishonest the individual families are left without the money and the labor of the absent son. When a soldier dies, the family should get a sum of money, but this is sometimes kept by the dishonest headman. At the request of many of the poorer families, the girls wrote letters to government and military officials giving them the official number of their soldier sons. Hundreds of letters were written to soldier sons, a supply of postcards being taken from Chengtu for this purpose. The people were urged to continue to write to their sons. They would have little to say excepting that the family was well, but the girls would add interesting items of news.

The dramatic group had six patriotic plays which they presented in the evenings, usually in the public park, but sometimes a theatre was used. Curtains for the stage were taken from Chengtu. Occasionally there would be an admission charge of fifty cents and the money so collected was given to homes for soldiers. It fell to the lot of one girl to act as prompter and apparently she had a bad time with the boys who could never remember their parts. The local governors presented them with flags, and these they would place on the platform when they gave their plays.

The medical group gave innumerable cholera injections as well as treating eye and skin diseases, and giving quinine for malaria. In many places they found no regular clinic was being held.

One could not help but feel in talking to these girls that they found the five weeks intensely interesting. They were bubbling over with enthusiasm and would do it again whenever there was a chance. Many difficulties were caused through lack of experience of the leaders and hardships there were aplenty, such as sleeping in bug-infested temples on wet floors, traveling in rain and mud and going hungry, but even all this was

not sufficient to dampen their ardour. They all felt it was a splendid way to study human character and that much good could be accomplished by this work.

Bits From a Ginling Freshman Diary

(Five Universities' Service Group)

July 16 (a fine Sunday).

I got up early this morning - 4 o'clock - because I shall join the group in front of the Administration Building before 5. Having finished the preparation of the luggage, and ready to go out, I found that every door in the dormitory was locked. The only thing I could do was remove the inside window frame and climb out through the window. I got the key from the servant and opened the door so that the eight other girls could go out of the doorway. The clock struck five when we arrived at the Administration Building. We ate our breakfast in the Iwa Mei Dormitory, and about six we were ready to start.

Most of the big group of fifty walked to the place where we were to take a boat to take us to our first stop. Four of us got permission to go by rickshaw and arrived about 9:30 at the quay. There we waited in a warehouse and ate some fruit while we waited for the others to come. About a quarter to twelve everyone had arrived, some had just walked half way, and then taken rickshaws or wheelbarrows.

The warehouse was very small, so we had to sit close together. Some of us began to sing songs. All the people gathered together and looked wonderingly at us. Though we were not scheduled to start work here, yet Miss S..... and I began to talk with some of the women. From their speeches, I knew they were surprised and wondered that we girls should sit thus near the boys. Ah! They still have conservative minds.

At four o'clock the luggage had not arrived. We sent someone to see what had happened. News came back that the wooden wheels of the luggage car were broken, and the luggage would not come until after five. Having heard this we knew we could not leave this place today. The problem where to spend the night was very difficult. Finally we got permission from the woman in charge of the warehouse, that either girls or boys might sleep there. So we girls slept there and the boys went to the boat where the luggage was. The leader asked two boys to sleep at the front gate of the warehouse because he thought that we might be afraid in the night. However we girls agreed to take turns to watch throughout the night. A girl from the University of Nanking and I watched from 12:30 to 2. After that we went to sleep again.

July 17.

We went on board the boat at 8 o'clock this morning. To get to Chienyang takes about fourteen hours so we ate our meals on the boat. It was raining and we were very comfortable on the boat, for the weather was not very hot.

At seven o'clock we arrived at Chienyang. Just then the big drops of rain came down. Though we had no umbrellas or raincoats, yet we walked through the rain toward the Local Government Headquarters - the place where we were to sleep. On the way we sang songs loudly, in order to show the spirit of our Service Group. Sometimes when we opened our mouths widely to sing, rain came into our mouths. People on the street gazed at us in surprise. When we arrived at the Local Government Headquarters, we fixed our bedding, and each took two tablets of aspirin. Some students went out to buy some ginger with which to make a drink, a Chinese method to keep from catching a cold.

July 19 (rainy).

Today everyone was assigned a particular duty. Some of us were to do propaganda work; others went to the soldiers camps and gave cholera injections. I was asked to stay at home and paint the narrow wooden boards with inscriptions. These we were to give to the families of soldiers to show that we appreciate their patriotic spirit, the boards to be nailed up outside the doors. All day long I painted and felt very tired at night.

July 20.

This morning I went out with the propaganda group to tell the people about the present conditions in China. First we went to the public park, but we found that there were only a few people there, so we returned and stopped on a very big wooden bridge. We then started to sing; people all gathered around us with their wondering eyes gazing at us. The leader of our group then stood up and told them where we came from and what was the purpose of this propaganda. He also told them that we could help them cure some of their diseases. Having heard this many people came forward and asked us for medicine, and then the medical students treated some of them. The rest of us began to speak to small groups about the present Sino-Japanese war. Before we had started, we had dressed one of our students in the clothes of a farmer. So as we talked he stood among the people and asked us many questions about the war; in answering him we gave much information to the people about the war.

This afternoon it rained very hard, so we stayed at home and prepared work. About seven o'clock we all went to the Public Park where we gave some plays. More than three thousand people came to see the plays. We returned home at eleven o'clock.

July 29.

We got up early this morning - at five o'clock - for we had planned to be at the bus station at seven. About six-thirty a telephone call came telling us that the bus would not leave until eight o'clock. Everyone of us was disturbed when we heard the news, for it meant that we could not keep our promise to arrive to talk to the soldiers at eight o'clock. The bus did not really leave until ten-thirty and about eleven we arrived. We walked to the Military headquarters and saw many soldiers standing in the terrible hot sunlight waiting for us; they had waited more than three

hours. They had not had their breakfast, for they had started at six o'clock from where they were training to come the twenty li. Their leaders were afraid they would break their promise to arrive at eight o'clock if they ate their breakfast first. They seemed very angry when they saw us, but when our leader asked them to excuse us and also told the reason why we came late, they seemed friendly. Our leader divided us into small groups, one student to talk to a small group of soldiers. After we taught them some songs and played games with them, all the soldiers were very happy. They even forgot their hunger. About one o'clock we left there and went to comfort the soldiers' families. After this had been done, we gathered in a tea-shop and waited for the bus which they said would come at five o'clock. Again the bus did not come when it should, but we waited there until nine o'clock. Though it was very late, yet the moon shone brightly, so everyone of us agreed to go by bus in the moonlight. Unfortunately, when we had gone only fifteen miles, one of the wheels was broken. So all we could do was take our luggage to a very poor temple, the place where beggars slept. The mosquitos bit so fiercely that no one could sleep. Some of us walked in the moonlight since we could not sleep. About eleven, big drops of rain came down. The temple where our beds were was all wet. We stood in one corner to keep ourselves dry, and waited for morning to come. How tired we were!

#### July 30.

Though it was not raining today, yet the road was still muddy. We left that poor temple about nine o'clock this morning and arrived at Tzeliutsing at ten-thirty. We were received as guests by a well-to-do family, relatives of one of our members. We stayed at home the whole afternoon to rest.

#### July 31.

Today the weather was very hot. The sun shone brightly, still we walked to the salt wells. After a walk of one and a half hours everyone was tired. The people of the salt company explained every machine and the methods of producing salt. The students who had studied chemistry understood it very well. Most of us took rickshaws back, had lunch with our host, and rested until five o'clock. Then we began to work, and I was asked to practice singing, for we were to give plays in the evening and the singing group was to sing six songs.

A BIT OF GINLING'S SUMMER WORK - WEST CHINA - 1939

National Program of Rural Education and Service

One group of sixteen students from Ginling, the University of Nanking and West China Union University had to go a week's journey by truck through hilly country and over poor roads in order to reach the place where they were to work. Two students always slept in the truck, for the gasoline supply for the whole trip had to be taken along. There was no covering over the truck and the luggage was used for seats.

The truck was continually in a state of disrepair and the boys and mechanic spent much time on their backs underneath the car. One boy went to sleep during an unusually lengthy repair job. Springs and steering gear broke, the radiator leaked, and the brakes wore out. Two boys acted as brakes when those on the car would no longer function. They would stand on the running board when the car was going down hill and throw large pieces of wood in front of the wheels. The nickname of "pieces of wood" was soon given them.

Once while the truck was being repaired, the girls started out to walk and walked the whole distance, forty li, to the next town. This took them from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., and they did not hurry because they expected the truck to come along any minute. The city gate was to be closed at ten so the girls sat down outside the gate to wait. At 11 p.m. the truck put in its appearance - pushed by the boys! The city watchman was awakened, and then it was discovered that the truck could not be taken in through the narrow city gate!

The group slept in churches, schools, and temples. The girl who wrote the report was the cook and did the shopping. We know that she did not enjoy this hard task, but did it willingly enough when no one else could be found. Vegetation was very poor; corn the staple article of diet, and pickled vegetables are used instead of fresh ones. Vegetable oil lamps were the only means of lighting, and they were found very satisfactory, even for lighting the stage for evening performances of plays.

For the first week the whole group did health propaganda work in tea-shops and restaurants, with speeches and slogans, posters and sketches. The second week everyone helped the medical student members to give cholera injections, treat skin diseases, malaria, and trachoma. During the second half of the month education along citizenship lines was followed, with classes of various kinds, mass singing, speeches, plays as the means of reaching all parts of the community. Farmers, laborers, soldier recruits in training, and youth groups received special attention. Individual work with families whose sons had gone to the front was found important. Letters were written to the soldier sons, the students supplying bits of news to the meager messages from the family, which were usually limited to the word that the family health was good.

The Ginling girls found the five weeks intensely interesting. When they returned, they were bubbling over with enthusiasm and said they would go out again whenever the opportunity was offered. Their ardour was not dampened by the difficulties and discomforts caused by lack of experience in the leaders, sleeping in bug-infested temples on damp floors, travelling in rain and mud and going hungry. They said they had had enough holiday to be ready for college work again, and they certainly looked rested, happy, and brown.



Summer 1937

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

Letters from Faculty in Chengtu, Szechuan Province

Notes from Dr. Djang Siao-sung, Department of Psychology,  
on Cooperation Among the Refugee Institutions in Chengtu.

Dr. Djang acts as administrative chairman  
in President Wu's absences.

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You may have heard from Dr. Wu about the many forms of cooperation among the colleges and universities on this campus in Chengtu.

The Universities Joint Council was organized in February. Each of the half dozen institutions on this campus sends some representatives to this joint council. I have attended its meetings twice. The topics for discussion were on the joint application for exemption from taxes for our educational goods coming to Chengtu, time for the spring holidays, the date and expenses for the field day and the advisability of conducting a joint summer school for the students whose homes are faraway and for those students who need extra work on the fundamental subjects. The second meeting was at President Dsang's home. It was preceded by a dinner given in honor of Mr. Silcock of the Universities China Committee from London who, with his friend Mr. Perkins, was visiting Chengtu for less than a week. Mr. Silcock told us of his plans to go to Shanghai via Hongkong and to Nanking if possible. They are going to study conditions in the occupied area and open an office around there to do some relief work. After his long speech, the representative of each institution was asked to make a report, to him, giving an account of the reason of its moving to Szechuan, the present way of cooperation and so forth. The speaker for the University of Nanking was President Y. G. Chen; for the Central University Dental School, Dean Hwang; Medical School, Dean Cheer; for the Cheeloo Medical School, Dr. Hou; for Soochow Biology Department, Dr. Liu; and for Ginling myself. I wish you were here to hear the story each had to tell. In one thing they all showed agreement, and that was their appreciation and gratitude to West China University for her generosity and hospitality to these refugee institutions.

Except Central University which does not have any holiday during the term, all the rest of the institutions had a spring vacation on Monday and Tuesday, April 4 and 5. In the Ginling group a few faculty members and half a dozen students organized themselves for a two-day trip to Kwan Hsien and the Tsing Cheng Hills. The former is a place famous for the oldest and largest irrigation system in the country, started a thousand years ago and irrigating about twenty hsien districts. The latter is a mountain famous for its Taoist temples. I went with Dr. Reeves to Chiating, six or seven hours by bus from here, to look over some mission property. That is a city known for its beauty of rivers, mountains, temples.

Near the end of March the seven universities in Chengtu had a retreat together at the Methodist Girls' School in the city. Eight or ten of the Ginling girls participated. A joint faculty retreat is being planned by a joint committee, which has set a date somewhere near the last week of this month.

The extent of the cooperation among the different colleges and universities can further be shown in many ways. For instance there is a joint religious activities committee, a joint health committee and a joint athletic committee. The Ginling representatives on each are respectively Dr. Yuan of the Education Department, Dr. Pin-dji Chen of Biology Department and Mrs. Ni of the Physical Education. This is just a factual report of some of the phases of cooperation here.

# GINLING COLLEGE

## GENERAL NEWS LETTER

Written by Miss Lillian Kirk, Secretary to President Wu Yi-fang,  
in Chengtu, October 2, 1939

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### REGISTRATION 1939-1940

One hundred and fifty students have registered. There are sixty-five freshmen, thirty second-year students, twenty third-year students, fifteen fourth-year, fourteen for the special two-year physical education course, and six unclassified. There are a few day students. Dr. Frank Price brought two freshmen for Ginling in his truck from Chungking, and we hear that there are still a few waiting there and in Kunming for bus transportation. Tickets are very difficult to secure; those who have friends among the military are the first to get them. Government examination results were announced a few days after Ginling opened.

### DORMITORY FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Our dormitory is so full it is almost bursting its walls. It has been necessary to have some of the faculty move out in order to make room for students. Dr. Reeves will stay with Mrs. Small for a few weeks until the young couple they are expecting from Canada arrive. Miss Chester is with Mrs. Leslie Kilborn. Wu Mei-ling and Mrs. Tung (Wu Yuen-ching) have moved into two of the three rooms the Women's College of the West China Union University have kindly let us have. Hu Shih-tsang will occupy the other when she comes. Infirmary space has been reduced from two rooms to one room with two beds. The prayer room may even have to be used temporarily for faculty. Cots have been borrowed for the use of students until the carpenter has finished the beds which were ordered from him. One wing of the dormitory is being kept for freshmen this year.

A few girls who registered have had to go home because of illness. Most of them were suffering from malaria. One girl had news of her mother's death, and had to go home for a time.

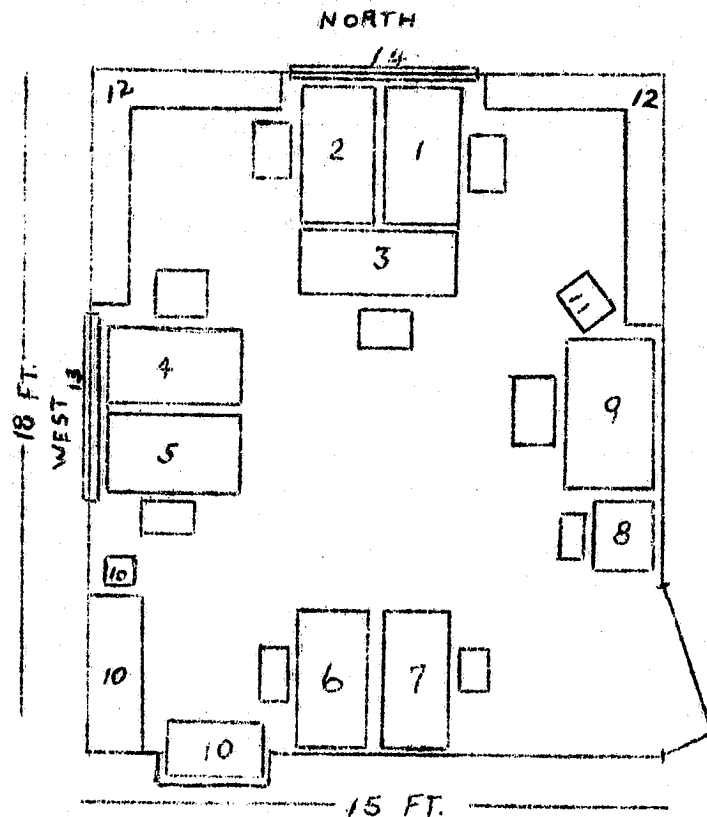
The eight-room unit for faculty which is being built on the grounds of the Women's College has not progressed much more than two feet above the ground. The builder will not set even an approximate date when the building will be completed. The carpenter was ill during the summer, and supplies are difficult to secure.

### CLASSROOMS AND OFFICES

To make more classroom space, the two tiny offices at either end of the long corridor of Vandeman Hall were combined in one of the smaller classrooms. The two former offices were transformed into a classroom by adding two rows of five desks, and a portable blackboard. There is a space of only about three feet from the front row of desks to the wall. This gives five classrooms in Vandeman Hall instead of four. Two English classes are being held in the Dormitory living-room, and later on three will be held there. The Canadian School has kindly lent the Music Department two small rooms for music and teaching.

Our "four-in-one" office presents a busy appearance these days. When Miss Chester is at her desk there is always a cluster of students around reporting a conflict or some registration problem. We do not envy her in her difficult task of arranging schedules and assigning classrooms when there are not enough to go round. There are no desks now for the men faculty and no place where they may confer with students. Our messenger service is improved for one of the servants has acquired a bicycle, and goes into the city twice a day. We think this office is a bit crowded, but compared to the offices Ginling had during the first war year in Shanghai, it is luxurious. The room measures about fifteen by eighteen feet. It is all very compact and it certainly has one advantage - one does not need to leave one's desk to get in touch with any of the other three departments.

GINLING COLLEGE OFFICE IN VANDEMAN HALL



Legend

1. Desk of President Wu Yi-fang
2. Desk of Mr. Ming Hsia-ching, Chinese secretary and Director of Business Affairs.
3. Desk of Miss Ma Bih-ying, Assistant Secretary
4. Desk of Miss Ruth Chester, Acting Dean of Studies
5. Desk of Miss Tan Fan, Registrar
6. Desk of Miss Chang Siao-sung, Dean of Discipline and Guidance
7. Desk of Miss Chang's assistant
8. Office Typewriter
9. Desk of Miss Lillian J. Kirk, English Secretary to President Wu Yi-fang
10. Filing cabinets
11. Miss Wu sits in this chair to give dictation
12. Shelves
- 13&14. Windows

### RURAL PROJECT AT JENSHOW

Three of this year's Sociology graduates are with the Rural Project at Jenshow: Wei Djen-dze is in charge of the educational program; Hsiao Ding-ying of Health; and Feng Gia-sen of Co-operatives. Miss Li, of course, superintends the handwork. Miss Phoebe Ho is in the dormitory at present doing some writing on the investigations of the summer. Miss Highbaugh and all the staff held several conferences here in Chengtu before they started the work for the year.

### FRESHMEN WEEK

Freshmen Week began Monday evening, September 11th, with a party for all the newcomers which all the faculty attended. Most of the girls look so eager and young. It was interesting to see how quickly they learned some of the College songs, and how they enjoyed the simple games. An attractive table had been arranged at one end of the gymnasium where our party was held. Vines were hung around the window frames. Long mosquito coils were suspended from window sashes, and someone went around at intervals, knocked off the accumulated ash, and waited there until the ash died out. We had lunch of a sweet drink made from ground beans, spice cake, and peanuts. The program of the week included introductions to many phases of life in the college and the community.

### SENIOR RETREAT

The Senior Retreat was held in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Parfit on September 13th and 14th. I wish you could have seen the group of alert, bright-eyed girls. Everyone notices what a splendid group they are. While eating the simple supper of buns with meat filling, hard-boiled eggs, pears and tea, (Miss Spicer announced beforehand how much each person was allowed!) the girls sat on low stools around Miss Nowlin absent mindedly eating supper, and all the time plying her with questions. In the discussion period following Miss Nowlin's talk, Miss Highbaugh emphasized the advantage of professional experience before marriage, and she urged that marriage itself be considered a vocation. The second afternoon Dr. Dryden Phelps spoke on the ever-interesting subject of friendship and marriage. No allotted discussion time would ever be sufficient for this subject. He summed up his talk in the following few words: "The basis of happy friendship and marriage, when all is said and done, is the Golden Rule."

The two-day program considered four major topics:- (1) How to Make the Best Use of the Senior Year under present conditions. (2) Choice of a Vocation. (3) How Can the Senior Class Best Serve the College at the Present Time. (4) Relationships in Friendship and Marriage. There were also long discussion periods, and devotional exercises began and closed each day. The luncheons and suppers were eaten together, and everyone found the fellowship very helpful.

### WELCOME TO NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

The Women's College of West China Union University, Cheeloo University, and Ginling College are planning a joint tea and reception for new staff members early in October. A similar event last year was a real success.

### ABUNDANT LIFE ASSOCIATION

Last autumn, on arrival in Chengtu, Ginling organized the Abundant Life Association to take charge of all extra-curricula activities. Several organizations, such as the self-government body, the Y. W. C. A., the athletic clubs, and first-aid work were united, and the new organization was given the name of the Abundant Life Association. Some students felt the need of doing work among the neighborhood people, and this was also included. To use Miss Chang Siao-sung's expression, "all these straying activities were brought into one fold."

The organization has four divisions:

1. Religious and moral.
2. Intellectual, including patriotic work and reading clubs.
3. Health: recreation and hygiene.
4. Community life and dormitory life.

Besides the usual offices of chairman, secretary, treasurer, business manager, and chairmen of the four divisions, there are corridor chairmen who see that quiet is observed in the proper periods, lights are turned out at 10:30 p. m., and student rooms kept tidy. All officers are elected by the student body except the corridor chairmen, who are appointed by the residents in the four dormitory corridors.

A recent meeting was held from 2 to 5 p. m. in the sitting-room of Miss Priest's home. It was planned to have tea at the half-way period - 3:30 - but they were so interested they forgot about it, and it was 4:45 before they went out to the dining-room. Dr. Wu is advisor, and now Miss Chang Siao-sung, the Dean of Discipline and Guidance, will also attend. Heads of divisions presented ambitious plans for the year, the constitution was revised, and recommendations were received from individual students and from groups of students. Before work for the year can be started, there must be a mass meeting of students. A time was set, but because of the frequent air-raid alarms it had to be cancelled. Miss Chang tells of the splendid spirit among the members of this association and the open-minded way they discussed the various problems. She feels that much good is bound to come from the work of this earnest group.

### MONTHLY CITIZENS' MEETING

October 1st, being a Sunday, the Monthly Citizens' Meeting was held in the regular period reserved for our Memorial Service. The offering from faculty and students was designated to be used to purchase warm clothing for soldiers. Madame Chiang recently sent out an appeal for such garments. One long padded garment costs about twelve dollars. Dr. Wu was the speaker at this first meeting of the new year.

## NEWS ITEMS FROM THE GINLING CAMPUS

From Miss Minnie Vautrin, October 21, 1939

### ENROLLMENT IN CAMPUS SCHOOLS - 1939-40

Experimental Course:	
Junior Senior Middle School	171 (163 boarders)
Homecraft Course: three classes	68
Kindergarten	25
Day School for Young Children	<u>80</u>
	344

Today is a cold, cloudy day, a warning that winter is not far behind. The colors are beginning to appear in the autumn leaves, and the candleberry trees are giving promise of the beauty that will be theirs in another week. The buds on the chrysanthemums are beginning to open and they too will be beautiful in another two weeks - just at the time when we celebrate Founders' Day. The four Ginling projects are fairly well started, although many things remain to be done before they reach a really satisfactory stage. The following will give you a birdseye view of the work being carried on this autumn.

The Experimental Course for girls of junior-senior middle school ability continues. Last June at the final meeting of the staff it was decided to limit the enrollment to 160, but in spite of all that we could do, it has gradually reached the number of 171. Several municipal middle schools have opened for girls so the pressure on us is not quite as urgent as it was last year. Of the 171, 153 are boarders. Ninety-one of the total number are on work-relief for all or part of their fees and of this number fourteen especially fine girls are so poor that they cannot pay even one dollar toward their fees for the semester which amount to \$53.00. Forty of the upper class girls earn their fees by teaching in the neighborhood kindergarten and day school, while fifty-one earn their fees by working with their hands, cleaning classrooms, washing dishes and quilting. Mrs. C. T. Gee and Mrs. Albert Stedard of the University of Nanking staff are very generously planning and teaching the quilting project and the girls are keen about it.

Our staff this year is stronger than it was last year. Miss Ellen Koo, formerly of the college music department has come to be with us as a volunteer worker and feels very happy because she is so much needed here. Miss Loh Pei-fan (1938) has also come up from Shanghai to teach biology and gardening. Several other new members have been added to the staff so we are more nearly able to give our students what is needed than we were last year. Fearing that the girls who could pay full fees would feel themselves superior to those who had to work, this September we started the plan of dividing the whole student body into four groups, and each group takes the responsibility

for washing dishes and cleaning the dining-rooms for four weeks. This afternoon from four to six o'clock the supervisors of this work (Junior II girls who learned to do it particularly well last year) are to meet down at one of the dormitories and make new towels and dish cloths. Work is taken for granted this year.

The Homecraft Course is again being given this year but to a group of very needy students. There are 68 in the course and they are divided into three classes, the highest class being of junior middle school ability. These girls are receiving much the same type of course as the destitute women received last year, that is, they study half a day and work half a day. You should see their fine garden - the "white vegetable" or Chinese cabbage will soon be ready to be harvested and salted. To the weaving of towels and stockings has been added the weaving of cloth. These girls too are being taught to make their own garments and to knit. They do all their own cooking and carrying; there is no servant to do the hard things for them. More than twenty of the girls come from other Mission stations such as Wuhu, Chinkiang, Nanhsuchow, Hwai Yuen and Hofei.

Funds for this course are being given to us by Chinese and foreign friends. Ginling alumnae in Hongkong gave more than \$400.00 Chinese currency, and those in Shanghai have given more than \$1,000.00. The Chinese Women's Club again gave us a gift of \$3,000.00. With these generous gifts in hand we had courage to go forward with our planning even though the cost of rice and coal and vegetable oils was double that of a year ago.

The Kindergarten continues in the large guest hall of the Central Building. We miss the little children of the destitute women who were with us all of last year, but now we have 25 little children who belong to the members of our staff, the college servants, and our neighbors. Miss Gin, the teacher of last year, is in charge, and two of the experimental course students help with the teaching. It is gratifying to see a shy little child enter such a school and then watch her develop.

The Day School in the Neighborhood Center continues. It has an enrollment of 80, and is in charge of a fine little teacher who has come down to us from the Methodist Training School at Changli. Twenty-five of the Experimental Course girls help her as teachers, and they, too, are developing by the responsibility which they bear. The money for the conducting of this school was also a gift - and surely a worth while one measured in the joy that it gives to the children.



SUNDAY PROGRAM ON THE GINLING CAMPUS

Nanking - 1939 - 40

Student Church

10:30 a. m. South Studio  
Joint service for both Courses.  
Pastors of city take turns.  
1st Sunday - Mr. Wang Ban-chieh  
2nd Sunday - Episcopal Pastor  
3rd Sunday - Methodist Pastor  
4th Sunday - Presbyterian Pastor  
5th Sunday - Special

Services for Neighbors

2:30 p. m. Neighborhood Women.  
Classes are taught by Christian  
girls from the Experimental Course.  
  
2:30 p. m. Campus and Kindergarten  
Children's Sunday School - Central  
Building.  
  
2:00 p. m. Neighborhood Children in  
Neighborhood Center. Taught by Chris-  
tian students in our two courses.

Young People's Meeting

7:20 p. m. Big Chapel. Classes lead in  
turn. Usually about 230 in the audi-  
ence. We marvel at the depth of the  
experience that some of them reveal  
in their talks.

Service for Campus Servants

7:20 p. m. Science Lecture Hall  
Pastor Yang leads.

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Daily Prayer Meeting

7:30-7:45 a. m. North Studio.

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Thursday Prayer Meeting  
for Neighborhood Women

2:30 p. m. - Neighborhood House  
Miss Lo in charge.

RETREAT FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE EXPERIMENTAL COURSE STAFF

October 29, 1939

At South Hill Faculty Residence

(Translation of Chinese Program)

## The Special Mission of a Christian School

2:30 p. m.

Devotional Service

"The Faith of a Christian"

Leader - Pastor David Yang

3-4 p. m.                      How Can the Teachers in a Christian School help fulfill the special mission of such a school? Leader - Pastor Chiang

As a spiritual leader?  
As a progressive educator?  
As a happy and healthy personality?  
As an example in right attitudes and habits?

4-4:30 p. m.                      Intermission for rest and tea.

4:30 - 5:30 p. m.      What special training should students receive in a Christian School that they do not receive in other schools?  
Leader - Miss Blanche Wu

Intellectually?  
Physically?  
In attitudes, especially toward manual work?  
In character training?

5:30 - 6 p. m.      Closing Devotional Service      Leader - Miss Vautrin  
                              "Jesus as the Great Teacher"

6 p. m. Fellowship Meal In the "400" Dining Room

7:20 p.m. All were invited to attend the young people's service in the College Chapel.

Service in charge of Homecraft Girls Section A.

Note: Those who were to attend were asked to find time beforehand for prayer and thought to the topics for discussion.

[ ]

Address by Madame Chiang Kai-shek  
to the Forum on Current Problems

26 October 1939

Religion is the main pillar of civilization and without it there can be no international righteousness, no justice, no common decency and no guaranty of the honoring of the pledged word. There can presently be no confidence in treaties because as we know now, treaties uninfluenced by religious scruples are violated just as soon as they become irksome to unprincipled governments which are covetous and which contemplate irregularities in seeking possession and power.

Without religion no state can long endure. That should now be clear enough. If religious principles governed all treaty makers there would be no treaty breakers. If religious feeling beat in the hearts of would-be destroyers there would be no destruction.

[ If religious thoughts entered the minds of those who profit from the sales of munitions to international lawbreakers for subjugation of victims by aggression and there would be no aggression and there would be no victims.

We Chinese women and people are, however, victims - the original ones, in fact - of the resurrection of barbarism that has practically supplanted international treaties and codes and stained with shame this advanced period in our so-called civilization.

[ The very fact that this should be so in this year of grace, 1939, is a remarkably sad commentary upon modern ideas of upholding the worth of treaties whose humanitarian safeguards supposedly were characteristic of civilization.

But when religion and all that it implies returns to inspire and govern men in all their relations with their fellows it is certain that international decency of conduct will also return. It is certain, too, that jealousies, injustices, suspicions, antagonisms and war will quickly vanish and that right will prevail for the lasting good of humankind.

To restore peace that passeth all understanding in personal and world affairs, we women have a mighty task imposed upon us. The opportunity to do great good has been given us by the near breakdown of civilization, by this abominable prostration before the fetish of expediency, by this sight of millions of men marching to their doom, by this unparalleled orgy of selfish and wicked use of brute force to destroy humanity in a mad will-o'-the-wisp pursuit of personal power.

Throughout the ages the progress of civilization and the stability of society have been measurable by the amount of influence for good that women have exercised in their communities. It is a heritage that we women cannot ignore. It is one that we must uphold, one of which we must be worthy.

There is no standing still, no going backward. We can only go forward and we should do that in the spirit of the crusaders with their invincible cross ever before them.

Unless a radical change comes over the hearts and the minds of men, some of us, at least, will live to see civilization perish by the very means used so long and so ruthlessly to destroy China. There is only one thing that can prevent such

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a disaster to humanity - it is religion; whose partial eclipse I lament.

When national consciousness and individual consciousness are developed through a belief in religion, when religion is accepted as the central pivot and motivating force of life and conduct, then the doom of civilization may be averted, but not until then.

GINLING COLLEGE  
NANKING, CHINA

American Office  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York New York

WITHOUT FANFARE

On October 27, 1939 in New York an event of unusual significance was a small luncheon party of members of the Board of Ginling College. They met to honor Miss Catharine Sutherland of Ginling's Department of Music just arrived in America on furlough. In her memories of the past two years must be the early days of fear in Nanking as word came of the swift approach of the invading army, of the months in Wuchang, where a gigantic confluence of troop and refugee movements were soon clogged distressingly with ill-tended wounded, and of the journey to the cloud-hung spot in Free China where Ginling's college program now goes on. But on the 27th Miss Sutherland spoke not of these events, she gave no word of her own quietly heroic part in them, but talked only of the part which Ginling as a Christian College plays in China's constructive National plan.

In like spirit come the following pages of news notes as Ginling begins her third war year. You will have to dig deep for any hint of the limiting difficulties under which the work goes on. And search as you will you will find no whisper of the personal tragedies on every hand and the lack of many of the elemental comforts and the simplest tools of modern life. These Ginling women - teachers, students, alumnae - are doing a good work in the best possible way,

WITHOUT FANFARE

# GINLING IN NANKING

## FOUNDERS' DAY EXERCISES

November 5, 1939  
3:30 p.m.

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Reverend P. F. Price, D.D.

HYMN "O Thou Whose Own Vast Temple Stands"

No. 411

SCRIPTURE READING AND PRAYER

Dr. M. Searle Bates

ANTHEM "The Heavens Resound"

Beethoven

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Miss Blanche Wu  
Miss Minnie Vautrin

HYMN "O God of Love, O King of Peace"

No. 419

ADDRESS On Remembering our Past  
INTERPRETER

Mrs. Lawrence Thurston  
Mr. Wang Ban-gieh

ANTHEM "Unto the hills . . . "

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Reverend P. F. Price, D.D.

POSTLUDE

\* \* \* \* \*

### Funds for Relief Raised on the Ginling Campus, Nanking

First Semester, 1939-40

#### Receipts:

Raised at time of 8th Month Festival for Tientsin Flood Relief	\$136.05
Raised by students at weekly class meetings	60.25
Junior II \$15.53 (77 students)	
Junior III 15.33 (50 students)	
Senior I 5.17 (25 students)	
Senior II 6.75 (10 students)	
Senior III 3.60 (9 students)	
Homecraft Course 13.87 (68 students)	
Special Christmas Offering	78.00
Saved by the Friday "Bowl of Rice" meal Approx.	30.00
Contribution by members of the staff	142.20
Total	446.50

The above will all be divided between Tientsin Flood Relief and helping the poor in Nanking. (Figures are approximations. Treasurer's statement has not yet been posted.)

MADAME CHIANG KAI-SHEK AT GINLING

(a letter from President Wu Yi-fang  
received in New York, November 9, 1939).

I had planned to go over this year's budget carefully in the light of the enrollment and minor staff changes, but I certainly was busy during my four weeks in Chengtu this time, and had to come away on October 21st without having attended to the things I wanted to. You know I was in Chungking for the People's Political Council from September 14-24, while the Colleges started a new year with such programs as the Freshmen Week and Senior Retreat. Then I was back hardly a week when the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek came to Chengtu. The Women's Organizations wanted to welcome her and she wanted to push the work, so there were meetings and informal conferences. She counted on me to give her the background and conditions of these organizations and women workers. It was a very interesting and wonderful experience to be working with her, and I was privileged to know the Generalissimo better by being her guest over a long week-end. Then there were such big occasions as the Military Review on Double Ten, Joint Monday Memorial Service for the faculties and students of Colleges and Universities when the Generalissimo spoke, the coming of the Minister of Education to see the institutions.

We had a most exciting time in Ginling when Madame Chiang came to the students' welcome party for new faculty and new students. She enjoyed our simple lap supper in the crowded dining room when we used her rice bowls for the first time. The rice bowls (200 of them) are gifts from Madame Chiang which were delivered just the day before she came, so I suggested using them for the first time at the party and invited her to come. The way in which she came to give the bowls is quite interesting. I was at an informal lunch in her home with two other women from her staff in September. When I saw the beautiful thousand-flower dishes from Kinkiang, I could not help making a comment and telling her that we are all using the regular course bowls of the refugees. The result was that she presented us with the rice bowls - a special type, brown on the outside and green inside with good glaze.

Madame Chiang gave an impromptu and inspiring talk to our girls. Under her leadership, the Women's Committee of the New Life Movement gave a month's training course to 300 girls in June and they are now in teams doing rural service and hospital service for the wounded. She had just gone to inspect their work in two or three districts and was greatly pleased. As a result she had very touching incidents to tell. It is at this point that she gave our girls a real scare, for she said, "Ginling is fine in all points save one. I have Ginling graduates on my staff and I have met many of your alumnae. They all have a real spirit of service. But the bad thing about you (as I have already told your president) is that you are training 150 girls and it should be 1500!" How I enjoyed seeing the girls relax from their nervous tension at this point! When she sends out the teams for rural service and care of the wounded, she needs college women to be supervisors, and I just cannot find enough Ginling women to supply the demand. Four of the Class of 1939 and two of earlier classes are now on her staff. I have written to Shanghai and am trying to get some more to come from that region. Have I told you that for the 22 girls that finished in Chengtu last July, there were about 70 openings for them? This shows clearly the fast development along many lines in West China.



NOTES FROM GINLING'S RURAL PROJECT IN JENSHOW

25 November 1939

The work has gone well here at Chen Chia Tsu. Each night there is a group of young men here pouring over maps on the wall of the courtyard, learning songs and discussing political and economic life with Miss Hoh; a group of children learning to read, singing songs, and playing games with Miss Wei; and I am able to teach lessons to a few women each night.

We are attempting to visit each of the ten units in the town and get literacy classes started in homes for older girls and women. To this end we are holding daily normal classes with the older school girls. A few girls who are out of school are going to teach. They may not get started in all the units this week, but we hope to get a few under way. We are having a party for the heads of these units and their wives and for members of the cooperative and their wives on Tuesday night.

Then Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights next week, we are holding special meetings with Mr. Feng and Secretary Liu of the Extension Bureau here. We will have exhibits to mark the conclusion of our recent stay in the village of Chen Chia Tsu. Mr. Feng has been made Superintendent of Schools for the Hsien and we want his support on this educational effort. He got us started here first and if we can get this sort of thing to work in homes, as a part of the school program, it can be spread to other schools.

A second educational project is the rural home nursery school. One has been begun in a yard where there are thirteen families and fifteen children of nursery age. Grandmothers, big sisters, and mothers (when not in the fields) are amazed at the ability of small children to learn. Poor children! Their environment is so barren, and their language development is just about two years behind that of children whose parents teach them. We hope to get somebody interested in making toys of bamboo. Miss Wei is carrying the nursery school, and we shall hope to get two or three more started as we can. Miss Feng had expected to carry the literacy work for the adults, but has had to carry on the work in Jenshow.

It is our plan to come to Chen Chia Tsu regularly one or two days a week for supervision and to develop this center as a pattern as rapidly as possible, then open other centers which are waiting.

Messrs. Li and Shih of the Extension Bureau brought Mr. Tao, of the Provincial Agricultural Bureau, to visit us one day. They plan to buy 300 mou of land and move 15-20 families on to it. This will be within twenty li of Jenshow. They are asking us to present an estimate for a budget on all the women's work, educational work, nursery school recreational center, and for repairing all the houses in a model manner, including stoves and a bath house. The Provincial Government is to provide the money and the Extension Bureau is to be responsible for the farm program while they ask us to plan and supervise all the work for family life, women and children's educational, industrial and recreational life. It is very challenging. They would like the estimate in two weeks for the Provincial Budget for the year will be allocated at their meeting December 15th. So we are trying to think a bit on that between times. Being here in the midst of farm life makes it easier to think concretely on needs but how to estimate for house improvements on houses you have not seen is hard.

[1]

News Letter, Written by

Florence Kirk to Friends in England

Ginling College  
Chengtu, Szechuan  
November 25, 1939

Dear Friends:

This letter is written upon a cheap bamboo paper which has its drawbacks, such as unevenness in size and in texture. The more substantial typewriting paper is almost prohibitive in price. The students look a little grieved when we tell them how many note-books they need; the prices have jumped from about 25 cents to 80 cents or more. Our business office has had printed with lines and margins a cheap kind of paper selling at 15 cents - but the paper is thin and one must use a pad or other paper underneath so that the ink will not go through. This is the day of ingenuity, and it is remarkable how substitutes can be secured. The book problem is much more acute than it ever was in Nanking, and we thought it serious there: more than 45 students in one class in Sociology, and references to be read from three copies of a text on the reserve shelf! In the English Department we have been fortunate in buying a set of several text books, and we keep them in the library for classroom work, and charge students a material fee to cover use of texts. From Nanking we have received a good shipment of books this Fall, and have much to be thankful for. The microscopes that came in such good condition made the Biology Department happy. The prices quoted in the Hankow Herald for foreign printed books make us gasp: Oxford Dictionary, which was formerly \$12, is now \$75 or \$100 (Chinese currency). If one gets benefit of foreign exchange, it is all right, but if one is on a salary in Chinese currency, it is a different matter. Smith College and Miss Shoup sent us altogether 15 books, and we are revelling in this wonderful gift.

The war goes on. The Chinese air-force has done some spectacular work in bombing Hankow, Canton, and we hear that it surprised the Japanese in Nanking. Just now Nanning is being heavily bombed by the Japanese - nine air raids just the other day! China is such a tremendous country that it is difficult to mass troops at every point. There is a new motor road in the South that may lessen the importance of Nanning as a link in the chain of communications. One of my students is anxious these days for her home is just on the edge of the bombed area, and no recent news has come for some time. Mrs. Kwan of our Music Department, lost both parents recently - during one week-end - while Kweilin was being continually bombed and no medical help could be secured. We still do not know the details of their illness, for she has not returned.

In Shansi, the Chinese troops are going very well, and I hear that a Japanese air-base in that province has been wrested from them. The last raid in Chengtu was in the sunny weather in early November, about the time of the full moon: we were in the dugout one Saturday morning

from 10 o'clock to noon, and heard the two squadrons of Japanese planes fly overhead, and in the far distance the dull thud of bombs! There were only a few casualties, chiefly from machine-gunning, but there was a vigorous dog-fight, and the Japanese had heavy losses, three planes brought down in regions not so far from here, but others lost on the way home, 11 in all, we hear. Some think this heavy loss has meant that Chengtu has since been free of attack. We are now in full-moon again, but mercifully for us the clouds have lowered both night and day. We have heavy winter clothes at hand for possible alarms. Now the air has chilled and it is unpleasant sitting still out-of-doors for hours at a time.

I hear that there are 2,000 prisoners of war at various points in China. Recently in Chunking some Japanese prisoners gave an anti-Japanese play voluntarily, called "New Light in Asia." Apparently this huge country and the length of the war overwhelm them. In North China the Japanese soldiers are more poorly fed and clothed than a year ago. The reason for their poor food is that guerilla tactics are responsible for destroying convoys of timed goods, their chief diet, - a rather expensive method of feeding troops. It is estimated that, whereas in the first months of the war several Chinese for every Japanese were killed, it is now five Japanese to one Chinese in the northern regions. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of these figures. Attention is focused on China's frontiers, especially the north-west. Russia is still the unknown quantity. When she makes treaties of one kind or another with her two arch enemies, Japan and Germany, there is no knowing what she may do. I would think she had enough territory on her hands without wanting any of China.

There are interesting reports about a rearrangement of the Chinese Government on more democratic lines, with Chiang Kai-shek as premier. In March will be the last session of the temporary government, and in the fall, it is hoped the newly constituted government, with representatives elected by different professional and labor groups will go into action. It is all quite exciting. This huge province of Szechuan is to be divided into two parts. As it is, it is too powerful - with a population equal to that of Canada! There have been politics with a vengeance played out here, a long distance from the Central Government in Nanking. There was a good deal of rivalry for the position of military governor, and Chiang to stop the fuss made himself governor! The story is told that he called all three together, and the conversation went something like this: To A, the newly resigned governor: "Well, you haven't made a very great success of this, have you?" and the answer, "No, I am not equal to this job." To B, an aspirant, "Do you think you can make a success of this job?" And the very polite answer, "No, I am not capable of doing it." And to C, another aspirant, "What do you think you could do?" And the very polite answer, "No, I could not do as well as the other two." And then the surprising master stroke which took no account of their extreme politeness and humility, "Well, since none of you want to undertake this work, I shall do it myself!" Consternation all around. The Communist Party has some place in affairs, but what it is I do not know. We were

much thrilled by the visit of the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang this fall. They got dentistry done, and such ordinary things, but managed to see many people, hold conferences, etc. Madame Chiang had her picture taken with our school group, spoke to the girls and delighted them by her personality and appearance, and gave us 200 rice bowls to replace the coolie ware we had been using. I hear that cups to match are forthcoming. The Generalissimo is simplicity in the extreme, has a flashing and fearless eye, and wields great influence everywhere.

Chengtú seems to be a city of uniforms; soldiers, officers, boy scouts, girl scouts, high school boys, etc. And it is quite fashionable for everyone to be gowned in plain dark blue cotton. There is a parade ground a few minutes from us, and from 5 a.m. when amateurs practice their most unmusical bugle calls to 5:30 when the national anthem is shouted in varying keys, there is activity. The soldiers are exemplary in behaviour, and many seem very young. Today the flags are out in the streets for one of the rival governors mentioned above is off to the front with a contingent. It amuses us to hear such old favorites as Auld Lang Syne and Old Black Joe set to military songs; for a moment one wonders what country this is!

The local government and the Central Government too are quite disturbed about the rapid return of thousands of evacuated people last summer. Now the streets are crowded, and traffic is as it used to be. The months of comparative quiet from the planes have brought the people swarming back, for life in country districts is very dull and may be quite uncomfortable. Russian aviators cause a good deal of comment as they go shopping with no language beyond the old signs and gestures. Many schools have moved out to neighboring villages. The Canadian School went to Jenschow - a few hours by the infrequent bus, but one and a half or two days by boat and rickshaw. They have complications enough, but write of their life in a country market-town where there is only vegetable oil lamps at night, and no amusements beyond what they, themselves, create.

A few weeks ago a Five Universities Faculty Fellowship had an organization meeting, and now we meet the last Saturday of each month. Yesterday we had fifty or sixty members out, heard about Christian student work on Yen-ching Campus in Keiping, and then divided into three groups to discuss the questions: "How can we faculty get a more vital Christian experience?" "How can we help the students in the Christian experiment?" "How can the faculty promote good relations among themselves?" I joined the second group. I understand that the third group had many practical suggestions of improving conditions for faculty on this campus.

Chengtú is becoming more war conscious in an organized way. Last Saturday we had a community bazaar under the auspices of the University Women's Club, and cleared about \$1800 as against \$500 last year. One of the most cheering aspects of the work was that more than 200 people helped actively in the project! There were the following attractions: Fortune Telling! White Elephant Counter, Candy Counter, Tea Room

(coffee for 40 cents a cup, and such good coffee, too), Funfair (a room where interesting games were provided for 10 cents a try at almost anything), Hawaiian concert, Movies. The mob overwhelmed us ... rushed in as soon as the doors opened and cleared most everything in the first half hour. I helped the first hour at the table of the white elephants, and sold buttons, one cent each! The buttons were put in an empty suitcase, and it was surprising what fistfuls of small bills I accumulated from that mass of buttons. I think buttons on the street are five cents each, so this was undoubtedly a bargain. Everything seemed to be there, from books of sermons or 1895 encyclopedias, to bathtubs with holes, empty tin cans, bottles and half-worn clothing or strangely sized shoes. The next hour I was in the tea room, keeping one eye on the 12 Ginling girls who served that hour.

At Ginling the faculty are organized in three projects: sewing garments for soldiers, thick padded garments that are awkward to work at; learning First Aid; helping soldiers families. In addition we give the cent-a-day contributions. The students are doing propaganda work and various forms of service. The students are more vigorous and out-going than they used to be last year - we think the summer service corps gave them a picture of China and its needs, and gave a new perspective to their life.

It is time for charcoal fires, and I am becoming adept at keeping them going. The little clink-clink as the charcoal catches fire is a new noise to add to our varied warnings: whistles, planes and warlike sounds to which our ears are sharpened.

With all good wishes to you, as we approach the Christmas season, and for the New Year that more of peace and good-will may be possible then.

## Ginling News Letter.

November 1939

### Physical Education Meet.

In July a meeting of outstanding teachers and principals of schools was called by the Szechuan Provincial Education Department to stimulate interest in Physical Education work. The purpose of this meeting - besides arousing mass interest in Physical Education work and the promoting of mass athletics - was to arrange to send groups to different areas to do research work among students, and also to arrange to attract the best students to schools of Physical Education. It is only recently that the Government has been working to arouse interest in this line of work. Miss Tsui Ya-lan tells me that Physical Education work has developed more quickly in China than in other countries and that Szechuan has been slower at starting this work than the coastal provinces. Since coming to Chengtu Ginling has had to go back a step and work up again. At this July meeting it was decided to hold a ten-day meet for all schools in Chengtu in October. Besides the usual track and field program, the meet included ball games, Chinese fencing and a boxing demonstration. The very last day of the meet there was a demonstration at the air field of a motorless plane, one of two hundred ordered by the Educational Commissioner.

The total score of the track meet has not been announced yet. More than twenty schools participated, and there were many teams of workmen from different classes taking part.

Ginling girls played three schools in the volley ball tournament and won each game. There was great excitement about the final game. Tai Gi-tai, head of the Examination Yuan, is interested in boys' football and girls' volleyball. He attended this game and remarked that the Ginling girls looked so healthy and happy, and inquired what part of the country they came from. He arranged to have newspaper reporters come to see the game.

### Ginling College Won the Volley Ball Championship

From the "Central News", Chengtu

Translated by Miss Tsui Ya-lan

The final volley ball game between Feh-in School and Ginling was arranged for 4 p. m. on October 14th. The Ginling students came with the director, Tsui Ya-lan, and others. They wore white pullovers, tight black bloomers, white socks and black shoes. They were very, very smart looking. A Ginling College English professor, Miss Florence Kirk, came with the students to see the game and cheer the students. The Feh-in students wore blue sweaters, and long blue trousers.

The head of the Examination Yuan is much interested in boys' football and girls' volleyball. He presented two awards to the winners of these two games. This afternoon he came with his family and he also brought the awards, blue silk flags, with him. Everybody saw him come, and they thought that this game must be a special one. He had his picture taken with the two teams.

It was discovered that the field was marked for boys and it had to be changed into the regulation court for girls. No ball had been provided, so one game was played with the Ginling ball and one game with the ball belonging to Feh-in school. (Feh-in girls found the Ginling ball very heavy.) The game started at 4:43 with Ginling on the north side. Each team had three defensive lines, the captains of both teams were in the first line. Chiu Chu-ching (Ginling) was in the middle of the back row and could command the whole game. First half of the game the score was 11 to 2 with Ginling leading. The more Ginling played, the better they played, and the final score was 21 to 8. After a rest of two minutes the second game was started. In this game the play was more equal, the score was 6 to 5, then 6 to 6, then the Ginling captain suddenly smashed the ball over and scored another point. Ginling played better as the other side got weaker. The final score was 21 to 12 for Ginling. During the game the boys from the aviation school came in to cheer for Feh-in girls, but it was too late. Ginling had won the championship. Yang Hsi-ru received the silk flag and had her picture taken holding it in her hand. During the procession before the game, Miss Yang carried the College flag.

From the "New New News", Chengtu

The program in the field meet has been very good. Ginling and Feh-in are the best of the women's schools. Ginling won the volley ball championship, and they were presented with a blue silk flag embroidered with the words, "best of all".

The Ginling students not only look healthy and beautiful, but they have technique. Even before ten minutes had passed they won several points. Ginling team members are very good on offensive and defensive and could also serve very well. When the team lost a point the captain said, "never mind, never mind".

Members on the Ginling team are as follows: Chiu Chu-ching, Hwang Yen-hwa, Yang Hsi-ru, Fang Yuen-gu, Djang Shiu-chi, Hwang Wei-chin, Kang Tung, Feng Siu-hwa, Pan Ren-tsui. (Here followed detailed descriptions of individual play of the Ginling girls which included such phrases as "good at smashing the ball over the net", "the captain is very smart and healthy looking", "technique is good", "can master environment well", "placement of ball is so good Feh-in girls cannot predict her play".)

The audience enjoyed the play of the Ginling team very much. These nine girls study in different departments in College, but when they come to play volley ball their spirit is united. They cooperate with each other and play as one man. They play their best to the end and that is why they won the game. The Feh-in girls, though they were good, now have to be second.



The following events are planned by the Physical Education Department:

End of November	Field Day
Middle of March	Posture Contest
End of March	Indoor Demonstration
End of April	Practice School Students' Play Day
Early May	Five Universities Athletic Meet
Early June	Dance Drama

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Classification of Ginling Students 1939-40,  
According to Occupation of Father

Government	32	Military	4
Merchants	38	Law	2
Education	21	Engineers	3
Mission Work	12	Agriculture	3
Medical	6	Uncertain	33
Ministry of Communications	4		

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Organization of the Faculty under the New Life Movement.

The faculty last week decided to organize work teams under the New Life Movement. Questionnaires were sent out listing eight types of work and asking for first, second and third choices. With these results in hand, we decided to concentrate on the following three:

1. Sewing and making articles for soldiers.
2. Helping soldiers' families by promoting small industries. (This combines two groups of our questionnaire - that of helping the families of soldiers, and that of promoting small industries).
3. First aid group.

All women faculty are being asked to give a daily offering of any desired amount, the minimum amount to be one cent per day. The offering received at the meeting for Citizens on November first will be used to buy materials with which to work. The first and third groups will gather in the evening while the work of the second group will be mostly during the daytime. Making of orange marmalade and peanut butter are two types of small industries which the second group hope to get started, and the first group may be asked to sell these articles when they are prepared. This work seemed considerable to add to an already full program, but we all decided we should do our "bit" for China.

Nov. 1939

November Days at Chen Chia Tze

by Phoebe Hoh

Chen Chia Tze is located twelve li southward from Jenshow hsien. There are many little hills of red clay and no brooks or rivers! At first glance, one would say that every inch of the red earth had been cultivated.

Chen Chia Tze means literally the "Chen's ancestral home". In the center of the community stands a building which is a single large hall, where the short-course day school is held, and also the meetings of the cooperative. Two general highways to the east and west lead to a number of market towns. Some one from each family group in Chen Chia Tze goes to market town every other day.

There are some thirty to thirty-five farmsteads dotted upon the red slopes in four or five very small valleys where there is very limited rice land. One can scarcely see the mud houses in the thick growth of green bamboo and other tall trees, and one must wind in and out among the trees to find the houses. The trees serve as fences rather than for beauty, and bamboo is also one of the essential materials. The farmsteads have from one to thirteen houses, with three as an average. In Chen Chia Tze there are about one hundred families with an estimated population of five hundred or more.

We found that trips to market were not only for business, but also to have a good time and to visit friends. Therefore, it is our plan to make a Ginling rural center at the south gate of Jenshow hsien and to make this a social center for the people who come from all directions to sit and chat, and to see and hear the one or two persons who entertain and talk to them. After friendships have been established, a regular program of religious education, health, singing, lecturing on all sorts of topics can be carried on. In this way we avoid long walks in going to see people in their own homes - perhaps in the end to find everyone busy at work.

For instance, after days of hard work in harvesting the sugarcane, Mrs. Chen takes her daughter-in-law to the city to spend the whole day. They carry some of the sugarcane to be sold. They return home with good eatables for the younger sisters and brothers who did not go. Anyone listening to her tales about what she has seen and heard in our rural center cannot help wishing that it was possible to do more for her. She has been thrilled by what she has learned.

During our talks with these people we were told many interesting things about the cooking of food, washing of clothes, working in the field, spinning and weaving. We were able to suggest many ways in which the work could be carried on with greater economy of time and energy. At least three-fifths of the total population know some characters and at present nine-tenths of the children of school age are in some kind of school.

We found that one son of each family had attended school for from one to five years. About two-fifths of the women and girls over fourteen have had some kind of schooling. The mother in the home in which we stayed had studied when a little girl in the Canadian Mission School. She is now about forty years old.

Reading material is scarce. Boys and girls buy textbooks for adult reading at four cents each. The interests and habits of the people are very limited. The never-ending hard work, the impoverished living, the stupefied spirit leave no time, no heart, no taste or desire for reading. They easily forget the few characters they have learned.

The people have come into contact with Christian influence but no converts were found. One old lady admired highly the kindness of the missionaries, and on the wall of her home some tracts and posters of Christianity were pasted. She is a very superstitious person and goes about spreading the teachings of the nuns in the temples. She was so eager to tell us about how the nuns and their vegetarian followers prayed for rain and the rain came. She was friendly toward us but when she got ill, she did not send for us, but depended on the superstitious practices learned from the Taoist nuns. Why do these women frequent the temples, burn candles, and kneel down devotedly before idols? Why does not our devotion to our Christian faith exert enough spiritual power to make them sense the vital need of a living God? There is a shrine in the center of the hall in every home where they worship heaven and earth and all the ancestors. At harvest time, when a house is built, when someone is ill, or on any special occasion, they worship before the shrine. When we Christians worship, we sit on the bench at an ordinary table singing and reading and praying without a concrete object before us. Which form of worship is more effective for these people?

The bulk of food is rice and sweet potatoes. Meat is eaten only at festivals or when friends come to help plant or harvest the crop. Each family has a little garden where they plant some green vegetables - mostly cabbages and turnips. A taste of hot peppers help them to swallow their three big bowls of rice and potatoes. They do not understand the value of green vegetables in human diet. They feed pigs with grain, corn, and tender shoots of beans to make them fat for market, but it does not seem to occur to them that their children need this same food to make them grow tall.

Some of our recommendations for these people are: good books at reasonable prices, a training institute for local leaders, instruction for children in domestic work, help to adults in planning their daily work more systematically, playground for children, medical examinations for all. It is very important to have the children grow up with a spirit of public cooperation and to have them form habits of living together happily.