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General News Letter6 January 1940

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Annual Field Meet

The field meet was a busy afternoon for all of us. The playing field was like a circus, ten-rings rather than the proverbial three. Dr. Wu opened the meet by throwing the gaily-covered balls, quoits, etc., among the group of students who had formed a huge G.C. on the field. Some one remarked that Dr. Wu was a good sport, but it was easily seen she was not an athlete. Archery drew a big crowd, and it really was lovely to watch the girls doing this. There was the usual crowd of spectators on the walls around the field, but before the games had progressed very far most of them had joined the group inside who had tickets. However, there was lots of room for all. Toward the end of the afternoon when it began to get cold, a few of the guests had fun playing soft ball. When the score was counted it was found that the Sophomore class came first with 160 points and Seniors next with 130. The small silver cup was presented to the president of the Sophomore class by Mrs. Daniel Dye, a member of our Board in Chengtu. Hot tea and toasted meat rolls in the gymnasium afterwards concluded a successful afternoon.

Christmas Happenings

In preparation for Christmas, Dr. Lautenschlager spoke to faculty and students on Sunday evening, December 17th. This was for Christians and those interested in Christianity. There was a social period first and tea and cakes were served. There were "no pens" (charcoal braziers) in the living-room and of course we could not refrain from toasting our meat rolls. Dr. Lautenschlager's subject was "Christmas, and what it means." He speaks simply and directly and his talks are much enjoyed by all. I understand practically none of the Chinese, but there is enough English interspersed so that I can follow it fairly well. The week before Christmas there were special chapel services. On two mornings there were special speakers from outside the College and one was devoted entirely to music.

On Friday evening, December 22nd, we had the student-faculty party in the gymnasium. The first item on the program was a play, "The Toy Shop," by the faculty. You perhaps know the story of a little boy and girl who go to sleep in the toy shop on Christmas Eve and at midnight the unwanted toys come to life. In the end the boy and girl who are really brother and sister, the mother (masked doll), and father (Pierrot) are united to make a happy family after being separated. Ettie Chin and Tsui Ya-lan were lovely as boy and girl. Dr. Chang Siao-sung as the rag doll with hair braided into tight braids and without glasses was not recognized by the students until she spoke. Dr. Reeves (who made her own costume) as the storekeeper was really priceless. She had wood shavings for hair, a bright red tie and a big fat tummy. There was prolonged applause when the lights flashed on the "live" toys and it was some little time before the show could go on. Following the play the faculty served lunch to the audience and then came the pageant

JAN 6
1940

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"Mothers of the World" by the students. Miss Spicer wrote the outline of the play, and the students supplied the dialogue. While the last carol, "Joy to the World" was being sung, the students lit red candles and walked in pairs to the dormitory - still singing. It was a very beautiful picture and the lovely tableau of the Holy Family awaiting us at the dormitory was just the right thing to complete our evening. Our gifts of money were placed in the Manger and a last carol was sung while we stood in the courtyard. . . . The money gifts amounted to \$500, \$300 of which is to be sent to flood relief in the north and \$200 to the poor in Nanking.

Handel's Messiah was rendered on December 23rd and 24th by the Choral Society and the Five Universities' Student Choir. The huge reading room of the library was converted into an auditorium and it and the galleries were well filled on both evenings. We were very glad of the opportunity to hear some fine music. One of the members of the Burma Good Will Mission acted as chairman on the first night and later the remainder of the party came in.

On December 24th at the morning service in Hart College two University of Nanking boys and two Ginling girls were baptized. The two girls were Lung Hsiang-wen and Li Gieh-ling. Twelve young people had signified their wish to join the church, but when they were examined it was found that they were not quite ready. It is hoped that they, and others, will be baptized at Easter time.

That same morning Ginling College and the University of Nanking had a party for the children of their joint Sunday School. The hundred children were entertained in our gymnasium. There was a short Christmas play by the children and of course food was served. We had hoped to see something of it after the church service, but found the children gone and the students enjoying a lunch when we arrived.

Students in groups of four visited two hundred homes of soldiers on Christmas morning. It had taken six weeks for Miss Liu Shu-yuen to investigate these families who live between the old and new south gates of the city. She found that one hundred of the families were destitute while the remainder were slightly better off. To the poorest they gave rice tickets and to the others towels and soap. The home for opium addicts and the hospital for wounded soldiers were also visited that morning. Student activities for Christmas were so planned that all students took part in some work for others.

The carolers on Christmas Eve were more than generous this year. They began at 11:30 and I heard a group singing at 5 o'clock in the morning. There were several groups out, and more than one kind host was forced to entertain groups other than those he had invited because a gateman had let them in. Cookies, candy and oranges soon disappeared -- one house entertained eighty!

Students and faculty had Christmas breakfast together, followed by carol singing in the decorated common room. Supper was also eaten together, and it was arranged so that tutors sat with tutees. Very few of the girls have relatives in Chengtu and many of them mentioned what a happy day it had been for them.

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Lillian J. Kirk

FROM A GINLING SOPHOMORE

Chengtu, March 1940

A new idea came to my mind recently that if I hadn't come to Szechuan last year, and I hadn't entered college, where would I be now? What would I be doing? Would I be living in the world, or would I be staying at home with my grandmother, an old, kind woman, in my native province? Would I have a happier life than now or would I be feeling sorry for my trying circumstances?

These words beat in my heart when I was reading The Return of the Native, and an ideal family life came to my mind immediately. There is a healthy plain, surrounded by the hills and mountains, and the Yangtze River flows across its middle-way as a tar road runs through a busy city. A small village, which is my native place, appears in this beautiful scene. There are just about three hundred families, and not more than a thousand villagers. They are very happy. Every day when the sun just shows half of his face above the hillside, all the farmers begin their work in the fields, and finish after the moon rises in the sky. Only when their work is done, their leisure time begins.

It is more beautiful in the spring than at other seasons. The peach flowers are blossoming and the pea or yellow oil flowers are fragrant. My grandmother takes all of her grandsons and granddaughters to the hills and we have a picnic under the sunshine. My grandmother says, "Edith, you are the oldest one among the children and you must teach a game first." I stand up and teach them how to sing the song, "Against Our Enemies." They learn it very quickly. Then my younger sister and her little fiance, who is one of the cousins, dance for us. After many games my grandmother tells a story. We are very quiet as we sit beside her and look at her smiling face. She talks about a brave soldier who died during the war because he wanted to save his army. Then she says that the Japanese are cruel and our Chinese people, who are controlled by them are very poor. When she finishes her words, we all say, "When we grow up, we will revenge our country." Grandmother smiles and says, "I hope that all of you can remember what you have said today." Then she takes out some candies, cakes, and fruit from her basket for our dinner and we are all very happy. After the dinner we are bathed by the sunshine on the hills and we go home at four o'clock. What a happy, pleasant day it is!

Oh, that is just a dream and an ideal. My grandmother has died, our family land is lost, and I am now wandering in a foreign province which is far away from my native place. I cannot stay with her again and I cannot return to that lovely place. My brothers and sisters are scattered by the enemy, and I am sent to school by somebody. I am lonely now without relatives, friends, or native province.

Ginling in West ChinaNEWS LETTER, April 29, 1940Broadcast of Mother Chao and Yang Hwei-min

Dr. Wu arrived back on the campus from Chungking at about 2:30 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, April 21st. Mr. David Griffin, of Station WHO in Des Moines, Iowa, who is in Chengtu making records for broadcast in America had arranged a fifteen-minute program with Mother Chao (Mother of the Guerillas) and a girl guide, Yang Hwei-ming for this afternoon and asked Dr. Wu to interpret for them. Dr. Wu had been plane sick and had not been able to get much lunch because all the kitchen fires were out when she arrived back, but she felt she should not miss the opportunity, particularly since she had not been here for the Dedication Ceremony of the Student Center the day before.

Dedication of the Student Center

The Dedication Service of the Student Center was held on Saturday, April 20th, from two to four o'clock in the afternoon. The opening date was pushed forward because of the presence in Chengtu of Mr. Paul Moritz, ex-chairman of the National Intercollegiate Christian Council in the United States, Mr. Kiang Wen-han, head of the Student Division National Committee Y. M. C. A., and Mr. David Griffin of Station WHO. Mr. Griffin arranged to make three records: one of short speeches of two minutes each given by student representatives of the five universities, one of short speeches by the five presidents, and one of patriotic songs in Chinese. It was a very interesting program. The attractive building of gray brick with red pillars was made possible by contributions from the Student Relief Fund in America and from joint funds from the five universities on the campus. Mr. Paul Moritz cut the red ribbon which hung across the doorway with scissors handed to him by a West China University girl and thus officially opened the building. Long rows of seats were arranged outside the Student Center and the overflow sat on near-by steps of the Administration Building. President Dsang of West China University, President Liu of Cheeloo, President Chen of the University of Nanking, Dr. Cheer of the Medical School of National Central University, and Dr. Chang Siao-sung (for Dr. Wu) gave short speeches. Then came the patriotic songs with a practice first. After the first recording had been produced - to the amazement of some of the audience - Mr. Griffin announced that the altos were too weak so recruits were asked from the audience. Someone asked Mrs. Kwan to help them and she was given a real hand-clap as she went forward. Last of all came the students with the Ginling student, Yin Shan-gu, a junior, fifth on the program. Mr. Griffin was very pleased with Miss Yin's short speech and said it was just what he wanted. These speeches were later reproduced and many told us that Miss Yin's voice came over best of all. The many photographers created much amusement with their attempts to get pictures from all possible angles. One, bolder than the others, got a close-up of President Chen when he was speaking and caused a good laugh.

Following is Dr. Chang Siao-sung's short talk: "It gives me great pleasure to speak here on behalf of Ginling College, although your pleasure would be greater if our president, Dr. Wu, were here in Chengtu now and could speak herself at this memorable occasion, to not only a Chengtu audience, but also to friends in America and the Philippines. The word Ginling is an ancient name of the city of Nanking, where our College was situated for over twenty years till the Japanese invaded China and intruded into our peaceful life, scattering the members of the Ginling family. For the first year, part of the college continued work at Shanghai in East China, part in Wuchang in Central China, and part in Chengtu in West China.

At the beginning of the second year, realizing the uniqueness of Ginling as the only woman's college in central and west China and the necessity of continuing the training of women leaders in the midst of adversities, the three units came together in Chengtu. It took the Shanghai unit two months to get here by boat, train, steamer, bus, and ricksha.

Here in Chengtu we have been a guest institution of the West China Union University. When a guest comes to a friend's house to stay but does not leave at the end of the first year, nor of the second, nor of the third, he must seem to impose too much on the hostess. That seems to be what kind of guest Ginling College has been. Fortunately, we have a hostess whose generosity is most elastic and whose sympathy is boundless. The Five Universities have been cooperating not only with respect to time and space, but also in spirit.

Now the occasion of the dedication of the Universities' Student Center gives me once more an opportunity to put into words our deep-felt appreciation. To me, the Student Center is a symbol of combined enterprise, of effective cooperation, and of emphasis on university life that is student-centered. It will be a means of bringing about and strengthening intercollegiate friendship and international understanding. May it accomplish what it is constructed for and give new meaning and new horizons to the life of students on this campus."

"My Life as a Refugee Student" by Yin Shan-gu

Recorded for Station WHO, Des Moines, Iowa

I have the honor of representing Ginling College, a woman's college from Nanking.

In the summer of 1937, I left my native city, Hangchow - one of the most beautiful spots in China. I picked up my little bundle and looked back at my home once again, knowing that it might be greatly changed by the Japanese when I came back again. Mother told me to be careful and brave. "Above all," she said, "be cheerful always. It is the way to meet our own difficulties and those of our country." Thus, I began my wandering life over half of this giant China. As the Japanese pushed farther inland, I fled with the refugees.

I wandered for one whole year, doing all kinds of work that I had never dreamed of doing before. I taught the poor refugees in the villages where I stayed, and gave them some medical aid. I joined the Red Cross work when I was in the cities. I helped the newspapers in translating news from abroad. News came of the death of two of my family in one week. Life was very hard. At last, I succeeded in coming back to my own college to study again.

Now I have been here for almost two years. I find my comrades as cheerful as I am. Students in Chengtu have never before worn such old clothes, but we are comfortable enough. Our food is poorer than before, but we are not starved. There are few books, but we copy what we need. In the laboratory, we have no gas, no running water, little apparatus and few chemicals, but we have managed to finish all our experiments. On this campus, many war songs have been composed on worn-out baby organs, and the music students can sing as much as they wish - if they cannot find a piano to play on. We are cheerful because life is hard and we are proving to be capable of meeting it. We are too busy to lament over the personal sorrows brought

by the war and the national losses that Japan has caused us. We have a great deal to do besides our lessons. We take part in the propaganda work for the farmers, sewing garments for the soldiers, and visiting the families of the soldiers - to look after their needs and cares. War has showed us that we have more ability than we guessed.

Most of all, we are happy because we have faith in our future. O yes, China will win the war, and there will be much for us to do when it is over. We are to reconstruct China! We will laugh and sing and work hard together to fight for the final conquest.

We appreciate very much the opportunity of sharing our experiences with the people of America and the Philippines. We hope you will remain our friends as you have in the past. We thank you.

Ginling faculty and students rushed from the Dedication Ceremony of the Student Center to our gymnasium for the Indoor Meet. It was even more popular than last year - if that is possible - and Westerners, Chinese, servants and coolies alike enjoyed it. We had distinguished guests, too. Among those who came were Mr. MacDonald, representative of the New York Times, Miss Corin Bernfield who is with the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives in Chungking and who is well-known for having driven a truck of supplies from Haiphong to Chungking, Miss Yang Hwei-min, the brave girl who carried the Chinese flag to the Lone Battalion in Shanghai, Mr. David Griffin of Station WHO. From all appearances Mr. Tamara, Mr. Griffin's technician, enjoyed the proceedings as much as anyone. The Fenn and Smythe children in front row seats - on the floor - were very vocal in their approval and enjoyment. Someone remarked that there probably would be many bruises and scratches when these four charming young ladies tried to do these same stunts at home. I could see some servants outside moving a ladder from window to window in order to get a view of the performance from all sides. A coolie near us had fleas and was asked to leave by his neighbors which he did very reluctantly. There were rhythms, fundamental gymnastics and stunts by freshman, free-hand boxing, folk dances, fencing, apparatus work, modern dance steps, elementary school rhythms, tap dances by majors, two-year specials and regular college students. An elopement relay race where the students were required to put on and take off all the clothes in two suitcases almost brought the roof down. Students seem better developed and more sturdy than last year and the difference between the freshmen and senior classes is quite marked. In judging the posture of the class as a whole, 1941 came first with 1940 second. Miss Florence Kirk and Miss Hu Shih-tsang were the faculty members chosen to be "Misses Posture." Eight individual students were also chosen as follows: Yang Shu-ru, Lu Ming-djang, Djang Tsai-i, Gin Li-hwa, Djang Shuh-djen, Djang Shu-du, Wang Ren-chang, and Wang Gia-wei. All years were represented among these eight girls.

College Magazine

Miss Ma Bih-ning has just finished mailing 700 copies of the College Magazine.

Dr. T. C. Chao

It has been a very great privilege to hear Dr. T. C. Chao speak on several occasions. The Theological Seminary and the Five Universities invited him to come from Kunming for a few weeks. Dr. Chao has spent his Sabbatical leave in Kunming organizing a student church for students from government organizations and not only has he gotten students interested in this project, but faculty as well.

He is the outstanding Chinese theologian and is also a well-known poet and philosopher. Most of his lectures are in Chinese, but I have heard him speak on "My Theology," "China's Struggle for Freedom," and "What Life Means." He spoke at the student weekly assembly on May 1st (Monthly Citizens' Day or Spiritual Mobilization Day) on "Spiritual Mobilization in a Religious Sense," and also at the Sunday evening discussion group in the dormitory on "Should China Be Reconstructed on a Christian Basis?" He is now giving a series of lectures for students and faculty on the campus on "Poetry and Religion."

Dr. Wu reports that the April session of the People's Political Council was very encouraging. Attendance was large and discussion was carried on frankly and calmly without demonstration of prejudice in spite of the variety of political views represented. They discussed constitutional government, finances and economics of the nation, national unity.

Lillian J. Kirk

Spring 1940

THIS TWO-MINUTE SPEECH BY A GINLING JUNIOR was given last month during the dedication ceremonies of the Chengtu student center. It tells vividly of the hardships borne by China's students in pursuit of the education they must have for future service and of their courageous fibre in meeting all the experiences of these stern days.

"MY LIFE AS A REFUGEE STUDENT" by Yin Shan-gu

In the summer of 1937, I left my native city, Hangchow - one of the most beautiful spots in China. I picked up my little bundle and looked back at my home once more, knowing that it might be greatly changed by the Japanese when I came back again. Mother told me to be careful and brave. "Above all," she said, "be cheerful always. It is the way to meet our own difficulties and those of our country." Thus, I began my wandering life over half of this giant China. As the Japanese pushed farther inland, I fled with the refugees.

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We appreciate very much the opportunity of sharing our experiences with the people of the Western democracies. We hope you will remain our friends as you have in the past. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Written during the summer of 1940

GINLING'S WAR-TIME ODYSSEY

by

Eva Dykes Spicer

Ginling College for women is situated in Nanking, the capital of China from 1927 until its capture by the Japanese in December 1937. Ginling was founded in 1915 by five Mission Boards to which others have later been added, and its first President was Mrs. Lawrence Thurston. In 1928 Dr. Wu Yi-fang was inaugurated as the first Chinese President and has held that office since. Starting with an enrolment of nine students in 1915, Ginling had by 1936 an enrolment of approximately two hundred and fifty. In 1923 the college had moved from rented quarters to a beautiful campus of its own.

The history of Ginling during the war might very well have been different had the college been in session when the war started. But both the war in the north and the Shanghai fighting broke out during the summer months when the college campus was relatively deserted, and faculty and students alike were scattered all over China.

From the first outbreak of the war in the Shanghai area, it became clear that Nanking, the capital and headquarters of General Chiang Kai-shek, was to be a centre of attack, and air-raids became almost daily occurrences from the middle of August onwards. No bombs fell directly on the campus, but other educational institutions were bombed, and hits were recorded at no great distance. It seemed fairly clear that whatever men's institutions might do, it was hardly possible to open a college for women in Nanking that fall - even without taking into account the fact that if the Japanese were successful at Shanghai, they might well march on Nanking itself. Not only were there air-raids, but the normal traffic lines between Nanking and Shanghai by both rail and boat were disrupted, and though people still managed to get through, it was not easy travelling.

Dr. Wu and Miss Vautrin, who had returned to the campus in August, decided that the only thing to do was to send out letters to students and faculty, telling them that college would not open that fall in Nanking, but that arrangements would be made for them to study at other colleges in Shanghai and Wuchang. Some faculty at a distance were advised to remain where they were for the moment, others nearer the scene of action were asked to go to one of these centres to help students, and some faculty left Nanking to go up-river to Wuchang.

The fierce fighting around Shanghai interfered with the work of two of the universities, normally situated in Shanghai, St. John's and Shanghai Baptist - even they had to arrange for their new classrooms in the centre of the town and opened much later than usual. No attempt was made this first term to open anything in the nature of a branch of Ginling College in Shanghai. All that was done was to open an office where Miss Chester and Miss Kirk (both of whom had returned to Shanghai from Tsingtao), Mrs. Chen Yu-hwa (Hwang Li-ming), and other faculty members registered students, advised them what courses to take in the other universities, and generally made their paths as smooth before them as possible. No attempt was made to provide any housing accommodation; most of the students were living in their own homes or with friends, though a few lived in hostels run by the Y.W.C.A.

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In Wuchang, also, no effort was made to open the college; students were registered at Hwa Chung University in Wuchang. But there were two differences. In the first place, a rather larger group of faculty was centered at Wuchang than at Shanghai; they undertook to help Hwa Chung in certain courses where additional students were taxing their own teaching staff and they also offered certain additional courses, more especially for the requirements of our own students, but open to all. Other teachers were sent from Nanking to Wuchang, including Dr. Lung and Miss Chow of the Sociology Department, Miss Liu En-lan of the Geography Department, and Miss Sutherland of the Music Department. Students majoring in those fields were asked to go if possible to Wuchang to continue their studies. Various schemes had been suggested by which the college might open departments in different places, but unfortunately it was impossible to work out any satisfactory scheme by which students and faculty members of the same department could be conveniently brought together on the same side of the fighting line. Moreover, as air-raids began on Wuchang and Hankow, as well as Nanking, it seemed impossible to urge students to come to a place in which there was danger, especially if by so coming they were to be separated from their families. No cut-and-dried scheme of distribution was therefore possible, and the grouping of students and faculty at Nanking, Shanghai, and Wuchang resulted far more from the geographical location of the individuals during the summer, than from any carefully thought-out scheme. Thus it happened, that while Miss Liu, the head of the Geography Department, was at Wuchang, most of the geography majors were in Shanghai. Only one definite policy could be carried out, and that was to send all students away from Nanking. Some faculty members remained there engaged in all types of war work, but the campus in the fall of 1937 was bare of students.

Another respect in which Wuchang differed from Shanghai was that the group there had to face the residential problem. Very few, if any, of the students whose homes were in the central provinces of China, actually lived in Wuchang. A few lived in Hankow, but that is too great a distance to be convenient for attending college. Hwa Chung University was willing to admit all classes, especially in view of the help we were willing to give in teaching, but it could take only a very small number into the dormitory, and it was essential to find accommodation near the college. This might not have been easy, but fortunately one member of the Ginling faculty was also a member of the London Mission and was able to secure from them the loan of first one, and finally a second of their residences. One was used as a hostel for both students and faculty. The other was used for classrooms, and later, when more faculty arrived from Nanking late in November, as an additional sleeping place for faculty members.

The houses were only very scantily furnished when they were turned over, but it was amazing how soon and how cheaply they were equipped for their new purposes. Each student and instructor was told to provide herself with a camp bed, and members of the Ginling College family always provide their own bedding. Wash basins also are part of the normal equipment of the Chinese student, and as there was running water in the houses both upstairs and downstairs, the problem of cleanliness was easily met. Alumnae of Ginling working at the Y.W.C.A. very kindly arranged for the loan of tables and benches for the dining-room, and other friends lent some chairs, which, with what were already in the houses, proved a sufficiency. The only things which had to be purchased were cooking utensils, bowls, and chopsticks, and these could be bought quite reasonably. In fact, within two days of our finding the house, it was equipped and the students moved in. Accommodation was somewhat crowded there - nine students were in one room, and the seven members of the faculty had to share one bedroom, though they also had the use of a sitting room for themselves. Their bathroom, a former conservatory, which opened off the sitting room, was divided into two parts by a curtain, and the amah slept in the other half. The house with just under thirty inhabitants was pretty full, but it

was pleasantly and conveniently situated, and Ginling was lucky to find such good cheap accommodation, as there was no rent to pay, and only repairs to make good when the students moved out. The problems of the first term had been met to some extent, though probably something less than half the students enrolled the previous year were studying at either Shanghai or Wuchang. The freshman class was non-existent, as we could hardly recommend to other colleges students whom we had never admitted to Ginling. Some students had transferred to other colleges in the north, or in Fukien, and others had discontinued study for a time. It was not long before the problems of the second semester began to emerge. In November came the withdrawal from Shanghai, which the Chinese had held under such difficult conditions for over two months; the rapid advance of the Japanese; the capture of Nanking early in December. Several more of the faculty left Nanking late in November; finally, early in December, on the last boat to leave Nanking before it fell, Dr. Wu arrived.

Our thoughts during those days were centered on the fate of Nanking and what was happening there, and on the plans for the future of Ginling. An ominous silence wrapped the fate of Nanking, and it was only gradually that the full story of the horrors of those days in December and January came out. We learned all that the small group on the International Committee, who had remained behind, had been able to do to help and save, even in those dark days. Ginling's particular job had been the care of as many women and children as possible, and during the worst days it was calculated that 12,000 refugees had been housed on the Ginling campus. Miss Vautrin, Mrs. Tsen (the Director of Dormitories), and others who had remained were indefatigable in ministering to their needs, in keeping away the Japanese soldiers with their never-ceasing demand for women, and preserving some degree of order and sanitation. Our first word from Miss Vautrin - sent out through the help of the American Navy - was a reassuring one, though the actual conditions were still far from reassuring. She and her colleagues were blest with great courage and great faith, and personally they were preserved from harm right through.

With the fall of Nanking an accomplished fact, it looked as if the next objective would be the Wuhan cities - Hankow, Wuchang, and Hanyang. Some people expected the invading army to arrive within a few weeks of the fall of Nanking, and they began to leave Hankow and Wuchang. Though not believing in the immediate capture of Wuhan, Dr. Wu felt that sooner or later it was likely to fall, and that Ginling in Wuchang might better move farther westward as soon as possible. Arrangements were made with West China Union University in Chengtu to give us campus space. The University of Nanking, which had opened in Nanking in the fall, had already moved to Chengtu during December and January. Dr. Wu left Hankow by plane for Chengtu to make plans for the later arrival of faculty and students, and gradually some students and instructors moved on up-river as occasion offered. Boats were very much crowded and bookings were not easy to get, nor very comfortable when obtained. One group slept on the floor of the hold as far as Ichang. Boats from Ichang to Chungking were even harder to get than from Hankow to Ichang, as above Ichang are the famous Yangtze Gorges, and only small boats can get through. Many had to wait in Ichang for some time, and spent their whole time while there in unwearying efforts to secure a booking. Ultimately, however, all those who turned their faces westward did arrive in Chengtu, where they were joined by other students who had already gone westward with their families.

While the group in Wuchang was making decisions as to the next move, the group in Shanghai was also facing questions. Besides the two universities already located in Shanghai, St. John's and Shanghai Baptist, Soochow University and Hangchow Christian College had moved into Shanghai, and the four institutions were contemplating setting up something of a joint university. Ginling had more and

more students arriving in Shanghai who wanted to finish their work, so the college decided that it would be wise to open a branch in cooperation with the other institutions, offering such courses as they could with the faculty available, and especially such courses as were needed by our own seniors. It was therefore necessary to send to Shanghai some of the faculty from Wuchang. Four of the Chinese faculty were able to secure seats on the train for Hongkong, though the train was almost as crowded as the boats and much more liable to delay through bombing; one foreign member of the faculty flew a little later from Hankow to Hongkong. Some other members of the faculty were summoned from temporary employment. A group of about twelve instructors and sixty students opened a branch of Ginling in the YWCA building at 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road - here, too, with largely borrowed equipment. Again, no residential accommodation was provided for students, but many of them and some faculty members lived in the YWCA hostel which was situated conveniently near, also on Yuen Ming Yuen Road. Of course with so small a faculty, it was impossible to give anything in the nature of a fully-rounded program, but certain necessary courses for completing work could be given, and more satisfactory arrangements worked out than if the college had been giving no work of its own. Fortunately, all the institutions were holding their classes downtown, and all were fairly near together, but even so it meant a lot of running backwards and forwards between classes, and conditions in general were not very favorable for study. Two teachers from the Physical Education Department were in Shanghai, and arrangements were made for the use of the Navy YMCA gymnasium so that it was possible to complete the courses of those working in that department.

Almost as soon as the term was well under way, discussion again arose as to what was the best plan for the next year. Should Ginling remain divided in two parts - one in Shanghai, one in Chengtu - or should it be reunited again either in Shanghai or in Chengtu, or in still some other place? In April, Dr. Wu arrived in Shanghai from Chengtu, and decisions had to be reached. It was not altogether easy, as there was much to be said on every side of the question. Shanghai was far nearer our normal base, and there were more schools in that neighborhood from which we were accustomed to draw our students. On the other hand, as long as we remained in Shanghai, the difficulty and expense of renting any suitable buildings would make it impossible to have anything in the nature of residential life. Without that, and with a depleted faculty, Ginling could offer only about half a college course, and there would be no incentive for a student to choose Ginling rather than one of the other institutions, all of which were co-educational. Moreover, the general feeling was that Shanghai was an unnatural and not too good environment for students, and that Free China really offered more scope and challenge. There was a good deal of discussion about the possibility of working out a special course such as would be more adapted to the needs of the time, and of opening the college in a smaller place, such as Kiating, where we might be free to work out our own experiments, rather than in Chengtu. This later turned out to be impossible, owing to the fact that we were unable to obtain the buildings we had hoped for, and also to the imposition by the Government of its own curriculum requirements in all registered schools. However, in the decision to move westward, these considerations were faced, and there was no doubt felt that it would be wiser for Ginling to concentrate all its strength in the West, although we fully realized that only a small proportion of the student body then in Shanghai would be able to move westward with us.

Dr. Wu returned to Chengtu to make plans there for the building of a dormitory where we might house our students when we opened in the fall, and those in Shanghai began making preparations for the journey. This involved endless enquiries as to possible routes, and a trip to Nanking by two of the foreign members of the faculty to select a minimum amount of equipment and books to be taken westward. The journey to Nanking revealed that, though the peak of the refugee need was

now passed, work on the campus in Nanking was still going on. All camps had to be closed - by order - by the end of May, but a summer school had been opened by means of which the most needy cases were taken care of. The campus looked wonderfully beautiful, and even the buildings showed little sign, except for dirt on the walls, of the terrible scenes which had occurred. Plans were under way for opening two series of classes in the fall, one for girls of middle school age, and one for women who had lost all means of livelihood to give them skills sufficient to earn their living. Ginling in Nanking was as active as ever, though the activity was of a different nature.

The term's work in Shanghai was brought to a successful conclusion by the united Baccalaureate and Commencement exercises held by the seven Christian universities and colleges which had been working together during that term.

Some of the faculty members who had been working in Shanghai were going on furlough, others were going abroad for further study, still others were not able to leave Shanghai for family reasons, so there were only six members of the faculty (four Chinese and two foreign) and six students who left Shanghai for Chengtu on July 13. The first part of the trip as far as Hongkong was easy, but from then onwards the route was uncertain. Hankow was still in Chinese hands, but how long would it remain so? The railway between Kowloon and Hongkong was subject to constant bombing - was it safe to travel that way? Even if Hankow should be safely reached, would it be possible to get passage on the very crowded river boats? If that route were not possible, was the bus route through Liuchow possible or not? If it was possible, how much luggage could be taken that way? The majority of the books had been sent by book post to Kunming to be forwarded from there - but even so, we had several containers which seemed filled with equipment of various kinds, not to mention our own personal luggage, which seemed too much for buses. When the party arrived in Hongkong, it found that even Dr. Wu at Hankow hardly knew which way to advise. On arrival, word was received from her to come by rail to Hankow. The same day another airmail letter arrived saying that it was impossible to get bookings on any steamer, and that the party had better go by the bus route. Finally a third message was received saying that bookings from Hankow had been secured and that the party should proceed by train to Hankow.

Train bookings were fairly easy to secure, but the train's departure was delayed. Postponed from Thursday to Friday, and from Friday to Saturday, it was again postponed on Saturday after everyone was aboard and the whistle had sounded, for a bridge not far up the line had been bombed, and was in need of repair. However, on Monday afternoon the train finally started. Four more students had joined the group at Hongkong, making the party number sixteen. Two nights and the first day were uneventful, but on the second day, when the train had already arrived in Hunan province, and had passed the capital, Changhsa, it stopped and the passengers scattered in the fields nearby because of bombing ahead. No sounds were heard then, but when the train drew into Yochow, the platform and city were still smoking with the results of the morning's bombings, and farther ahead, the line had been damaged. From six in the evening until noon the next day, the train remained in the station opposite the bombed platform, waiting for the line ahead to be repaired. The weather was hot, and a stationary train is one of the hottest places on such a night. By noon next day, the line was sufficiently repaired to enable the train to creep round the hole at the very slowest pace at which a train can go, and Wuchang was reached that night with no further mishap. Two a.m. is not the most convenient time of night at which to arrive, but on a moonless night it has the advantage of not being a likely time for a visit of the "friendly neighbors" in airplanes who have a marked affection for railway stations.

It had been thought that as bookings had already been secured, the party would leave Hankow fairly soon, but although the boat was in port, it was undergoing repair - and rather slowly - so that a wait of three weeks was necessary before proceeding up-river. Accommodation was provided in the LMS compound, and the wait was as pleasant as possible in a city which was subject to constant air-raids; as the compound was located in the former British concession, and the Japanese seemed at that time to be avoiding not only the French but the former foreign concessions as well, the party felt fairly safe personally, although constantly reminded of those who did not, by the rush into the concession of thousands of poorer Chinese as soon as the sirens shrieked their warnings. Useful occupation was found at the godown of the International Red Cross, where supplies sent from abroad were being repacked and sent out to the hospitals, and also at a working party, where sheets, pillow cases, and bandages were being made. However, although the living quarters were comfortable and there was work to do, it was with relief that the group boarded the good ship Wanliu. By that time the party had grown considerably, as entering freshmen had joined it, so that finally those who left Wuchang - faculty members, students, and a few friends - were thirty-four in all. There were four first-class and thirty deck passengers. It was hard indeed to see what was meant by the deck, as the narrow passage around the Chinese cabins was crammed with the luggage of the people in the cabin, and it was hard indeed to see where thirty people were going to sleep and live for ten days or more. By the rule of the boat, foreigners - of whom there were now three - have to travel first-class, so they and one Chinese faculty member occupied the first-class cabins. After the boat had left Hankow, the captain allowed the students to come from the lower deck to the upper, where there was much more room, and they camped out there throughout the voyage. There was little rain, the weather was hot, and the deck was really as pleasant a place as any to sleep, especially as the ship provided cots. But those who slept out on deck had to get up early to permit the decks to be washed. Considering how crowded travelling conditions were, the journey was really a very pleasant one, the scenery through the Gorges was lovely, and Chungking was reached without mishap.

At each stage in the journey it seemed as if the next stage would be comparatively easy; from Hongkong it seemed as though to reach Hankow would be the end of all major difficulties, while from Hankow it looked as though when Chungking was reached, it really could be felt that all difficulties were at an end. But at Hankow there was much anxious waiting for the boat, while at Chungking the difficulty was that of buses to Chengtu. Dr. Wu had tried to secure some means of accommodation, but her efforts had not been successful. All buses going to Chengtu were crowded, and people assured us that a party of our size would take weeks to get off. However, because of the valiant efforts of some of the Chinese instructors, places on buses were secured group by group - in one case a whole bus; in another case a private car - and within ten days the whole group had left Chungking for Chengtu. The last members of the group to arrive in Chengtu reached there on September 13, just two months after they had left Shanghai for Hongkong.

This journey marked the end of the journeyings of Ginling as a group, for since that date, Ginling as a college has been established at Chengtu, though non-college work still continues on the campus in Nanking. The buildings that have been put up at Chengtu on the campus of West China Union University by its kind permission consist of one dormitory (which last year housed about 150 students and 18 faculty members), one gymnasium, and a small music building. For the rest, we are in debt to the hospitality of West China Union University, which shares with us (much to their inconvenience though we do pay some rent), some of their classrooms, their laboratories, and the library. On the whole, we are well off, especially for refugees.

The first year our enrolment was about 100, the second year about 150, and we expect a further increase* next year of about thirty more students who will be accommodated in the dormitory; the faculty will live elsewhere. The living quarters in the dormitory are somewhat crowded (four students in two double-decker beds in small rooms, and a dining room crowded to capacity), but still they are passable and much better than some of the ones refugees have to put up with.

I have already mentioned the fact that in Shanghai we had hoped it might be possible to revise our curriculum so as to bring it more into line with the actual needs of the time, but that the enforcing of a standard curriculum on all colleges and universities by the Ministry of Education made that impossible. However, we did have a Freshman Month during the time that the upper classes were undergoing military training. During that time we endeavored to give the freshmen a clearer grasp of the general situation in China, and also of the local environment in different phases, so that they might try to study intelligently against the background of their own times. After a week of general lectures and sight-seeing, they were divided into two groups, which studied for three days each the following general fields: Educational and Cultural, Health and Recreational, Rural (during which a three-day visit to the neighboring small town of Hsintu was arranged), Economic, and Social. Considerable interest was aroused among the students, and the faculty certainly learned a lot in planning for the trips and lectures, but probably not enough time was taken in planning for the interest thus stimulated to be geared into regular class work, and it was probably an isolated month rather than the beginning of a new attack on class work. The last week, it may be said, was used to test, discuss, and to carry a little further the impressions and knowledge that had been gained during the middle two weeks.

A further outcome of the effort to make the college serve more adequately the needs of the time was the establishment at Jenchow, about two days' journey by rickshaw from Chengtu, of a rural centre where work could be begun among rural women, and where students might gain experience during their vacations, even though it was too far from Chengtu to be used during the term. This centre has now been active for two years, and has been successful in beginning educational, health, and some industrial work among the women and children. Each vacation has seen a group of Ginling students out there, helping with the regular work and presenting special programs. Miss Highbaugh, who has had considerable experience of work in rural districts in North China, joined it the fall of 1939, and Phoebe Hoh, a Ginling graduate of 1920, has also worked there for a considerable period.

Life at Chengtu has not proceeded without interruptions. In May 1939, heavy raids occurred in Chungking, and naturally the question arose as to whether it would be wiser to remain in Chengtu or to move farther into the country. On June 11, Chengtu itself was bombed - four bombs, two of which did not explode, fell on the campus. One student was killed and others were injured. The question again came up as to where it might be possible to go in event of further bombing and tentative plans were made. But the difficulty of moving people and equipment and providing adequate accommodation was so acute that it was felt that education of anything like college standard must be continued at Chengtu or not at all.

Such is the outline of the bare facts of Ginling's history since the war began - a year's scattered work and journeying, and then two years in Chengtu. And what of the spirit which has animated the life of the college during those years - what of the work that has been done? The author of this account has been in all three of the centres - Wuchang for the first term, Shanghai for the second, a brief visit to

*In September, 1940, the enrolment was 200.

Nanking, the journey from Shanghai to Chengtu, and two years in Chengtu. I think it can be said with truth that on the whole, the spirit has been one of cheerful acceptance of the various inconveniences and hardships that have come the way of all during these years. I do not wish to suggest that any superhuman standard has been reached; there have been many rubs, and some personal difficulties, and one has found this thing hard to bear, and another that. But still, on the whole, the spirit has been good, and much of real hardship and danger has been borne with cheerfulness and courage. It is probably true that the actual dangers - as during the air-raids in Hankow or Chengtu - or temporary hardships are borne with a greater conscious desire to behave well, than the everyday inconveniences of life in a crowded dormitory, which cease to be a novelty after a month or two and become just a permanent nuisance. But even the daily inconveniences of life are known for what they are - the direct result of the war, the outcome of the effort to carry on the work of higher education in spite of Japan's apparent desire to crush it out - and they are borne in that spirit. Chengtu up to the end of the summer term, 1940, had suffered only one serious air-raid, but the warnings have been numerous, and on about ten occasions the Japanese planes have reached Chengtu, though in most cases they have damaged only the air-fields and neighboring villages. Many nights have been interrupted, and long hours spent in the dugouts or out in the fields. The calmness and even cheerfulness of the students during these hours of waiting, and their ability to continue their work is really amazing, and is an earnest example of the spirit of the Chinese people which will not easily be broken.

War-time work of various sorts has been carried on in all places where Ginling has stayed for longer or shorter times - sewing, bandage making, caring for wounded soldiers (this was especially true in Wuchang), visiting soldiers' families and trying to help in their relief, and other work of that kind. But it is not easy to do much concentrated war work while still carrying on full-time college work, and in Chengtu at least many of the students have felt that the best time for them to give is the vacation rather than the term-time. Service projects of various kinds have been planned for both winter and summer vacations, and students have volunteered for these in greater numbers than could be successfully used and organized. In the summer of 1939, two such projects were organized from Chengtu. In one, groups of students were sent out on the road from Chengtu to Shensi, where they worked among the people, among wounded soldiers where there were any, and among laborers on the road. The other project provided for students to tour a group of towns in another part of Szechuan, giving educational and health work wherever they went, and stirring up patriotism. It would not be true to suggest that every student does regular and self-sacrificing war work; as far from the front as Chengtu is, life is rather normal in some respects, and the requirements of a college curriculum in China are sufficiently heavy to demand most of the time of most of the students. But the question of what war work they can do most effectively with the strength and time at their disposal is a very real one for many of the students, and especially for the administration and faculty.

Religious work has gone on in all the centres at which Ginling has camped or stayed. In Wuchang, Ginling students were encouraged to attend the regular morning chapel services at Hwa Chung, and informal prayer meetings were held in the evenings in the Ginling Hostel. In Shanghai, the irregularities of the students' hours made anything like a regular meeting impossible, but lunch-time discussion groups, mainly on religious topics, were held quite successfully among the students. The attendance at these meetings was not large, but the students who did come discussed fairly, freely, and showed how well aware they were of the problems that face Christians in a world which seems delivered over to the forces of aggression and hate. Prayers, either in the morning or the evening, were held throughout the journey from Shanghai to Chengtu - on train, boat, or while waiting at different points - and formed a very real rallying point for the encouragement and the comfort of the

group on what was not always a safe, and often an uncomfortable journey. Since arriving in Chengtu, the religious activities of the college have followed their normal course. So far as I can judge, in Free China there has not been that marked turning to religion which has taken place in the occupied areas, where the church is often the only institution remaining which stands for the welfare and salvation of the people, and where suffering of the deepest kind has turned their thoughts to the things of the spirit. In Free China, the concern is more with the immediate and the material, not with the ultimate and the spiritual; and while there is an active interest in many problems, some of them concerned with religion, the interest in religion is much as it always has been, intense in the few, present in many, and absent in some. But the growing sense of the thinking Chinese that there are many internal problems to be faced, and the growing consciousness of Christian students and faculty alike that there is real connection between Christianity and politics, and that Christian students must and should have something to contribute on matters political - though, as yet, they do not know what - should result in the stirring of their understanding to hidden depths in both Christianity and politics.

As one looks back over the past three years and thinks of what the college has gone through in the midst of the national crisis, it is hard to sum up any striking effects and differences. So much effort has gone into maintaining the normal life and work - and on the whole with success, though work has inevitably slumped somewhat - that it is hard to say what changes have taken place in the spirit and temper of Ginling. A certain hardening, perhaps - a capacity to bear greater hardships, which makes the spirit both more enduring and more resilient; at the same time, a widening and deepening of the horizon. The travel and the change of place has brought a far clearer realization of the vastness of China, and of the greatness of its opportunities and their challenge, and at the same time, an insight into the depths and difficulties of the problems which China must face both now and after the war. A certain relaxation in meeting difficulties, a refusal to live at tension the whole time, is also characteristic of Ginling, and I think of China at large - a relaxation which is at times irritating to the outsider who wishes to see things done at a higher tension and in a greater hurry, but which speaks well for the possibility of a long resistance, and which matches well the vastness and difficulty of the problems which cannot possibly be met in a hurry.

But such generalizations have little value. Ginling has gone into the melting pot of China's war. She has withstood, and still maintains her identity and her spirit. What she will be like when she emerges it is hard to say - but something, I dare wager, of which her Founders and their Founder, Jesus Christ himself, will not need to be ashamed.

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WHAT SHOULD THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MEAN TO GINLING COLLEGE?

INCREASED STRENGTH - material, intellectual, and spiritual - is the goal of the plans of the Anniversary year. Ginling College is already widely known as an expression of America's friendship toward China and of the superb qualities of Chinese womanhood. The Anniversary year presents itself as an opportunity for the consolidation of these convictions and the enlargement of the circle of those to whom they belong.

The avenue of reminiscence is the one most naturally first taken in approach to such an occasion. The years of which 1940-41 is Ginling's 25th tell a story richly fraught for both China and America with memories well worth the recalling.

In China, this background is, first of all, that of the genesis and growth of the preparatory schools, a new phenomenon in China's facilities for the education of girls. When the plan for Ginling was conceived in the second decade of this century, these schools were ready to give adequate college preparation.

Secondly, there are the unique characteristics of China's life during the quarter century - social, educational, economic, governmental, and religious - which offered the opportunities awaiting women with college training and of which the importance was evident in their earliest beginnings. The richness and the extent of this opportunity has been matched by the ability of Ginling graduates to enter upon it.

Thirdly, in the several crises, - dramatic testing times of the twenty-five years - memory brings proof of unvarying courage, energy, and loyalty.

In America, Ginling's twenty-five years have brought experiences of cooperation, generosity, and mutual faith, which - in being brought to mind at this time of special stress - will have a beneficent effect. Missionary and educational fellowship stretched on the loom the warp and woof of early American support - in money and personnel - for this first women's college of the Yangtze Valley. The pattern of group and individual effort which had just begun to take form when Ginling opened its doors in 1915, was enriched with deeper color during the first three years of this century's second decade when the new campus was bought and buildings erected, and has held firm its original texture, even as it has increased its dimensions during subsequent years. America has profited both in giving and receiving: through the faculty service of American women in Ginling, through the acquaintance of American visitors with the College at its Nanking home, and through the participation of American friends in the achievements and service of Ginling graduates.

Even as the consolidation of past and present strength comes naturally down the avenues of memory, it will reach the body of the College so much in need of just this experience today.

At the point where the burden is heaviest - upon President Wu and her fellow administrators and instructors - it will bring reassurance of faith and the testimony of additional financial support.

To the alumnae of the College, scattered in a country rent by hostile invasion, there will be sent evidence of the increased interest of distant friends in what they are doing, more complete information of the life and work of their fellow alumnae, and reaffirmation of the ideals which have directed the College and inspired its undergraduate body.

To groups of friends and supporters in America, there will be brought a story of steady and high purpose, of past and present fortitude in face of danger, and pride in the privilege of sharing peril and service.

Extension of interest far beyond the number of those now counted within the Ginling family will result. Within the personnel of the eight Contributing Units, there may well rise up more steady sponsorship for increased apportionments of assured income and enthusiasm which will add largely to the numbers of individual donors of annual gifts. Outside of the Units, we may expect to attract many new friends, as Ginling shows itself to be one of the certainties in a shaken world. These new friends can be led to choose their giving within the range of annual gifts, single larger sums, or estate pledges.

WHO WILL DIRECT THE ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM?

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Dwight W. Morrow and Mrs. Harold B. Hoskins with its executive group and its national committee.

Questions of relationship and responsibility for early discussion and decision include those presented by: -

1. The Founders' Committee on American Support (a standing committee of the Board) with a membership of eight, representing the Contributing Units and co-opted membership of the Board of Founders;
2. The avenues of information and appeal already in use for the maintenance of regular annual income, such as:

Membership of the Board of Founders; Former Members of the Faculty of Ginling College; Private Schools and Colleges other than Smith; Smith Alumnae Committee for Ginling.

Statements in regard to goal and emphasis must be clearly in the minds of all those who will give life to the Anniversary. The plan of organization of the Anniversary Committee has stated the first financial goal as that of a token gift of \$25,000. The Committee will wish to consider whether a sufficient challenge can be found to assure the matching or doubling of this token gift; whether, for instance, that challenge can be expressed in a large conditional gift or in the appropriateness of presenting a larger sum to justify the presence of President Wu Yi-fang in this country next spring.

Facts of privation, sacrifice, and danger in the life of Ginling today are constantly minimized by President Wu, her teachers, and students. The facts cannot be crudely stated without giving offense to those who are bearing the hardships and dangers. Yet their recognition is inevitable and appropriate, both because their existence is one of the measures of the claims Ginling makes upon us in the world of today's suffering.

A completely constructive effect of the Anniversary year on the future of the College is another question upon which thinking will early be clarified. The negative side of this problem is the avoidance of such dangers of non-constructive effect as

- (a) that old friends be asked to make gifts for the Anniversary which will lessen their annual gifts for regular income;
- (b) that time and effort be spent in informational programs or publicity which will not be followed up;
- (c) that the fundamental necessity of individual personal appeal be minimized.

Finally, what use can be made of pledges? Should all gifts not made immediately in cash be payable before the end of the present college year, or is a three- or five-year term desirable?

WHAT ARE THE TOOLS FOR THE PROGRAM?

1. Message from President Wu Yi-fang to Mrs. Morrow - quotable statement of official blessing on the Anniversary.
2. Message from the faculty on the field to the former faculty members in America.
3. For publication in similar format:
 - (1) Brief biography of Wu Yi-fang;
 - (2) The Story of the 25 Years;
 - (3) Ginling Today in Chengtu;
 - (4) Ginling Today in Nanking;
 - (5) Alumnae Biographies: thirty to forty one-page sketches with photograph.
4. For quotation and reference or individual gift:
 - (1) "For the Healing of the Nations" by Henry Pitney Van Dusen, with references to the women's colleges as America's most significant cultural contribution, and specifically to Ginling and its President;
 - (2) "China Rediscovered her West", edited by Wu Yi-fang and Frank Price, with a chapter on the colleges by Y. G. Chen of the University of Nanking and on the work of women in the war by Wu Yi-fang;
 - (3) "The Amazing Chinese" by Willis Lamott, pamphlet, largely pictorial, including references to the colleges and to the distinction of Wu Yi-fang's national service;
 - (4) "An Epicure in China", with introduction by Lu Gwei-djen, Ginling A.B. and Cambridge (England) Ph.D., whose present researches in bio-chemistry are taking an important place in the vitamin field;
 - (5) Autobiography of Liu En-lan, Ginling A.B. and Oxford (England) Ph.D., - originally prepared in competition for the Atlantic Monthly novel prize, now in manuscript form in the possession of the Ginling office in New York.
 - (6) Victrola record, giving China-wide story of Ginling service, - simulated re-broadcast of a radio symposium (including material recently brought to this country by a Des Moines radio lecturer);
 - (7) Motion Pictures and Slides:

Present stock: "It Happened at Ginling", story-picture in 3 reels
 Refugee service of Ginling in Nanking, 1 reel
 200 35mm. slides of pre-war Ginling, the trek to West China, Ginling in Chengtu, and in Nanking;
 - (8) "Mothers of the World" - a Christmas Play, given on the Ginling campus in Chengtu, Christmas, 1939, - for publication might well have the addition of editorial prologue and epilogue; and other dramas given on the Ginling campus.
 - (9) History of Ginling College, now in process of composition by Mrs. Thurston, first president of the College, who is in Nanking for this purpose, - if this material is not available from Mrs. Thurston temporary substitute will be provided in brief form here.
 - (10) Speakers - Ginling alumnae in America and others who know the college;
 - (11) Visit of President Wu Yi-fang to America in the spring of 1941, as the culmination of the program.

Dec. 5, 1940

Woman's Place
in
Chinese History

By HU SHIH

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

DR. HU SHIH, author, scholar and diplomat, born at Shanghai, Kiangsu, December 17, 1891, comes from an old Anhwei family. His father, who was a scholar of high attainment and was known for his geographical explorations and researches, died when Hu Shih was only three years old. He was brought up by his mother to whom, he says, he owes everything.

In 1910, he passed the government examination for an indemnity scholarship and was sent to America. He first entered Cornell University in the College of Agriculture, and was later transferred to the College of Arts and Science, where he devoted himself to English literature, political science, and philosophy. He was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Society in 1913 and was awarded the Hiram Corson Prize for his essay on Robert Browning in 1914. After his graduation in 1914, he continued his studies in philosophy and was given a graduate scholarship at the Sage School of Philosophy in Cornell University.

In 1915, he went to Columbia University, where he remained for two years. He wrote his doctoral dissertation on *The Development of Logical Method in Ancient China*. It was during these two years that he gradually developed his ideas of a radical reform in Chinese literature. These ideas were later formulated into an article entitled *Suggestions for the Reform of Chinese Literature* which was simultaneously published in *La Jeunesse* and the *Chinese Students Quarterly*. This article formed the first manifesto of the "Literary Revolution" and its historical place was only superseded by another article of his entitled *A Constructive Revolution in Chinese Literature* (*La Jeunesse*, April, 1918), which embodied the results of mature reflection and fruitful experimentation. Dr. Hu is the first Chinese poet to devote himself to writing poetry exclusively in the spoken language. He has published over a hundred poems in the vulgate which he calls "experimental poetry." It is to his satisfaction that through his efforts the "vulgar tongue" of the people was recognized as "the national language" of China and used throughout the country as the new medium of education and literature.

In 1917 he became professor of philosophy at the Peking National University and in 1922 dean of the department of English Literature. "Philosophy," as he is fond of saying, "is my life work and literature is my hobby." In 1918, he published a

course of lectures on the Philosophy of the Mo School and in 1919, the first volume of his *History of Chinese Philosophy*. In 1925, he was invited by the British Government to serve on the Advisory Committee on the British China Indemnity. He went to England in 1926 and re-visited America in 1927. In 1928 he became President of the China National Institute at Woosung. In 1930 he moved back to Peiping to undertake the editing of a series of Chinese translations of European classics and history and became dean of the College of Letters of the National Peking University and chairman of the Translation Committee of the China Foundation for the Promotion of Education and Culture. Collected Essays were published in 1920, 1924, 1930, and 1936, forming fourteen volumes in toto. Since 1931, he has been chairman of the China Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations, and was chairman of the Chinese Delegation to the 1931, 1933, and 1936 Conferences of the Institute. In 1933, he was Haskell Lecturer at the University of Chicago, which in 1934 published his lectures under the title *Chinese Renaissance*.

In 1936, he was awarded the degree of Litt.D. by Harvard University at its Tercentenary celebration. He also received LL.D. from the University of Hongkong (1935), Columbia University (1939), the University of Chicago (1939), and the University of California (March, 1940). Also Duke University, Clark University, Wesleyan University, Brown University and Yale University, June, 1940. He received L.H.D. from the University of Southern California (1936) and D.C.L. from Union College, June, 1940. Dr. Hu is correspondent Member and Councilor of the Academia Sinica, Member of the Prussian Academy of Science, Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences (Boston), and Member of the American Philosophical Society (Philadelphia).

From 1932 to 1937, he edited and published *The Independent Critic*, a weekly review of liberal opinion. From September, 1937, to July, 1938, he traveled and lectured in the United States and Canada. He was appointed Chinese Ambassador to the United States in September, 1938.

He married Miss Kiang Tung-shiu in December, 1917, and has two sons.

THERE is a general impression that the Chinese woman has always occupied a very low place in Chinese society. The object of this paper, however, is to try to tell a different story, to show that, in spite of the traditional oppression, the Chinese woman has been able to establish herself a position which we must regard as a fairly exalted one. If there is a moral to this story, it is that it is simply impossible to suppress women, — even in China.

I shall begin with these interesting lines from the *Book of Odes*, which is the richest and most authentic source of materials for our study of the social life of ancient China before the 8th Century B.C.:—

When a son is born,
Let him sleep in the bed,
Clothe him with fine dress,
And give him jades to play with.
How lordly his cry is!
May he grow up to wear crimson
And be the lord of the clan and the tribe!

When a daughter is born,
Let her sleep on the ground,
Wrap her in common wrappings,
And give her broken tiles for her playthings.
May she have no faults, nor merits of her own;
May she well attend to food and wine,
And bring no discredit to her parents!

This frank partiality to sons and neglect of daughters does not require any apology or comment. It is simply a sociological and anthropological fact which womankind has always had to face in every part of the world. It is against such a hostile background that woman has had to struggle and slowly win her position in the family and in the larger world.

NOTE: This paper was read in 1931 before the American Association of University Women in Tientsin, China. A summary of it was read at a meeting of friends of Ginling College for Women sponsored by Mrs. Dwight Morrow, Mrs. Louis F. Slade, Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. and others on December 5, 1940, at the Cosmopolitan Club in New York City. The paper is now printed as it was written nine years ago.

H. S.

Even in ancient China, women were playing an important part in political life. Confucius told us that, of the ten builders of the Chou Empire, one was a woman. He did not mention who she was, nor what she did. But in those ancient odes which sang the early history of the Chou people before its eastward migration and conquest, we read high tributes paid to the great women who helped to make their race great. Indeed the poet-historians traced the origin of this race to a virgin woman who, through an immaculate conception, gave birth to Hou Tsi who taught his people the art of agriculture and became the founder of a great race and a great dynasty. Probably women enjoyed a peculiarly high position among this western people. For, in their quasi-historical poems, their great rulers were almost always mentioned together with their wives: the Tai Wang migrated with his wife; Wang Chi's marriage with Tai Jen was celebrated in one of the odes; and Tai Szu, Wen Wang's consort, was praised more than once in these poems. Tai Szu gave birth to ten remarkable sons of whom one conquered the Yin empire and founded the Chou Dynasty which lasted almost 800 years, and another was the Duke of Chou, a great general and statesman.

But in the later history of the Chou Dynasty, the part played by the women did not seem to be always beneficial. The Western Empire fell to the hands of the Barbarians in 721 B.C. and history attributed its downfall to the work of a woman, Pao Szu. Thus the poets sang:

Glorious was the Chou House,
It was Pao Szu who ruined it.

Authentic history did not tell us how she did it, but she must have been a truly wonderful woman to be able to ruin a great dynasty. For the poets said in another ode:

The wise man founded the city,
But the wise woman destroys it.
Alas! this wise woman,
A bird of evil omen is she!
A woman with a long tongue
Is surely a stepping stone to ruin.
Disaster does not descend from Heaven,
It comes from Woman.

This is a condemnation of woman, but it is at the same time a clear indication of the important role played by women in those days. Woman must occupy a very important position before she can ruin a city or a nation.

Throughout Chinese history, there were many great women whose political achievement was not merely due to their status as Empresses or Empress-dowagers. An ordinary person with no marked talents can achieve nothing even though she is placed in most exalted positions of the empire. But these Chinese women did honor to the positions they occupied in history. Such was the Queen-Regent of Ts'i who reigned for almost 40 years and whose sagacity in internal government and diplomacy kept the Kingdom of Ts'i out of the devastating wars which ruined the nations in the third century B.C. She was once asked to solve the puzzle of unchaining a chain of jade rings. She took a hammer and broke the chain with the exclamation: "I have solved it!"

In the founding of the Han Empire which lasted four hundred years, two women played very important parts. The Empress Lü (died 180 B.C.), wife of the Founder of the Dynasty, came from the common people and had no education. But she was a woman of great shrewdness and capable of most decisive and brutal action. It was she who murdered Han Hsin and Peng Yueh, the two great generals whose power could threaten the safety of the Empire. The other woman was the Empress Tou (died 135 B.C.) who also came from the people and was in power for 45 years. She was a believer in Lao-tse's political philosophy of Non-interference and required all her children and grandchildren and her own clansmen to study the works of Lao-tse and other Taoist philosophers. Throughout the long reign of her husband and her son, the imperial policy was one of *laissez faire* and strict economy which allowed the people to recuperate from the effects of long wars and to develop their own resources. At the end of her reign, the Empire had attained the height of general prosperity and the government had endeared itself to the people, so that it was possible for her grandson, Wu Ti, to carry out his policy of construction and expansion and to build up an empire of greater China.

In the most glorious days of the T'ang dynasty, a great woman, the Empress Wu Chao, ruled over the empire for 45 years (660-705), during a part of which period she actually

declared herself, not merely Empress-Regent, but Emperor of her newly founded Dynasty of Chou and reigned of her own right for 16 years. She was a woman of great literary talent and political genius, and her long reign was marked by territorial expansion and cultural advancement.

I shall not go on enumerating the empresses who ruled vast empires, nor the imperial favorites who ruined great dynasties. I think I have said enough to show that the Chinese woman was not excluded from political life and that she has played no mean role in the long history of the country.

II

IN the non-political spheres of life, the Chinese woman, too, has achieved positions of honor and distinction. The greatest honor goes to Ti Yung, of the family of Chuen-yu, who was responsible for the abolition of corporal tortures under the Han Empire. Her father, who was one of the greatest physicians of the age, had been unjustly accused and was to be subjected to bodily tortures. As he had five daughters and no son, the old doctor, on his way to prison, turned to the girls and said: "It has been my misfortune to have only daughters and no son, and I have no one to help me in time of need." Ti Yung, the youngest of his five daughters, resolved to help her father and went to the Capital where she petitioned to the Emperor offering herself as a slave in the Imperial Court to redeem her father from the deadly tortures. Her petition touched the heart of the benevolent emperor Wen Ti who issued in 167 B.C. his most famous edict ordering the abolition of all the worse forms of corporal punishment.

In the world of scholarship and literature, Chinese women have always made important contributions. In the early decades of the Han Dynasty, when the ancient classics were transmitted through verbal teaching, a woman was responsible for the preservation and transmission of the text of one of the classics, the *Book of History*. Three hundred years later, when the great historian Pan Ku died in imprisonment (92 A.D.) and his monumental *History of Han* was left unfinished, it was a woman, his sister Pan Chao, who was requested by the Imperial Government to continue the work and bring it to completion.

It was she who taught the great scholar Ma Yung to read the *History of Han*, thereby publishing it to the world. Pan Chao was invited to become the teacher of the Empress and the other ladies of the Court. When the Empress Teng became Regent (105-121), she was a kind of political adviser to her. Of her preserved works, the *Lessons for Women* in 7 chapters is best known. In these chapters, she taught the virtue of humility, but she also advocated the education of women. "The gentlemen of to-day," said she, "who educate their sons only and ignore the instruction of their daughters, have failed to understand the proper relationship between the sexes. According to tradition, the boys are taught to read books at the age of eight and will have acquired some knowledge by the age of 15. May we not do the same thing for the girls?" These words sound very mild today, but it must have required much moral courage to utter them in the year 100 A.D.

Of all the literary women in Chinese history, the most famous one was Li Ch'ing-chao, a native of Tsinin and wife of the scholar Chao Ming-ch'eng. She was born in 1081 and died about 1140. Both her father and mother being talented writers, she grew up in an atmosphere of culture and refinement. She wrote well both in prose and in verse, but was particularly noted for her Tz'u or songs written to popular airs. Hers was an age of songs; but she was very severe in her criticism of the greatest poets of the time. Her own songs, of which only a few scores have been preserved, were highly praised by her contemporaries; Hsin Chia-hsien, the greatest master of the Tz'u, openly admitted that he was sometimes imitating the style of Li Ch'ing-chao.

Li Ch'ing-chao was probably one of the most striking personalities among the Chinese women of historical fame. She was always frank and never hesitated to write of her real life with all its love, joy and sorrows. As an example of her frankness, I quote these sentences from her preface to her book on a game of chance which was then in vogue:

"I love gambling. I am so fond of all forms of gambling that I can easily forego sleep or forget my food. And I always win, be the stake large or small. Why? Because I know the games well. Ever since the War and our migration to the South, frequent traveling under most trying circumstances has scattered all our gambling sets, and I have rarely played. But I have never ceased to think of the games."

With the same candor she wrote her "Second Preface" to the "Catalogue of Bronze and Stone Inscriptions" compiled by her scholarly husband. As this preface gives us a most charming picture of the intimate life of a happily married couple, I quote a few paragraphs to show the place of an educated wife in a scholarly family: —

"When we were married in 1101, my husband was 21, and was still a student at the National University. Both our families being poor, we lived a very frugal life. On the 1st and 15th of every month, my husband had leave of absence from the University to come home. He would very often pawn his belongings to get 500 cash, with which he would walk to the Market at Hsiang-kuo Monastery and pick up rubbings of ancient stone inscriptions. These, together with some fresh fruits and nuts, he would carry home and we would enjoy together the edibles and the ancient rubbings, forgetful of all our troubles in this world.

"In later years when my father-in-law became prime minister, and a number of influential friends were in a position to loan us rare books to copy, our interest in these antiquarian objects was greatly deepened and we often took great trouble and sometimes suffered privation in order to buy a rare manuscript, a fine painting, or an ancient bronze vessel. I remember once during the Ch'ung-ning Era (c. 1105) we were offered a painting by Hsu Hsi for sale at the price of 200,000 cash. Although a son of a prime minister, my husband found it difficult to pay such high price. We kept the painting for two days and had to return it to the owner. For several days we could not overcome our sense of regret and disappointment.

"When my husband became prefect of two prefectures, he spent practically all his income on books and antiques. When a book was bought, he and I would always read it together, mending the text, repairing the manuscript, and writing the captions. And when a painting or a bronze vessel was brought home, we would also together open it, play with it, study its merits and criticize its defects. Every evening we studied together till one candle was burned up. In this way our collection of books surpassed all other collections in the country because of this loving care which my husband and I were able to give to it.

"It was my good fortune to be endowed with a very good memory. Every evening after supper, we would sit together in the Kwei-lai Hall and make our own tea. We would wager against each other that such and such a quotation was to be found on a certain page in a certain chapter of a certain book. We must number the exact line, page, chapter and volume, and then check them from the book shelves. The winner was re-

warded by drinking the first cup of tea. But when one of us did win, one was so happy that one's hand trembled with laughter and the tea would spill all over the floor. So the first cup was rarely drunk.

"We were resolved to grow old and die in such a little world of our own."

Here in this beautiful picture of the domestic life in the early years of the 12th century, we see absolute equality, intellectual companionship and cooperation, and a little world of contented happiness. The picture is too good to be true of most Chinese families; indeed it is too good to be true of most families anywhere, in the east or in the west. But it is a most interesting human document which tells us that at least some Chinese woman once occupied a place which may make some of us modern people feel not a little envious.

III

THE question is often asked, How many women in old China may be said to have received an education? What proportion of the women had access to this literary education?

This question cannot be satisfactorily answered. It varies with the educational opportunities of the different families and with the different localities. A family with a literary tradition usually gave to its women some rudiments of a literary education; while it takes some strikingly exceptional genius to pick up a knowledge of reading and writing in a poor and unlettered family. Moreover, it is safe to say that women born in the lower Yangtse Delta had a better chance to an education than those born in the other provinces. Again, there seems to have been a gradual spread of the practice of educating the women, beginning probably with the invention of the printed book in the ninth century, and becoming more widely spread during the last four hundred years when the "literary-talented woman" (ts'ai nü) of the popular novels gradually came to be accepted as an ideal for women.

About ten years ago, Mrs. Ch'ien Hsün, wife of a former Chinese Minister to Rome, published a "Bibliography of Works by Woman Writers during the Last Three Hundred Years." This lady of 70 years had spent more than ten years in compiling this work and I was asked to write an introduction to it.

I tried to make a statistical analysis of its contents and found the results most interesting and instructive. In the first place, this bibliography tells us that there were 2310 women in the last three hundred years who had written, and most of them had published, works in the field of literature. This number in itself is a revelation to me. Secondly, I have classified these lady writers according to their birthplaces and obtained the following results: —

Kiangsu	748	32.3%
Chekiang	706	30.5%
Anhui	119	5.1%
Fukien	97	4.2%
Hunan	71	3 %
Kiangsi	57	
Chihli	51	
Shantung	44	
Manchu	42	
Kuangtung	38	
Hupei	20	
Szechuen	19	
Honan	18	
Kuangsi	15	
Shansi	13	
Shensi	10	
Kweichow	10	
Chinese Banners	10	
Yunnan	6	
Kansu	4	
Unclassified	212	
Total	2310	

Thus Kiangsu and Chekiang had the highest percentage, each coming very near to one-third of the total. These two provinces plus Anhui make more than two-thirds of the total. Kiangsu, Chekiang, Anhui, Fukien and Hunan occupy fully three-quarters of the total number. These proportions correspond almost exactly to the ratio of geographical distribution of male authors and of historical personages which has been worked out by other scholars for the same period. All this shows that Mrs. Ch'ien's bibliography was representative of cultural distribution among the female population in the country.

Thirdly, we must note that, out of the 3000 works listed, about 99 per cent is poetry. There were a few works on mathe-

matics, one on medicine, half a dozen in the field of history, and about a dozen in classical and philological research. This again is quite significant in showing that the education which these women received was purely literary and that the spirit of critical historical research which characterized the age left no marked influence on the educated ladies. They read and wrote poetry, because it was considered respectable for ladies to be able to do so. Most of these educated ladies learned to paint pictures, and some of them became accomplished artists. That, too, was a part of the literary education.

To confirm Mrs. Ch'ien's investigations, I may point out that the number of woman writers of poetry in the last three hundred years is really amazing. As far as I know, there have been three important anthologies of poems written by women during this period. The first anthology was made in 1831 and contained 933 names; the second was a supplement made in 1835 which listed 513 names; and the third was made by Mrs. Ch'ien Hsün in 1918 and contained 309 names. The three anthologies together furnish us with a list of 1755 poetesses. Besides these anthologies of poems in more or less regular metres which we call "shih," there are other anthologies of songs of irregular lines which are written to existing tunes and which are known by the name of *tz'u*. Most of the women who wrote *shih* also wrote *tz'u*. Mr. Hsu Tsi-yu, a well-known collector of books, has recently published a collection of one hundred complete works of one hundred women songwriters of this period; and in addition, he has published an anthology of 2045 songs by 783 women of the last three hundred years.

IV

IT may be asked, What good has all this literary education done to the Chinese women? Has it ever led them to revolt against foot-binding? Has it given the women an opportunity to be economically more independent? Has it really elevated their position in the family or in society?

It is true that the literary education for women has not led them to revolt against foot-binding, just as 700 years of rational philosophy has not opened the eyes of Chinese thinkers to the horrors of such a perverse and cruel form of "beautifying"

their women. Nor has this superficial education enabled the women to become economically more independent, although not a few well-known woman artists could sell their painting and calligraphy at a fairly high price. It was considered not highly reputable for good artists to write or paint for pay; and it was only in extreme cases of necessity that educated ladies of good families condescended to sell their pictures or writings.

Nevertheless, this literary education, however superficial and unpractical, has had the good effect of elevating the position of the women. In a country where educated men are rare, educated women are even more scarce and are therefore more respected. Moreover, this literary education gave them a key at least to book knowledge which, while it may not lead to emancipation or revolution, probably made them better wives and better mothers. It is not always true that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." A little knowledge is much better than no knowledge at all.

In particular, this literary education has had tremendous value in enabling the women to become better teachers to their own children. This is invariably true of Chinese girls who were rarely taught in schools together with the boys, and who would have a better chance for education if their mothers could teach them the rudiments of reading and writing. It is therefore safe to say that the comparatively wide spread of education for Chinese women during the last three hundred years has been largely the work of the educated women themselves.

And history is full of evidences of the importance of women's education in the lives of their sons. Many a great man in Chinese history received his early education from his mother. The sage Mencius owed his early training to his mother whose story has become proverbial. The great statesman and scholar Ouyang Shiu (died 1072) lost his father at the age of four and was taught by his widowed mother who, having no money to buy paper and brush, used reeds to write characters on the ground for her son to read. The great Ku Yen-wu (died 1681), the founder of modern critical scholarship in the last three centuries, told us that his virgin mother who lost her fiancé on the eve of their wedding and lived a life of widowhood with her adopted son, was responsible for his early training in historical knowledge and in the love for the Chinese nation. When the Manchus had conquered the Ming Empire and Manchu

troops were approaching her native place, she resolved to die for her country and killed herself by starving 15 days. She died the day before her city was taken by the Manchus, and left her last instruction to her adopted son that he must not accept office or honor under the alien conquerors. Ku Yen-wu lived 36 years under the new regime, but refused to have anything to do with the new government. He was one of the few great spiritual fathers of Chinese nationalism that ultimately brought about the downfall of the Manchu rule in China.

Thus has China been rewarded by her women for the little education they had received. Against all shackles and fetters, the Chinese woman has exerted herself and achieved for herself a place in the family, in society, and in history. She has managed men and governed empires; she has contributed abundantly to literature and the fine arts; and above all she has taught and moulded her sons to be what they have been. If she has not contributed more, it was probably because China, which certainly has treated her ill, has not deserved more of her.



An Old Castle

THE STUDENTS' SUMMER SERVICE CORPS OF 1940

by Lin Pao-yong

To Li-Fan on Foot

I was a member of the Student Summer Corps. We went to the northwestern part of Szechwan this summer. It is a plateau full of mountains and hills. Ways of transportation are walking, riding in "huakans" (mountain chairs), and horseback. The people living there are minorities of China.

The corps was founded by the church, supported by many Christians and the government. We were to serve the minorities in various ways, such as to look after their diseases, to teach the people, to improve their living conditions, to tell about the present situation of our country and to testify to the Crucified. Rev. Newton Chiang of the Theological Seminary was our leader.

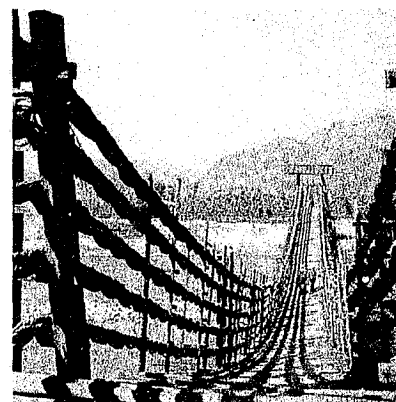
We walked by the River Min. The road was rough and full of rocks. Sometimes it was covered by water and sometimes the rocks were broken and hindered the travellers. We brought some clothes on our backs, wore straw shoes, and had our baggage carried by human laborers. In nearly every ten li distance (three li equal one English mile), we could get water from a tea house, and in every twenty to thirty li, we could get food and lodging. The food supply on the road was scanty; on the third and the fourth days of the journey from Kwanshien, we only got rice, noodles, soybeans and salt to eat, and nothing more. We walked forty to sixty li a day; and it took us six days to go from Kwanshien to Li-Fan.

The first night from Kwanshien we were stopped by rains; so we found a lodging in a big lumber company. After dinner, we gathered under the light of firebrands. Mr. Roy led in prayer. He said: "...Where at this high mountain, with moonlight covering our heads and the running water roaring beneath our feet....". The second day the weather was fine. We walked through steep and great mountains. In the morning we suddenly turned a corner and saw a little valley before us. We saw some men standing on two great logs gliding down the river. The water was shallow and running very quickly. It was full of rocks and turnings, but the men were skillful and glided on in safety. When we crossed the stream we found that we were in the embrace of hills, only in front was there a big turn in the river that led to an opening. The fifth day we reached Wei-chow. On the way we had seen a one-rope bridge about two hundred meters long. The sixth day we walked through mountains with rocks and sands where weathering was vigorous. At four o'clock in the afternoon we arrived at our working station, Ton-Hwa. It was in a circle of queer hills. The rocks on the hills were eroded by wind, and brushed by sand so some of them had become full of holes, some showed layers of hard and soft constituents, some appeared as cylinders, and some hung over water.

The next day we climbed up the mountain to begin our work. On the hillside, among large areas of terraced fields, houses built with rocks were like castles. There we came into contact with the Chiang people.

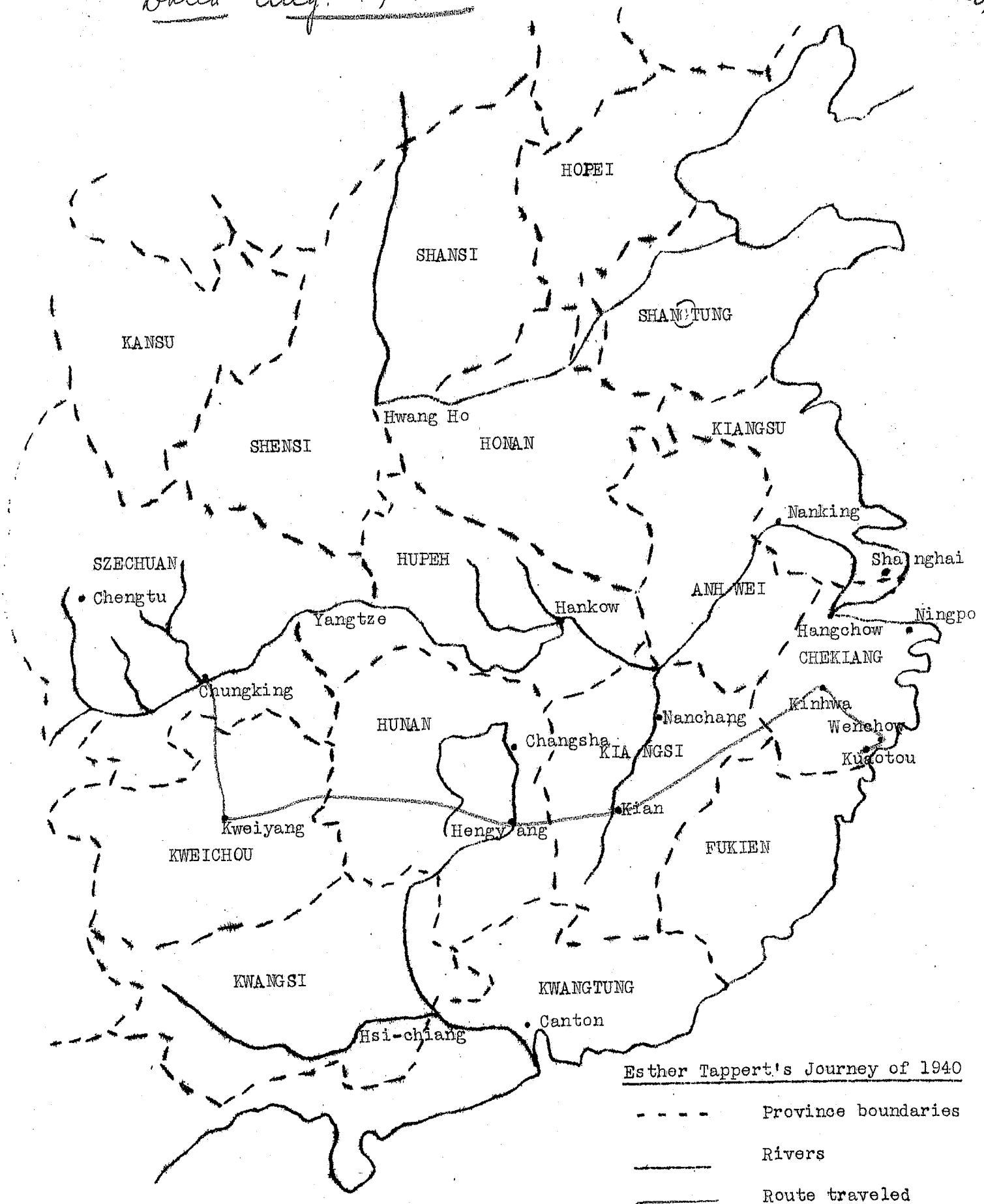
The Chiang People

When we reached the mountain village we saw some aged women standing in the way to welcome us. They spoke good Szechwaneze dialect with warm smiles. Their hair and teeth were few; their eyes were dull; and their faces were deeply lined. They showed their welcome and happiness in the simplest way, smiling, which we felt was the most sincere and kind.



A Rope Bridge

News - Sent October 1940 - To Founders, Former Faculty & Alumni in Amer.
Dated - Aug. 17, 1940



Esther Tappert's Journey of 1940

Received in New York, September 25, 1940
From Esther E. Tappert, who resigned from the Ginling faculty in 1938
to teach in the National University in Chungking

Anchored off the coast of China
August 17, 1940

Dear Friends:

Tonight, August 17th, the thirty-seventh night since we left Chungking, Szechuan, we are off the coast of China somewhere between Wenchow and Ningpo. There have been days of adventure, days of tedious waiting, days of danger. We have traveled by truck, by bus, by launch, by ferry, by sampan, by ricksha, and on foot about two thousand miles overland from west to east, through unoccupied territory all the way to the coast.

What evidences did we see of the war? In Szechuan and Kweichow soldiers marching, marching, afterwards almost none. In all the larger cities there were the usual signs of bombing, some only a day old, chiefly in business streets, orphanages, mission stations, hospitals, schools, fields, wharves - undefended cities. On the other hand, we drove for hundreds of kilometers between cities where the peasant life of the country went on in its customary peaceful way. Three times we were in the midst of bombings - in Kinkua where we took refuge under a rose arbor, in Wenchow where I saw the bombs released from the planes, in Kuaotou. More often there were air alarms, but the planes did not come. Along the coast the blockade is stringent.

Who were my companions and what our mode of travel? Only one who started with me from Chungking continued to the coast. The journey from Chungking to Kinkua was made in two mission trucks, a Dodge and a Fargo. We carried for various distances loads of salt, mail, Red Cross supplies, gasoline, trunks, and Chinese passengers. The long delays, eleven days at Kweiyang and seven at Hengyang, however, discouraged all but through passengers. News of the closing of the Burma road, but more directly blockade of the ports of Ningpo, Wenchow, Foochow, and Swatow all but stopped the expedition as near its beginning as Kweiyang. However, a not too discouraging telegram from Shanghai gave the leader of the party heart to go on. After a fruitless wait for cargo at Hengyan we went on without a load, but accompanied by a China Travel Service representative and a few passengers. At Kinkua the leader of the expedition decided against taking the trucks any farther and the original coalition of three Americans broke up, the student-journalist-Red Cross truck driver-world traveler of twenty-one years of age and I making our way together to the coast.

What of the road and its adventures? Getting our drums filled with gasoline for successive stages of the journey was a major problem. For some of it we paid twenty-five dollars a gallon. Alcohol mixed with ether served as a substitute part of the way, but afforded less power on the hills. Engine trouble, flat tires, carburetor trouble, lack of motor oil caused delays. Roads, on the whole, though gravel or stone-surfaced, were good.

Ten times we were ferried across streams; at least three times we crossed pontoon bridges. In many places good bridges have replaced former ferries. Everywhere there was improvement over 1937, as ferries are now assumed to be a means of conveyance to cross rivers and not a monopoly for the profit of the ferrymen.

The Southwest Highway Commission is making a good effort at organized highway maintenance, but there is need of greater efficiency at the ferries, and inspection and registration at stations along the way should be co-ordinated and simplified, as we found to be the case in Hunan and farther east. One example of costly inefficiency occurred at the Wu Chiang, outside of Kweiyang. Due to carelessness in loading, a ferryboat sank, and one of our trucks was submerged for three days under fifteen feet of water with a swift current. The truck was recovered and repaired at the expense of the road bureau, but the deterioration from rust, the loss of the load and personal baggage, and the inconvenience and expense of the delay will never be made good.

Food along the way was not too plentiful. We ate Chinese food when we could get it, but since one of our number was a vegetarian and another did not relish the food, I fared less well than when I have traveled in the company of Chinese alone. Betweenwhiles powdered milk and Mr. C's box of supplies containing granola, cookies, and tinned fruit pieced out a meal. Peaches, plums, watermelons, and hard Chinese pears were available in rotation in the larger cities.

The scenery never failed to be of interest, whether we were roaring up the hills of Kweichow over roads winding unceasingly between mountain wall and precipice, or racing over a straight speedway between rice paddies or along a tree-lined avenue, or rolling around among the foothills. In one stretch of 131 kilometers in Kiangsi we crossed 133 bridges, not counting the many narrow ones only two or three planks wide. In this same region we drove over flooded roads marked only by a double row of willow trees in what seemed to be a wide lake. In the second of these we met a stalled truck, and since the road was too narrow to pass him, we matched bumpers and pushed the truck back to dry land. Everywhere my thoughts had an undertone of regret that I was leaving these scenes and this loved country without any hope of returning.

The nights were as varied as the days. Often we drove in the evening and late into the night for coolness and to avoid air raids. Four nights I spent sleeping in the truck or on my cot beside the road; six nights I slept (or sometimes stayed awake battling "creatures") in Chinese hotels; twenty-three nights we spent in homes of missionaries; and four nights we slept on board an Italian steamer anchored in the middle of the river at Kuao-tou (south of Wenchow).

From Kinkua, where we left the trucks, the really picturesque part of the journey began. Our first companions were a busload of Chinese fellow travelers. Our bus stopped for engine repairs just outside of Yung Kang, and most of the passengers scattered into the fields as the siren sounded an air alarm. Blowing the horn brought a few back, and after repeated efforts we pushed the bus several hundred feet and started the engine and proceeded. After a change of buses and a winding road between rock and stream, we left the road for the river and were rowed downstream in a round-bottomed sampan for the rest of the afternoon. Rice and vegetables, cooked on the boat and served on a keg for a table under a bamboo matting for a roof, made the main meal of the day.

That night we spent at a new Chinese hotel overlooking the river. We bought soapstone ornaments in the village and feasted on ripe red watermelon in the hotel.

A morning in a rowboat, three hours' wait at a village beside the river for the tide to come up, and then several hours' ride downstream behind a launch with eleven boats in tow brought us at the end of another day to Wenchow, another strange city. We were hospitably received at the English Methodist Mission, but given no encouragement as to steamers for Shanghai. After two nights, however, we started for Kuaotou farther south in the hope of getting aboard an Italian ship reported to be in the harbor. By launch and sampan we followed a series of canals, with several portages for ourselves and baggage, under a clouded moon and early morning sunlight until we reached the river port of Kuaotou. This part of the journey was made in the company of four Catholic Fathers (Canadian).

The village afforded no suitable hotel; so by appeal to the military authorities, we secured a temporary permit to go on board the S.S. Sandro Sandri. For three nights we waited while the cargo of tobacco, bolts of cloth, and cotton yarn were unloaded. A scheduled delay of five to ten days for reloading was cut short by a severe bombing carried out by seaplanes on August sixteenth, the day after the unloading was completed. Over twenty bombs were dropped individually in about an hour's time (not fifties or hundreds in a few seconds as in Chungking) on both banks of the river while we crouched below decks and the planes power-dived until they nearly touched the ship. Customs Houses and warehouses along both shores burned for hours and shops and homes in the village were destroyed, but most of the unloaded cargo was saved. In fear of a return of the bombing planes and while fires crackled and falling walls re-echoed, we awaited the promised passports and military permits and ship's clearance papers. The captain waited for neither cargo nor food supplies. This morning we sailed the remaining five miles to the open sea. Tonight, without any fruit or vegetables on board and with insufficient water, we are held, somewhere off the coast about thirty-six hours' run from Shanghai, by Japanese warships. If this is mailed, you will know that we finally reached Shanghai, and all you need add to the picture is six foreigners racing from the Bund down Nanking Road to the Chocolate Shop for water and ice cream sodas.

Sincerely yours,

Esther E. Tappert

Editor's Note: Subsequent to the writing of this letter, Miss Tappert visited Ginling in Nanking and arrived in the United States in late September. Her home address is West Cheshire, Connecticut.

19 September 1940

GINLING IN NANKING

In a "personal report", received in New York in April last, Mrs. Thurston said: "There seems to be an impression that those of us who are in Nanking are devoting ourselves mainly to occupying and protecting property, and doing relief for refugees. Echoes of this come in to us from the outside. Visitors who make the venture and come to see for themselves have quite another picture when they leave - of very busy, even overworked, people doing very worthwhile things. There is, and can be, no higher education, but there is everything else in our Nanking program, and the opportunity is overwhelming, - and there are many obstacles."

Mrs. Thurston returned to China in March, 1939, arriving in Nanking on April 14 of that year. Her "personal report", already referred to, and a copy of a letter from her to Dr. Wu were in the hands of the Founders before the Annual Meeting of May 15th. Lack of time and pressure of immediate problems did not permit any reference to these documents during the Annual Meeting, or in the Executive Committee Meetings of May 22nd and June 19th. During the summer there has been added further important information from Nanking, and of these communications a brief summary follows.

It had been hoped that Miss Vautrin would be meeting with the Executive Committee at this time; her necessary absence makes all the more important an understanding of the structure she has built up in Nanking, and the support - in thought and in dollars - which is called for within the responsibility of the Founders.

Administrative Committee

In 1937 President Wu Yi-fang appointed Miss Vautrin as Chairman of a committee of three to take administrative responsibility in Nanking. Soon after Mrs. Thurston's return in 1938, she relieved Miss Vautrin of the book-keeping and became Treasurer. On Miss Vautrin's departure in May, 1940, Mrs. Thurston took Miss Vautrin's place as Chairman of the Committee, and in June the other members were Mrs. Tsen, Miss Blanche Wu, Miss Ellen Koo, Miss Harriet Whitmer, and Dr. Wu was being asked to add Miss Swen Bao-hwa, who had come up to Nanking to take charge of the Middle School program.

Faculty

During 1939-40 there were 17 full- or part-time Chinese staff members of Ginling in Nanking. Nine of these were men, while the eight women included the veteran Mrs. Tsen, Director of Dormitories, whose services are varied and important, Miss Ellen Koo (sister of T. Z. Koo), Lin Mi-li (Ginling 1936, Dean of the Homecraft Course), Blanche Wu (Ginling 1923, of the College Biology Department, Director of the Poultry Project), and two younger graduates, Miss Loh, who taught Biology, and Miss Yuen, who taught Physical Education. The two last-named are not to return for 1940-41, much to the disappointment of their colleagues.

19 September 1940

Program of Educational and Rehabilitation Work

During 1939-40 there was a student population of 340 on the campus.

One hundred and seventy students were enrolled in a five-year Middle School course. Mrs. Thurston's comment on this work is that it is "a good equivalent for the standard Middle School course - as good or better educationally. The students are poor, financially, compared to those in our three-year Practice School, but in ability, earnestness, and attitude, they are not inferior."

In the Homecraft Course 70 women and girls were enrolled, engaged in acquiring knowledge and skill along lines that would make it possible for them to be self-supporting at the end of their work in the spring. These 70 students have now been added to the several hundred rehabilitated women wage earners through practical training given to them on the Ginling campus since the invasion in 1937.

One hundred children have been enrolled during the past year in three groups, known as (1) the Neighborhood Day School, (2) the Kindergarten, and (3) the Nursery School or the One-Meal-a-Day School. Some of these students were from families of the Community, and others were children of the Homecraft women. Their inclusion within the campus program has been justified on at least three grounds: community service, practice teaching for the Middle School students, and care of children of women busy in their own studies on the campus.

For 1940-41 it is planned that the Homecraft work will be carried on only through an extension program and child welfare follow-up under Lin Mi-li, Ginling 1936, who has been Dean of the Homecraft Courses. Miss Lin will devote half of her time during 1940-41 to this extension and social service work, and will give half-time to teaching on the campus. The looms and stocking machines, which were purchased as Homecraft equipment, will be fully occupied by the girls in the Middle School courses, who will be better able, through the use of these machines, to pay their way as students and to be competent in self-support later. Both the weaver and the dyer will be retained on the Ginling staff.

For 1940-41 no new Middle School class will be admitted, although additional students are being enrolled for the four remaining classes.

The schools for children, already referred to in the 1939-40 program, will again be received on the campus.

Repeatedly, in Mrs. Thurston's letters, there are references to the pressing need for relief, and the hope that funds from America will continue to be supplied. There is apprehension on the campus in Nanking lest Miss Vautrin's absence may decrease the gifts for relief; the need does not decrease, and it is one source of pride in Ginling's Nanking program that wise assistance has not been refused to those of their neighbors who have been in dire need during the past three years.

19 September 1940

Graduates from the Experimental or Middle School Course

A report on the graduating class of nine in June, 1940, throws light on the quality of these young women. Their ages range from 18 to 22, showing some effect of the disruption of their school course by the war. Some of them were in Nanking during 1937, and continued their studies on the Ginling campus as classes were evolved after the period of the terror. Others were at a distance from Nanking and have returned to that city for personal or family reasons. Five of the nine were previously enrolled in Christian Middle Schools in Nanking. The business of their fathers sheds some light on the reasons why the girls are now in Nanking, namely, that the family income is probably dependent on salvaging some thing from trade located in the city.

The fine stamina of these girls is shown by notes on teaching and relief work in which they have been engaged, and the quality of what Ginling is giving them and their own steadiness of purpose is evident from the statement of their plans for next year. In June, two of them were taking examinations for entrance to the Shanghai Colleges, and one was seeking admission to a special course on the Cheeloo campus in Tsinan. Mrs. Thurston comments on the financial obstacles facing many of these graduates who are eager for higher courses, because of the great expense of living in Shanghai and the prohibitive cost and difficulty of the journey to Free China.

Rules and Regulations Governing Private Schools, 1940
 (Issued by "The New Regime", Nanking)

Full text of these regulations is appended hereto. Mrs. Thurston calls to our special attention Sections 9, 11, 12, and 21. There appears to be, at the moment, no reason for apprehension that there will be unfriendly imposition of these regulations in relation to our work in Nanking. There has been no reference to them in correspondence since the early spring.

The Immediate Future

With the careful foresight characteristic of Miss Vautrin, a plan for 1940-41 was evolved months ago which will minimize the number of new problems the Nanking staff must expect to face during her absence. As one recalls the multiplicity and severity of these problems since August, 1937, one is amazed at the quiet success with which their solution has been achieved and humbled by the realization of the cost Miss Vautrin has paid for the inspired and comparatively frictionless instruments of service now lying to the hands of our other representatives in Nanking. Mrs. Thurston reports that there was ready, when Miss Vautrin was obliged unexpectedly to give up her work in early May, a docket - prepared by her - for the final faculty meeting of the year.

Serious tasks are, however, not absent. Several resignations from the 1939-40 faculty leave gaps which must be filled if the courses are to continue to give adequate middle school training. Mrs. Thurston reports that higher salaries are absolutely necessary to hold the right kind of instructors and to meet skyrocketing living costs. The employees in the lower brackets are not at present being paid wages sufficient to cover housing and food sufficient to maintain health. Rice at \$40 a tan is one item quoted, and the forces which have brought about these conditions are not likely to be more beneficent in the near future.

19 September 1940

Repairs

(from Mrs. Thurston's letter to Dr. Wu, 19 March 1940)

"I suppose we have authorization for necessary outside repairs to roofs and woodwork. Probably one or two more roofs should be done at the proper season. I am asking Mr. Gee about everything and letting him supervise the work. Especially since we let Mr. Li go we have no one on the staff to do this kind of thing. Mr. Gee has given us estimates for roof work which would protect the attics from bats, also for some painting of the wooden roof supports outside.

"There is also a problem involving quite a little money in the floor of the Practice School dormitory hall and reception room. Either white ants or dry rot has weakened the floor support, and the possibility of using cement instead of wood is to be considered. This will be quite a big job and would be done in the summer.

"The floor in the living room and dining room of 400 should be finished. Mr. Gee is writing to Anderson & Meyer about the materials which are necessary to stick the outside layer to the cement. Miss Vautrin feels that it would be a good thing to have this room made more attractive as a center for the women's faculty in residence, and to have a stove set up next winter in the living room. All the heat they have had this winter has been from a tiny stove in Mrs. Tsen's sitting room.

"Mr. Gee has a man up from Shanghai who is inspecting and cleaning boilers and pipes connected with furnaces. I am having him go over the furnaces in the three academic buildings and also the central heating plant. This is quite important as a part of upkeep. We do not anticipate using these furnaces for central heating until we are carrying on college work, but they should not be allowed to rust.

"The problem of restoration involving repair of damage to walls and floors of the dormitory buildings caused by use of refugees is one that needs to be considered. All wooden floors will have to be revarnished. Walls, particularly in the halls, will have to be cleaned in some way and to some extent replastered with a new surface layer. Of course, this should be all finished before any work on floors is done. Should we be doing any of this work now, taking the dormitories one by one? I have thought of the possibility of not using the Practice School dormitory next year but using No's 500 and 700 for the students who are here. That would make possible a thorough job on the floors in the Practice School allowing plenty of time for the Ningpo varnish to harden. There would then be the possibility of starting next spring on one of the campus dormitories by letting the students move into the Practice School dormitory for the second semester. If, say, 700 is restored, work could be begun on another until all four dormitories are ready to receive the students for whom they were intended. The present use of the buildings is not very much harder on them than the use by college girls. People are always a little more careful if things look nice. I am not here expressing any judgment on this plan but asking you to think about it and express your opinion.

"The estimates for the work referred to above are as follows:

For Practice School floors	\$616.00
For Boilers and Pipes	160.00
For Roof work, painting and sealing against bats, two schemes:	
Scheme 2, \$4,215.00	Scheme 3, \$5,951.00

This is for the seven buildings in the original group. I think Mr. Gee thinks Scheme 2 will do what is necessary, but more painting is included in Scheme 3."

CHRISTMAS LETTER 1940
from Florence A. Kirk

Ginling College
Chengtú, Szechwan
November 17, 1940

*(Sent Dec 1940 - to Founders
former Fac.
Alumnal in Amer.)*

Dear Friend,

Greetings on this glorious Autumn morning! The sun is brightening our too-often grey skies, and making the house interiors gay. The special flower of China at this season - the chrysanthemum - is vivid; but one cold night made these hardy flowers droop. Shy violets sprinkled on the lawn remind me how inside out this climate is. We have just transplanted lettuce and celery out-of-doors, and last Saturday I had a new experience - helping to pick our lemon crop (123 lemons)! There were still lemon blossoms on the trees. We miss the autumn colors; even yet most trees are green. The ginkgo trees are a golden glory.

This year six of our foreign staff have a mission house on Baptist Row while the family is on furlough in the United States. Our "Paradise on West China campus" - as one Chinese visitor called it when he saw it in the moonlight - is one half a duplex (plus the big central living-room) - a story and a half plaster construction building. The grounds are most satisfying: lawn, double row of strange varieties of bamboo, zinnias, chrysanthemums, rose bushes. Lillian is happily situated just around the corner with the Meuser-Day household, but I often wish she were here with me. It is a great joy to have a place of our own. The big living-room is in demand for Faculty Retreat, class gatherings, parties of tutors and "tutees", and committee meetings. The faculty come to tea on regular days, alternating with the two other dormitories.

Housekeeping is never dull in China. We have the uncomfortable certainty that we are being "squeezed" generously. At any rate, it is good to have servants who never complain about guests or entertaining, for a good deal goes on. Some of us are beginning to catch up on our social obligations of the past two years. Our Chinese language is limited, and we get some surprising results. For instance, when Ruth kept insisting that we have sweet potatoes, we were given sweetened Irish potatoes, so well camouflaged with beef gravy that we thought we were getting the real thing. The cook didn't understand her term for sweet potatoes! Our coolie, who scrubs floors, carries water, coal, ashes, tends stoves, and peels vegetables, has a very sweet smile, but he's deaf, and we are never sure how our orders are going to be carried out. For instance, when I sent him to Mrs. Meuser's for a basket of "hairy plums" she had brought us from the mountains, he made a mistake, went to Mrs. Hibbard's, demanded the plums, and brought home some. About two weeks later, when I was trying to find the owner of the basket, I found out the error. Mrs. Hibbard and I often have a good laugh about those plums.

The cooks have an intimate understanding about prices and about borrowing from each other. I was astonished several times to find a cook from **nearby** in our kitchen pulling pans of cookies out of the oven, or fresh biscuits at breakfast time. It turned out that his stove wasn't very good, so this was an easy makeshift! Of course our household benefits too, for cups have miraculously appeared when there were more than seven guests for tea (we own only seven cups, and some of those are beautifully riveted); we had individual custards when we owned no custard cups; we had salad dressing when our vinegar wasn't yet brewed, and so on. We have a rule now that we shall know what borrowing takes place.

Quite a little drama was enacted in our back yard on Thursday afternoon from one to two. We were getting in five tons of coal. We had been told that the

coolies who bring the coal have 39 different tricks to get the best of the patron (hiding pieces of coal in the empty baskets, hiding pieces in their long garments that they took off as they became too hot at work, false scales, and the like). The racket is recognized, and whatever they can get away with they are paid for by the coal merchant. We were determined that at least they should be watched! So four amateurs gathered in the back yard with the coal baskets all around, and the weighing was started. We had been canny enough to borrow a neighbor's scales. Ruth and Catherine had pencils and paper to record the weights; a guest saw to the scales, and I was just a pair of eyes at work. It was important to see that no basket was weighed a second time, no piece of coal transferred from a weighed basket to one still unweighed, etc. One difficulty was that there were so many coolies that we knew we were no match for their organization. Well, we discovered five tricks! The two queer-looking individuals who did the weighing lifted the baskets up from the ground, but they pushed their elbows against the scales, put their arms down from above, shoved against the basket with their knees, stepped on a piece of rope conveniently hanging from below the baskets. One time I saw the knee movement clearly - though it was difficult to perceive it, for the man wore a long gown - and I insisted that the basket be reweighed. The next time it was five pounds lighter! The fifth trick was that, as I was locking the coal-house door, a coolie carried out a long piece of lumber. I didn't know whether it was ours or not, so I said, "Is that lumber yours?" Another man answered quickly, "No, it's not ours." A minute later and it would have been theirs beyond a doubt. That our eyes became more alert was proved by the fact that the baskets got consistently lighter. Also one mystery was that though before we started weighing both Catherine and I counted 32 baskets, there were finally 33! And there were 33 empty baskets to prove it.

We are fortunate in having an excellent cook. His brown and white bread disappears so fast that it must seem discouraging. His days are busy enough, for he refines sugar, makes home-made postum, refines salt, makes vinegar, in addition to the regular jams, marmalades, and pickles. The table-boy has a daily chore before breakfast - to make the butter from cream skimmed off the pan of boiled milk. He puts the cream in a bowl, and beats it with a spoon. We get enough for breakfast, but generally we use peanut butter for other meals - an excellent grade of peanut butter made by our sociology department in a project for needy women. We felt recently that the milk was getting poorer and poorer. When we tested it with a lactometer, we found it had 62% water added! The protest has been showing results, but we never know how long the cream content will be up to standard. A story is told here about a missionary who thought lots of water was going into his milk. He took an ordinary clinical thermometer out to the kitchen, plunged it into the milk, and said, "And it's rain water, too!" Whereupon the cook protested, "No, it's quite clean water."

On the campus this year are 1,800 students, belonging to five institutions. I feel the faculties are really getting acquainted and learning to cooperate. The Five Universities' Faculty Christian Fellowship, which meets on one Saturday afternoon each month, has brought the teachers together in quite a wonderful way. Last summer we had joint Baccalaureate and Commencement services - an achievement in cooperation, involving careful planning and thought. The students are learning to know their brothers and sisters from other parts of China, but there are jealousies and misunderstandings still. The Student Centre opened last spring fills a great need, and a visit there after supper shows filled rooms with students playing all kinds of games, reading, chatting, while typewriting classes and committee meetings are going on in small rooms. Now the student bodies of the institutions are busy giving programmes for relief: 1) for the students in Kunming who lost everything in recent bombings; 2) for winter garments for soldiers; and 3) for famine areas in the North. There is no auditorium which begins

to hold any crowd that gathers for a concert. One night there was a movie outside, and the loudspeaker blared all over the campus. Church services are very well attended, and choirs and glee clubs attain high standards. "The Messiah" is in preparation for Christmas week, and soon we shall be hearing carols.

There is more and more exchange of students, particularly for advanced courses. One good example of cooperation is that in the sociology department: Dr. Lewis Smythe of the University of Nanking is giving two courses just for Ginling students, no student of the university having elected them. Dr. Liu En-lan gives geography courses for West China, and so it goes. In religious groups there is a fine mixing of students. Also in the International Relations Club and English Club, various universities unite. There are various wall-news-papers on bulletin boards here and there: Mathematics Club, Science Journal; English Club, and others. Now that the price of paper has soared, this is an efficient and interesting way of broadcasting.

Board has risen sharply, and many students would have to leave school if it were not for special grants given to them. To give nutritious food within a possible figure is not easy; the students say they are always hungry. Most of them have little money these days to go to the "Tip Top" restaurant just off the campus, or to go out to buy oranges, eggs (27 cents each), candy, cookies, which used to fill out their sparse diets. In some places in this province there is a noticeable increase of beri-beri among students. The faculties - especially the lower-salaried clerks and office staffs of middle schools and some universities - have struck in protest at unchanged salaries in the face of the sharp rise of rice and other commodities. The Government is subsidizing for rice, and trying to meet the situation. Taking a price index of 100 as of the spring of 1937, prices had jumped to 400 in August, and are now more than 700. Some families pay 90% of their salary just to buy rice! This means that they have few vegetables and no meat, and almost never any new clothes. The sad fact is that they are undernourished and ill-clad.

Yesterday afternoon we had the keen enjoyment of hearing a young French explorer (geographer and geologist) speak at a meeting of the Border Regions Society. He and a friend were visitors last May at the society's meeting, and started off north gayly. They wanted to chart the course of a river previously unexplored. They reached a part where anarchy reigned, where tribal chieftains had control, and there his friend was murdered by a party that attacked the five men on a narrow mountain pass. All their equipment, maps and instruments were lost. Recently this one man returned to Tachienlu, after five months away from newspapers, and found he was a man without a country, and without a job. As far as any news is concerned, he is without a family, too. He paid a tribute to his gallant friend who had died for an ideal, without wealth, without honor. This chap is trying to arrange to join France's free army in Africa. His simply told account of the catastrophe was moving, revealing the fundamental heroism of pioneers, and the starkness of regions where no good government is in control.

China is more and more conscious of her border peoples. The governors of these provinces are cooperating with the Central Government, and it is a literal fact that there has never before in China's history been such unity. When I think of China's weaknesses, I remember the enormity of the task of controlling this continent of a nation. There were seventy millions in this one province before it was divided two years ago! So many of her problems are aggravated because of the very extent, and the sharp variations in customs and language. In the summer, from this campus a group of eighty to ninety college students spent their vacation among the Gerung tribe in the northern part of Szechwan, and what

enthusiastic reports they brought back of their own people (Chinese, though originally from quite different stock), their friends made this summer - their fascinating tribal songs and dances, their independent character and friendliness. The students walked for several days to their working centres, did health, political, and educational propaganda, and were more helped than the people they went to serve. They gave a programme when they returned. How I wish you could have been there to watch modern Chinese students on the platform, and to see a Chinese audience thrilled by what they say of part of their own country. China is being discovered - by her own people. Perhaps some of you will read "China Rediscovered her West", the new mission study book. It is a great book.

November 25

No doubt you will have heard of China's troubles with Communism. In recent months there were, in the north, clashes between Government and Red armies. You can understand the natural misunderstandings inevitable between two groups so differently constituted, but it seems as though the main troubles were smoothed out, and that in certain areas the Communists may have some part in making the new China. There are often rumours of peace, too, but the Central Government will have none of them - short of Japan taking every soldier off the soil of China. There are counter-factions, of course - profiteers, traitors - but what country does not have the same diseases in wartime? Reconstruction goes on. The cooperatives thrill all who see them at work, and the land settlement schemes of refugees is a romantic tale. What joy there was at the news that the Burma Road has been re-opened. It is becoming the new object of attack, but supplies roll in over that same wonderful road. The evacuation scheme, in the case of possible armed conflict between America and Japan, is causing disturbance in eastern China, but the movements do not seem to apply to this interior province. Rumour is the new epidemic which spreads worse than any plague, but we try to discredit wild tales. The students are remarkably calm and sensible. They streamed out to the country during the four raids on Chengtu in October, but have been able to settle down to work this month. Their good balance and sense of humour are great qualities in this time of stress.

One doesn't like to dwell long on the European situation and the ordeal by fire that England is undergoing. I hate to think of France, the Netherlands, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the other countries daily coming under the iron heel of Naziism. It is sad to think that the country that gave us the Christmas tree and many good carols should now have so completely forgotten the angels' song. I wonder what Canada and the United States can do to make the lot of military dictators more difficult.

To you who believe in Christmas, I send the season's greetings, and all good wishes for a good 1941. I hope to go on furlough in June 1941, to study somewhere in the United States.

FLORENCE A. KIRK

CHRISTMAS LETTER 1940
from Lillian J. Kirk

Ginling College, Chengtu
November 25th, 1940

*Sent Dec 1940 - To Founders
Former Faculty
Alumnae in Ashes*

My dear friends,

A year has passed since we sent our last letter, and it finds us still in West China, with the prospect of returning to Nanking seemingly far off. The people of China are facing their fourth winter of the war, but it sees them facing it with high courage in their hearts, and words of hope on their lips. They feel that out of this struggle a new, free China will emerge. A sharp touch of winter which came about a month ago brought the increased hardships which cold weather brings to many people. The high prices of such essential articles as rice, oil, cotton material, vegetables and meat have brought much distress, especially to the lower-salaried people. Rice, which was thirty dollars a ton a month ago, came down suddenly to sixteen dollars soon after the new governor of Szechwan was installed. Middle school teachers went on strike for higher wages, and they and teachers on the campus have had to have subsidies to meet the high cost of living.

Missionaries coming from other provinces where they are unable to continue their work because of Japanese interference, have found new doors open in Szechwan. Work with soldiers - sick and well - refugees, orphans, road laborers, and Christians in government and business circles is only part of what is waiting to be done in Szechwan. Building on the campus is proceeding slowly, but houses and buildings of a less substantial nature just outside the campus spring up almost overnight. The campus, formerly in the country, is now in the midst of quite a settlement. A leper hospital, just a couple of hundred feet away, was opened during the summer, and the Union Theological College nearby dedicated new buildings this autumn. A doctor is doing research work with bean milk. To supply the lacking calcium in the bean milk, the bones left over after the making of toothbrushes for the dental department are ground in a stone mou-dze and added to the milk. There are study groups on the teachings of Jesus, economic affairs, faculty fellowship meetings, and meetings of the Sino-British and Chinese-American cultural associations to attend as well as the meetings of various sorts within each university. Life is full and busy, and less tense now than during the summer months when alarms and bombings were frequent. News of China and the outside world, received mainly through radio, and relayed to subscribers in a very tiny news sheet, saddens and alarms us.

Ginling has a total registration this year of 206, with 197 in Chengtu and 9 taking physical education work with our unit in Shanghai. The enrollment is again above 200 after the drop in 1937. Students straggled in for weeks after registration, and one faculty member was two months and three days coming from Shanghai. Dormitory accommodations have been taxed to the limit. Faculty offered to double up in small rooms until a section of the hospital rented for our Chinese faculty would be ready for occupation. I wish you could see the end of the corridor still allotted to faculty in the dormitory. Kwei-dzes (cupboards) are lined up outside the rooms because there is space only for two beds, two small tables, and two chairs in the tiny rooms. There is an overflow of three tables from the dining room into the living room, new washrooms had to be made, and for a time sick rooms and the prayer room had to be used for students. Two of our students lost all their belongings in bombings while waiting in Chungking for transportation. Baggage of the new faculty from America and those returning from furlough is coming through Rangoon and via the Burma Road. We tease one faculty member who is here for a year, telling her that her luggage will be here just in time for her to take

it back with her. Our office still has its eight desks, and with the natural accumulation of papers and such things, it presents an even more crowded appearance than before. Besides, during the last few months there have been three large bamboo baskets containing precious documents ready to be taken to the dug-out when an air raid siren sounds.

Florence and I had a holiday at Behludin (White Deer Peak) this summer. It is closer to Chengtu than Mount Omei and it took us only two short days to make the trip. We went by ricksha the first day and a half, changing to a hwa-gan (chair) for the trip up the mountain. Behludin is a land of rolling mists, rapidly changing cloud scenery, and rain, with the sun showing its shining face only very rarely. By visiting different bungalows, we could glimpse views of many varieties - ranges of mountain peaks or the many-branched rivers looking like many-tined silver forks when the sun shone. The coolness was such a relief after the heat of the plain, but all of us - except the true Behludinites - agreed that weather a wee bit warmer would be acceptable. Only occasionally could we don summer dresses - mostly it was lots of warm woollen clothes. We discovered Hibbard's Cave, scrambled up the Devil's Staircase, climbed to the Bishop's Pulpit, the Lookout, and the Hogsback. The story we heard as to how Hibbard's Cave got its name was that Mr. Hibbard proposed there and kept Mrs. Hibbard in the cave until she said yes.

Whether or not, and when to start on trips was a problem, because it rained so much. If the sun showed itself for a few minutes or the rain lessened, it was enough to turn the balance in favor of going. We had a glorious trip to Cave Mountain. There were six of us - Dr. and Mrs. Meuser, George Meuser, Alf Day, Florence and myself. We had been on the way only a few minutes when the carriers had to stop to tie steel rings over their straw sandals. They put off this task as long as they possibly could, and I can easily imagine the rings would not be too pleasant to walk on. We climbed up and down innumerable hills, getting out of our chairs at the very steep places and occasionally elsewhere to give the men a rest.

We saw many trees that had been tapped to obtain the "chi" for varnish. There were many fields of indigo plants, and an inspection of the vats where they were making blue dye proved very interesting. Men with long rakes were pulling the leaves off the top of a green-looking mixture in one of the concrete vats. Even after the addition of chloride of lime, the mixture looked green, and we wondered when it would turn blue. We asked this question and we were told that it was blue now. I pointed to my dress and said, "This is blue." The only reply we could get was that the dye was blue. We gave up then. We saw charcoal being prepared in large circular ovens - entirely closed in except for very small openings. As we proceeded, waterfalls and rapids became more numerous and we could see caves high up in the sheer cliffs. Clear sparkling water rushed out of the first cave we visited, and we were told that the opening went right through the mountain. The carriers assisted us in jumps from rock to rock when we investigated part of the interior.

Rain, in the form of mist or real showers, had fallen at intervals all morning, and a particularly heavy rain at noon made us hurriedly lift our dining table under the straw matting projection in front of the tea house. This, we soon found, was not rain-proof, and we had to push farther into the very crowded, small tea house. Paths soon became very slippery, and when straw sandals (worn over leather shoes) became clogged with mud, we just could not keep our feet. I clung to the two poles of the chair, standing between them. This was all right on a straight path, but when the men turned a sharp corner I was left suspended

in mid-air until I could get my feet on the path again. More than one of us had muddy rears before the end of that trip. We were welcomed by priests at the temple, and then we looked around for a place to put up our cots, only to find a party of boys, who had overtaken us on the way, already there. They had put up their cots in a corner of the huge room. Florence and I proceeded to put up ours in another corner. Supper was then partaken of (we took a cook with us) and with a boy and a ladder from the temple we went to inspect caves. The ladder is certainly a necessity for the first cave - Toward Heaven Cave - and after clamoring down we found the ground at the bottom very slippery. With the aid of flashlights we proceeded, either crouching or getting down on hands and knees to get through the many low entrances to various parts of the caves. What sounds and sights met our eyes! There was a constant whirl of the wings of bats, and when we directed flashlights toward heaven we could see them clinging to the roof in hordes. There were many interesting formations on the roofs of this series of caves.

After quite a walk through the corn fields, we came to the Thunder God Cave (we called it the Cathedral Cave). It was a large round cave with stones jutting out into a clear pool of water. The echoes here were truly wonderful. We sang "Day is done, gone the sun", and came away marvelling at the wonders of Nature. It was too dark by this time to visit a third cave, so we went to bed - the boys in one corner, the carriers on piles of straw across one end, Florence and I in another corner with a dozen or two idols as chaperons. On our way back the next morning, we visited the Virtuous Woman Cave. This had been used as a fortress and was less interesting than the others. The return journey was also made in rain, and we arrived home in time for supper - glad to be back but very glad we had gone.

I would like to tell you of the trip from Behludin back to Chengtu. It had rained for several days before we started, and we slid down the side of the mountain in grand style. This time even the carriers were not too sure of their footing. The first real problem came when we neared a wide river. We stopped at a small town about three o'clock and waited while two servants went to see whether the river was crossable. By the time they returned - with word that we could have gotten across - it was too late to attempt it, so we found an inn and settled down for the night. This river presented a real problem the next morning. The bridge had been washed away by swollen waters, and the ferry wasn't operating. Some of the carriers most used to water waded across holding hands to find the best crossing place. After much discussion, they took two chairs across, and then came back to say they wouldn't take Florence and me across without some extra money. I guess the idea had just occurred to them that this would be a splendid way to make a little extra. It happened that our carriers were the timid ones. They would not venture across with us, and we were not anxious to have them do so. After much wading, and the promise of more money, they condescended to carry us over. We sat and munched cookies while they brought the luggage across; then on we went over roads thoroughly saturated. Coolies along the way were wearing their shaggy palm-fiber capes, and some loads had this same kind of covering.

As we neared Penhsien, we saw loads of tobacco, coal and charcoal, potatoes, straw hats, wooden pails and dippers, hides, oil, cotton cloth and thread, and even a load of horse meat going to market. Pigs with their funny heads and bowed backs were being taken to market on wheelbarrows, and some were led along with a person a few feet in front singing or making clucking sounds to entice the pig along and make it happy about going to market. On a hot day one can see men taking a huge mouthful of water from a bamboo dipper and with much splutter blowing it out on the pig. Vegetable markets are always attractive, and we passed a

lovely one which displayed purple eggplant, red and green peppers, frosty-looking melons, a red and white vegetable resembling both radish and turnip, yellow and white bean sprouts, green beans, onions and garlic, with dates - half green and half brown - walnuts and pears to finish up with. Children with big tummies ran to the doors to see the strange procession, and women nudged each other as we passed. We soon were back to the land of cicadas, uniforms, bicycles, students, communist towers, graveyards, and, best of all, the lovely sunshine. Never before did sun feel so good. We rode along after the stars came out, with the ricksha men telling each other stories, and we learned that the Chinese name for the Milky Way is Heavenly River.

I had a very lovely weekend recently. It began Saturday after lunch when I went to Florence's to make candy for her tutees. At 2:30, the tutees, Florence, Alice Settlemyer, and I started off to see Li Dze-djen's cooperative in the city. It was thrilling to see beautiful embroideries, rugs, yarn and tweed in various colors being made. The women gave Dze-djen a warm welcome which was good to see. Perhaps it is independence and the knowledge that they are helping others that gives these women their clear bright faces. After supper we had a hilarious game of croquinoie. A group of about twenty faculty members had Sunday dinner with Chang Siao-sung. It was a glorious day, and we did so enjoy the two- or three-mile ride into the country. Siao-sung's husband is with the Szechwan Agricultural Station. The work they are doing is most interesting - I shall have to tell you about it another time. Back home for tea, then we listened to phonograph records. Later, supper around the fire (a la Nanking, I am told), and to finish the day, a fascinating talk on "The Street Calls of Peiping."

Best wishes and greetings to everyone!

Sincerely yours,

LILLIAN J. KIRK

*CHINESE UNIVERSITIES ON THE MARCH

Pei-sung Tang

When the universities and other institutions of higher learning in China had to scurry away from the war zones in the summer of 1937 with the enemy close at their heels much of what was in the fine laboratories and libraries had to be left behind. One may to this day purchase from street vendors rare editions sold by the pound with old magazines, and microscopes are sold as scrap iron. Since the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese war no fewer than 77 universities have moved from their original sites in the occupied areas thousands of miles to the interior of China. But mere statistics do not reveal the pathos, the romance and the spiritual significance of this migration of a civilization.

With what little equipment they brought, these universities, if they may be so called, settled in various hitherto unheard of places, housing themselves in wooden sheds or mud huts more like summer cottages than university structures and began stoically carrying on their mission of preserving and passing on the fruits of human achievements. In their improvised laboratories, without running water or gas and sometimes without even electricity, science is being taught and research is being carried on. We are, so to speak, having the unique experience of defying the unidirectional flow of time and have reversed a hundred years or more to relive the history of science. We are carried back from the age of pyrex glass and aluminum to the age of wood and pottery. The glitter of chromium is replaced by the somber hues of bamboo, wood and crockery.

Necessity has forced us to adapt crude and ancient implements to modern science. From old kerosene tins and cratings are made thermostats, incubators, sterilizers, sinks, laboratory benches and furniture. Thermostatic relays are created from doorbells and flashlight batteries, and old electric fans serve admirably as stirrers. For liquids, utensils made of glazed pottery and paraffined tin cans serve the same purpose as beakers and watch glasses, and chopsticks are much cheaper and more handy for the Chinese than crucible tongs. Water may be piped through hollow bamboo almost as conveniently as through iron and the abacus is a cheaper and far more universal means of calculation than an electric adding machine. Chemical ignition is performed with a plumber's blowtorch and an opium smoker's lamp serves as an excellent microburner. In one of the universities electric power was supplied by converting the engine of an old truck into a motor generator; and an alcohol plant constructed with five-gallon kerosene cans, and with its fractionating column made of old cigarette tins, is supplying absolute alcohol to the biologists of the country.

In the biological laboratories vegetable wax is a good substitute for imported paraffin and eucalyptus oil is as good a clearing agent as xylol. Cover glasses are expensive but mica sheets are abundant in southwestern China. In the field, biologists and geologists are roaming over virgin lands in search of useful minerals, animals and plants. For the first time the country is awakened to the

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unlimited potentialities of vegetable oils - in the production of which China leads the world. And the almost miraculous curative effects of herb medicines are being exploited to the full. Physiologists are substituting soybean milk for that of the cow and native oranges are displacing the market previously occupied by oranges from America. In the chemical laboratories elementary principles of chemistry may be learned from the purification of native salt, mercury and other minerals, while organic synthesis may be taught by using castor oil as the basic material. The major effort of chemical research is directed toward the finding of substitutes, especially for gasoline and lubricants. Lacking facilities for continuing their experiments in atomic physics, our physicists either resign themselves to speculation on the architecture of the universe or turn their energies to shortwave radio transmission and to the practical aspects of optics.

Everywhere the trend is toward the application of scientific knowledge to the solution of national needs. Economists are now cooperating with natural scientists to meet situations arising from the blockade and to plan for a gigantic program of national reconstruction after the war. The theme for the coming meeting of the Science Society, which is the Chinese equivalent of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will probably be "Science and National Affairs" - a discussion of means of meeting China's technical and scientific needs through the application of scientific principles.

But attention to the academic aspects of science has not been swept entirely away by the torrent of practical applications. Here and there, under a leaking roof or in the shadows of tall eucalyptus trees, one may listen to discussions of the theory of oxidation of pyruvic acid by the cell or to a report on the synthesis of a new hormone. One of our ablest physicists has just published a critical review summarizing experiments on the vibrational spectra and the structure of polyatomic molecules. Heavy water is being studied. In the field of biophysics a treatise on the thermodynamics of the relationships of water within the living cell has cleared up much that was ambiguous in that branch of physiology.

Our scientific friends may lament and even laugh at the folly of labeling so many practical investigations with the dignified term, scientific research. But to us who are living in this artificial period of scientific history these developments have a deeper meaning. Forced to use science as a tool for the solution of many vital needs of our country, living in a period like that in which Newton, Darwin, Harvey, and Priestley lived, science has become a thing tangible and realistic to us, and for the first time it has become endemic to our land. We are succeeding, so to speak, in digesting and absorbing what was previously only something to be admired and wondered at from a distance.

Science in China has just now emerged from the textbook period. Many of us are beginning to realize that science is a system built in our own minds with the earth and the stars as material, and that for its construction only a surprisingly few and simple materials are necessary. Nature is full of wonderful treasures for the mind that is prepared, for the hand that is skilled. It is in times like ours, and in circumstances such as these in which we find ourselves, that such beautifully simple experiments as those suggested in Irving Langmuir's essay, "Simple Excursions in Science," are most keenly appreciated.

Important to the development of science in China as the present migration of the universities is, it has a still greater significance for the philosophical outlook of Chinese youth and of all thoughtful Chinese. When so many university students, who had been the spoiled darlings of the country, trailed on foot hundreds of miles over the mountainous highways from Changsha to Kunming, China's youth came of age. Deprived of most of the privileges they had enjoyed without awareness in the past, these young people have become more appreciative of the few privileges left to them. Youth has become accustomed to hardship and is beginning to face the realities of life independently. United against a common foe and faced with the ever-present threat of sudden and violent death at the sound of the air-raid siren, the Chinese people, young and old, are developing a deep interest in national affairs and a keen sense of personal responsibility. And they are learning the gracious virtue of tolerance.

That westward march of university students was an education in itself. Narrow dirt roads, called highways only because trucks may be driven over them, wind literally thousands of feet up and down in staircase fashion over steep mountain ridges and along cliffs where properly placed bridges might have saved much power and many a human life. Violating all rules of highway engineering, these roads, with grades sometimes much steeper than 15 per cent, abound in sharp U-, S- or even Z-shaped bends. Laid out and constructed in the years preceding the present period of hostilities, the manner of their building was very primitive indeed. Many of the laborers were women and children working under the direction of young men just out of the universities who had little experience but plenty of sheer courage and determination. Fortunately these roads (many of them built through malaria-infested areas) were ready for traffic when the westward migration was forced upon our people. Little did their builders dream they would so soon become the arteries of the nation along which would flow its lifeblood - with corpuscles in the form of motor trucks laden with armaments, gasoline, tung oil, tungsten and many other essentials for the new China coming into being in what was then in many long stretches a sparsely settled wilderness.

That historic march brought students and teachers into unaccustomed intimacy with nature and reality. There were few facilities for creature comforts but the route abounded in intellectual stimulation of many kinds. The difficulties of travel added to bitter struggles with the elements played an important part in mellowing the students' minds and in developing those ties which fasten man to his fellow men. Much geology and biology was learned first-hand in that migration from the sea level to altitudes of snow-capped peaks. Massive clouds drifting against the setting sun, gorgeous displays of lilies and bluebells and forget-me-nots, the blue lakes and rushing waterfalls and the cathedral-like magnificence of the limestone caverns would make a poet sing. Endless stretches of the wildest mountain scenery could not fail to impress the mind with the vastness of nature and the insignificance of human life.

After two months of travel the students finally reached their destination in Kunming. But life on the campus here is by no means a bed of roses. Ill-housed and underfed, these students, who were probably the most privileged youths of the country before the war, are packed double-deck in mud sheds and must cultivate their own vegetables and go without socks. Hundreds of our fine young men, not satisfied with a passive academic life, have entered the army and are serving

in the air force, in the mechanized units or in other divisions. Sometimes they return for short periods, proud to display their uniforms and their stunts to friends or parents. During air raids our students, even those of the middle school, exhibit wonderful courage in rescuing the wounded or in guarding the school properties. And hundreds of our best medical graduates are forsaking lucrative practices and comfortable posts to serve on the technical and medical staffs of the Red Cross at the front.

Except for occasional concerts and plays life at the new universities in the interior is rather colorless. But nearby teahouses furnish a new kind of social life. Unable to find needed space in the poorly-lighted dormitories, students crowd into the teahouses in the evening to study. Paying a few coppers for a cup of tea they enjoy the tables and the much-coveted electric light; in groups of three to five they study and discuss their lessons amidst the singing and chatter of idling coolies. These evening hours will be remembered long after the war is over.

The members of the university faculties are little better off than the students. Many of us who in pre-war times enjoyed a life of comparative security and comfort are now faced with the very real problem of keeping body and soul together. We no longer apologize for unpressed suits or unpolished shoes and we are tactful enough not to visit friends when it is too close to mealtime. With many of our most able men entering industry and commerce there is a definite change in the attitude of the intelligentsia toward the realistic and the practical. A former society girl is running a prosperous flower shop in Kunming, wives of professors earn pin-money by managing little restaurants and several assistants in one of the engineering colleges are operating very profitable foundries, machine shops or sawmills in their spare time. There is a readjustment of technical and academic personnel, a shift toward the technical and the industrial and away from the theoretical and purely academic. Although the loss of trained men will be felt keenly by the universities, the change in the equilibrium marks a beginning of a significant new era in the social and economic life of the Chinese. Commerce and industry are receiving a new impetus, and men in business and men who work with their hands are coming to enjoy a position equal in prestige to that of men who work with their brains.

In scale, in distance and in the brief span of time allotted to it the present migration of the Chinese people into the interior of the country is perhaps without equal in the history of civilized man. It might be compared with the migration of Americans in the pioneer days, but it differs in many ways. Whereas the American pioneers moved westward voluntarily, impelled by the promise of wealth and adventure, the Chinese are compelled to move for the sake of preserving the best their country possesses. Hence the types of people settling in the interior differ from those who settled in the western parts of America. American pioneers could afford to build a culture slowly but the migrating Chinese have brought with them a culture already built; they are transplanting it to a practically virgin soil. The slow westward migration of the Americans marked an important step in the development of the United States; the migration of the Chinese to the interior promises to be of equally great significance for China. Already a new philosophical outlook is developing in the minds of the Chinese, and particularly in the minds of its youth; a new social and economic order, and

even a new moral code, are in the making. If the Chinese people and Chinese civilization can pass through this critical period of transplantation and become adapted to the new environment they will not only survive but will blossom out into a fuller splendor in time to come.

As these lines are being written a Japanese attack on Indo-China seems imminent. Should the Japanese occupy that country we shall be in danger of an invasion from that direction. But the region where we are at the moment living, once considered farthest from the war zones and therefore safest, is now being transformed into a semi-military area. When the present rainy season ends, Japanese airplanes may begin to unload their daily shower of bombs on Kunming. The same thing that happened to the institutions of higher learning in Chungking and other more eastern cities may overtake us here. We may have to move still farther inland and relive our life of the past three years, doing everything over again - only under perhaps even greater difficulties. Should that be required of us we are ready and willing, for we live in hope of better years to come and we are not discouraged. What has been accomplished can be repeated. We have great faith in our country, in our people and in ourselves.

Winter 1940-41

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Pei-sung Tang

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*An essay written on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of Tsing Hua College, and in honor of President Mei Yi-chi's 25 years of service to that University; pp. 41-48, The American Scholar, Vol. 10, No. 1, Winter 1940-41.

unlimited potentialities of vegetable oils - in the production of which China leads the world. And the almost miraculous curative effects of herb medicines are being exploited to the full. Physiologists are substituting soybean milk for that of the cow and native oranges are displacing the market previously occupied by oranges from America. In the chemical laboratories elementary principles of chemistry may be learned from the purification of native salt, mercury and other minerals, while organic synthesis may be taught by using castor oil as the basic material. The major effort of chemical research is directed toward the finding of substitutes, especially for gasoline and lubricants. Lacking facilities for continuing their experiments in atomic physics, our physicists either resign themselves to speculation on the architecture of the universe or turn their energies to shortwave radio transmission and to the practical aspects of optics.

Everywhere the trend is toward the application of scientific knowledge to the solution of national needs. Economists are now cooperating with natural scientists to meet situations arising from the blockade and to plan for a gigantic program of national reconstruction after the war. The theme for the coming meeting of the Science Society, which is the Chinese equivalent of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, will probably be "Science and National Affairs" - a discussion of means of meeting China's technical and scientific needs through the application of scientific principles.

But attention to the academic aspects of science has not been swept entirely away by the torrent of practical applications. Here and there, under a leaking roof or in the shadows of tall eucalyptus trees, one may listen to discussions of the theory of oxidation of pyruvic acid by the cell or to a report on the synthesis of a new hormone. One of our ablest physicists has just published a critical review summarizing experiments on the vibrational spectra and the structure of polyatomic molecules. Heavy water is being studied. In the field of biophysics a treatise on the thermodynamics of the relationships of water within the living cell has cleared up much that was ambiguous in that branch of physiology.

Our scientific friends may lament and even laugh at the folly of labeling so many practical investigations with the dignified term, scientific research. But to us who are living in this artificial period of scientific history these developments have a deeper meaning. Forced to use science as a tool for the solution of many vital needs of our country, living in a period like that in which Newton, Darwin, Harvey, and Priestley lived, science has become a thing tangible and realistic to us, and for the first time it has become endemic to our land. We are succeeding, so to speak, in digesting and absorbing what was previously only something to be admired and wondered at from a distance.

Science in China has just now emerged from the textbook period. Many of us are beginning to realize that science is a system built in our own minds with the earth and the stars as material, and that for its construction only a surprisingly few and simple materials are necessary. Nature is full of wonderful treasures for the mind that is prepared, for the hand that is skilled. It is in times like ours, and in circumstances such as these in which we find ourselves, that such beautifully simple experiments as those suggested in Irving Langmuir's essay, "Simple Excursions in Science," are most keenly appreciated.

Important to the development of science in China as the present migration of the universities is, it has a still greater significance for the philosophical outlook of Chinese youth and of all thoughtful Chinese. When so many university students, who had been the spoiled darlings of the country, trailed on foot hundreds of miles over the mountainous highways from Changsha to Kunming, China's youth came of age. Deprived of most of the privileges they had enjoyed without awareness in the past, these young people have become more appreciative of the few privileges left to them. Youth has become accustomed to hardship and is beginning to face the realities of life independently. United against a common foe and faced with the ever-present threat of sudden and violent death at the sound of the air-raid siren, the Chinese people, young and old, are developing a deep interest in national affairs and a keen sense of personal responsibility. And they are learning the gracious virtue of tolerance.

That westward march of university students was an education in itself. Narrow dirt roads, called highways only because trucks may be driven over them, wind literally thousands of feet up and down in staircase fashion over steep mountain ridges and along cliffs where properly placed bridges might have saved much power and many a human life. Violating all rules of highway engineering, these roads, with grades sometimes much steeper than 15 per cent, abound in sharp U-, S- or even Z-shaped bends. Laid out and constructed in the years preceding the present period of hostilities, the manner of their building was very primitive indeed. Many of the laborers were women and children working under the direction of young men just out of the universities who had little experience but plenty of sheer courage and determination. Fortunately these roads (many of them built through malaria-infested areas) were ready for traffic when the westward migration was forced upon our people. Little did their builders dream they would so soon become the arteries of the nation along which would flow its lifeblood - with corpuscles in the form of motor trucks laden with armaments, gasoline, tung oil, tungsten and many other essentials for the new China coming into being in what was then in many long stretches a sparsely settled wilderness.

That historic march brought students and teachers into unaccustomed intimacy with nature and reality. There were few facilities for creature comforts but the route abounded in intellectual stimulation of many kinds. The difficulties of travel added to bitter struggles with the elements played an important part in mellowing the students' minds and in developing those ties which fasten man to his fellow men. Much geology and biology was learned first-hand in that migration from the sea level to altitudes of snow-capped peaks. Massive clouds drifting against the setting sun, gorgeous displays of lilies and bluebells and forget-me-nots, the blue lakes and rushing waterfalls and the cathedral-like magnificence of the limestone caverns would make a poet sing. Endless stretches of the wildest mountain scenery could not fail to impress the mind with the vastness of nature and the insignificance of human life.

After two months of travel the students finally reached their destination in Kunming. But life on the campus here is by no means a bed of roses. Ill-housed and underfed, these students, who were probably the most privileged youths of the country before the war, are packed double-deck in mud sheds and must cultivate their own vegetables and go without socks. Hundreds of our fine young men, not satisfied with a passive academic life, have entered the army and are serving

in the air force, in the mechanized units or in other divisions. Sometimes they return for short periods, proud to display their uniforms and their stunts to friends or parents. During air raids our students, even those of the middle school, exhibit wonderful courage in rescuing the wounded or in guarding the school properties. And hundreds of our best medical graduates are forsaking lucrative practices and comfortable posts to serve on the technical and medical staffs of the Red Cross at the front.

Except for occasional concerts and plays life at the new universities in the interior is rather colorless. But nearby teahouses furnish a new kind of social life. Unable to find needed space in the poorly-lighted dormitories, students crowd into the teahouses in the evening to study. Paying a few coppers for a cup of tea they enjoy the tables and the much-coveted electric light; in groups of three to five they study and discuss their lessons amidst the singing and chatter of idling coolies. These evening hours will be remembered long after the war is over.

The members of the university faculties are little better off than the students. Many of us who in pre-war times enjoyed a life of comparative security and comfort are now faced with the very real problem of keeping body and soul together. We no longer apologize for unpressed suits or unpolished shoes and we are tactful enough not to visit friends when it is too close to mealtime. With many of our most able men entering industry and commerce there is a definite change in the attitude of the intelligentsia toward the realistic and the practical. A former society girl is running a prosperous flower shop in Kunming, wives of professors earn pin-money by managing little restaurants and several assistants in one of the engineering colleges are operating very profitable foundries, machine shops or sawmills in their spare time. There is a readjustment of technical and academic personnel, a shift toward the technical and the industrial and away from the theoretical and purely academic. Although the loss of trained men will be felt keenly by the universities, the change in the equilibrium marks a beginning of a significant new era in the social and economic life of the Chinese. Commerce and industry are receiving a new impetus, and men in business and men who work with their hands are coming to enjoy a position equal in prestige to that of men who work with their brains.

In scale, in distance and in the brief span of time allotted to it the present migration of the Chinese people into the interior of the country is perhaps without equal in the history of civilized man. It might be compared with the migration of Americans in the pioneer days, but it differs in many ways. Whereas the American pioneers moved westward voluntarily, impelled by the promise of wealth and adventure, the Chinese are compelled to move for the sake of preserving the best their country possesses. Hence the types of people settling in the interior differ from those who settled in the western parts of America. American pioneers could afford to build a culture slowly but the migrating Chinese have brought with them a culture already built; they are transplanting it to a practically virgin soil. The slow westward migration of the Americans marked an important step in the development of the United States; the migration of the Chinese to the interior promises to be of equally great significance for China. Already a new philosophical outlook is developing in the minds of the Chinese, and particularly in the minds of its youth; a new social and economic order, and

even a new moral code, are in the making. If the Chinese people and Chinese civilization can pass through this critical period of transplantation and become adapted to the new environment they will not only survive but will blossom out into a fuller splendor in time to come.

As these lines are being written a Japanese attack on Indo-China seems imminent. Should the Japanese occupy that country we shall be in danger of an invasion from that direction. But the region where we are at the moment living, once considered farthest from the war zones and therefore safest, is now being transformed into a semi-military area. When the present rainy season ends, Japanese airplanes may begin to unload their daily shower of bombs on Kunming. The same thing that happened to the institutions of higher learning in Chungking and other more eastern cities may overtake us here. We may have to move still farther inland and relive our life of the past three years, doing everything over again - only under perhaps even greater difficulties. Should that be required of us we are ready and willing, for we live in hope of better years to come and we are not discouraged. What has been accomplished can be repeated. We have great faith in our country, in our people and in ourselves.

GINLING COLLEGE - NEWS BULLETIN

(quotations and summaries from recent letters)

18 February 1941

Sent to: Founders
Former Faculty
Alumnae in Amer
Missionaries on Furlough
Family & Friends
"Inf. Only" list
Editors & Speakers
Mission Bd. Mems.

Message from President Wu Yi-fang. In the late summer an invitation to come to America was sent to President Wu Yi-fang from the Board of Founders and the 25th Anniversary Committee. She accepted, contingent upon war conditions, for a part of March and April, with the explanation that she was unwilling to be absent from the campus in Chengtu during the later spring weeks of clearer weather, when the danger of bomb raids would be more acute. There has now been received from her this cable:

RELUCTANTLY CANCEL TRIP UNCERTAIN POSSIBILITY RETURN JUNE WU

indicating that news reaching Chengtu has given rise to apprehension that the air service, through which the city is now connected with the outside world, might be interrupted by difficulties toward which the recent Japanese moves appear to point. President Wu Yi-fang has been in constant consultation on this matter with her Board of Directors, the body responsible for the operation of the college in China.

"Here in Chengtu there is no question about our carrying on." The second semester of Ginling's fourth refugee year began February 10, with an enrollment of 200. In June 1941 there will be graduated a class whose members have spent no part of the four years on the home campus at Nanking, but for whom the traditions and normal activities of Ginling College life have been, none the less, vital.

The Founders' Day celebrations of December 7 and 8, marked by a rededication of Ginling alumnae and students to the vision of abundant life, were followed by Christmas activities.

Christmas, 1940. The Religious Committee arranged for four pre-Christmas chapel services to be held in Vandeman Hall. Many times the usual number of students attended. Palms and gay red "thousand year" berry branches made beautiful decorations. Mr. Andrew Roy, Miss Djang Hsiang-lan, Miss Chen Yu-ching (president of the student body), and Dr. Lewis Smythe spoke on the following topics: "If Christ had not come", "If Christ were received by our world today", "If Christ were received on our campus today", and "If Christ were received in my own heart today".

Handel's Messiah was given by a combined choir on the Saturday and Sunday evenings preceding Christmas. Middle School students, especially invited to a final rehearsal, packed the hall long before the rehearsal began, and hundreds of people applied for tickets to the other performances. The Hart College gymnasium seats about 800, and an overflow of about 300 went to Hart College Chapel, where an amplifier had been installed. Others sat out on the grass near the gymnasium. Miss Graves did an excellent piece of conducting. The proceeds were contributed toward the care of war orphans.

Our Sunday morning service had to be held in the gymnasium because of the large number of people attending. Miss Settemyer had trained the choir in some especially lovely Christmas carols. At the close of the service nine students, two of them Ginling girls, were baptized, the brief ceremony an integral part of the service, the atmosphere of consecration and of joy expressing itself naturally in the service of baptism.

The common room and dining room in the student dormitory were beautifully decorated this year. A cut-out picture of the Nanking campus buildings - made by Gu Wei-tseng - was on one of the living room walls, with two Christmas trees shown beside the Central Building. "Merry Christmas" was said in many different ways - decorations and mottoes on bulletin boards and in rooms. Many students held open house. After a gay supper, at which faculty and students ate together, each class and the faculty members presented a five-minute program number. Then came Clarke's play "And the Myrrh", translated into Chinese. As students and teachers went out, they picked up lighted torches at the door and returned to the dormitories singing carols.

Throughout her twenty-five years, Christmas Eve carollers have flourished naturally at Ginling, and in Nanking the strains of "Love Came Down at Christmas" have been heard softly on spring mornings, bringing memories of the stealthy carollers who had waked one on a moonlit Christmas Eve with a sudden burst of song, and then crept softly into a candle-lit room to share cocoa and oranges. So, in Chengtu, late on this Christmas Eve the Ginling carollers started out - twenty-three making up one group, and others joining a larger University of Nanking group, to sweeten the night with joyous singing.

On Christmas morning four groups of Ginling girls visited some of the poor families near the campus, leaving oranges and rice tickets. The money for this had been contributed by faculty and students; yet, although there was a generous amount, it did not seem to go very far this year, for prices have steadily risen.

The faculty kept open house for students on the afternoon of the 31st, and thus ended Ginling's Christmas for 1940. It is the wish of all our hearts that before another Christmas dawns there will be peace between nations and a great extension of the knowledge of Christ and the real meaning of Christmas.

"Discovering China." During the winter holiday between terms, ten students (chosen from 26 applicants) and several faculty members went to the Ginling rural center at Jenshow, a two-day ricksha journey from Chengtu. As last year, an exhibit of products and handicrafts was arranged by Miss Highbaugh, and special classes and entertainments were made possible with the help of the Chengtu visitors. One of the four Ginling students graduating at the mid-year, Hsiung Ya-na, is to be at Jenshow with Wei Dzen-dzo to develop a new center, suggested by the hsien officials.

The increase in traveling costs is keeping students and faculty members from long trips during the shorter vacations, but the adventure and challenge of discovering western China and knowing its people take members from both groups into far corners whenever opportunity offers. The excerpts below are from letters written in recent months.

a) Chungking - built on mountains, rocky, winding and fascinating. We rode for a mile and a half in rickshas past the areas bombed and burned. It is unimaginable and must be seen to be believed. And these amazing Chinese go on about their business as though nothing had happened. They set up shops under broken archways, and tables along the curb to display their wares. Over their heads and around them, workmen, many of them boys of ten or twelve, pull down and rebuild the bombed buildings - and in between they are everywhere blasting and chipping out new tunnels in the rocky hillsides - public and private air-raid shelters. Many streets in Chungking are series of old, worn stone steps - as many as 200 in a series, narrow and slippery - and the water carriers, sedan-chair coolies go up and down as swiftly and as sure-footed as mountain goats.

Chengtú is flat plateau, a basin surrounded by mountains and irrigated by a system installed over a thousand years ago, wide streets for an interior Chinese city - clean, neat, colorful. Szechuan Province is sufficient unto itself except for coffee and chemicals and some of the drugs. In our own household the servants prepare foodstuffs which - in peacetime - we could purchase: butter, peanut butter, oatmeal, bread, postum, baking powder, flour, and such items.

b) Sikang province, especially the Ning district, has always interested travelers, and since the creation of Sikang on New Year's Day, 1939, as the "baby province" of China, a larger number of people have gone into this far section for pleasure and on business. A journey into the heart of the Ning district is by no means an easy one; however, with the completion of the Lo-Si motor highway, the trip to Sichang will take only about three days from Chengtú instead of twelve or thirteen days by hua kan (sedan chair). The eight districts or hsien of the Ning district are bounded on the north by the Tung River and on the south by the Gold Sand River, with Sichang (also called Ningyuanfu) as the center and chief city.

At the large town of Han Yuen, our fourth day out, we parted company with the almost constant stream of tea carriers who had been part of the landscape ever since we left Yann, because it is here in Han Yuen that the people bound for Tibet or Kangting take one road to the west, while those going to the Ning district take another running south. We missed the tea-carriers at first, but carriers of other commodities - cotton, cloth, oil, tobacco - were with us all along the way to Sichang. Everywhere along the road we met men and pack horses transporting wool, leather, medicinal herbs, and hua chiao, a spice. One has a sense of rich and inexhaustible resources, although methods of cultivation, development, and transport are now most primitive.

Our fifth day found us crossing the famous and often treacherous Tung River in a little boat manned by two toothless, jolly old fellows. It was here that Chu Koliang, the great hero of the "Three Kingdoms" period (third century) crossed the Tung with his valiant army. Tang Hsuan, a great Buddhist monk of the T'ang dynasty (eighth century) tells of crossing this river on his way to India. The Chinese Red Army found this part of their "long march" of 1935 very difficult.

Most of Sikang is mountainous. The raising of rich agricultural products is impossible, and the isolation of the district from the rest of the country has retarded its educational and cultural development. The natural scenery has wild beauty. For botanists it is a heaven - the flora ranging from the edelweiss to the cactus. Entomologists, too, are fascinated, and hunters are never disappointed. At one small town the gorgeous Lady Amherst pheasant was for sale; in other localities the villagers are often disturbed by hungry leopards which come looking for food even in daylight.

The sparse population ekes out a bare living by cultivating corn, potatoes and buckwheat on the mountain slopes. Of the people of the Ning district, a large proportion are Lolos, usually found living on the higher levels of the mountains where a great many of them are engaged in cattle and sheep raising. Racially they are not Chinese but possess a culture quite their own, including songs, music, and a simple written and spoken language. Among themselves they are of two distinct classes - the socially superior "Black Bones" and the inferior "White Bones". They are excellent soldiers; a number of them are on the staff of the Generalissimo's headquarters in Sichang, and the various Lolo chiefs, both "Black Bones" and "White Bones", have pledged allegiance to the National Government and to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

The Headquarters staff at Sichang, established about two years ago, is in charge of the construction of the Lo-Si Highway, is promoting friendship with the Lolos and other tribes, is directing the development of the natural and agricultural

resources of the province, and is doing a great deal for the social - including medical - and economic improvement of the province. The great wealth of Sikang is in its mineral deposits and forest lands. Besides the excellent iron of the Yung Ching and Sichang districts, copper is found in great abundance in the southern part of the district. Zinc is also found, and metallurgists declare that there is much gold in the Chin Sha Valley.

"Under Normal Conditions". On December 10, fifteen of Ginling's Chinese women faculty members moved into a second-floor section of the new hospital on the West China campus. Lack of adequate equipment for opening this part of the hospital makes it temporarily available to Ginling - spacious rooms and wide halls for staff members who have been much crowded during past months. For instance, Miss Liu En-lan, Professor of Geography, who had been sharing a 9x12 room with a colleague, is now rejoicing in a room large enough for convenient student consultations and for a desk on which maps can be spread out.

Classes are still held in "all sorts of places". One class, which could not be included in the schedule for rooms, is held on the porch of a faculty residence. With winter temperatures near the freezing point, this arrangement is not a little heroic.

"The book shortage is another difficulty, and I practically have to write the texts for my students", Dr. Liu En-lan writes. "The few old textbooks on geology which are in the West China library are little help in the study of geography according to modern standards. But I take comfort in the survival of the old geographical club of pre-war Ginling, and its members with my major students are working on an exhibition called 'Political Geography and the Present Wars'." This exhibit included agricultural-production maps for China, divisions of Europe in 1914, 1918, and at the present time, and export maps for various countries - particularly in petroleum. More than 500 people attended the exhibit, and the Science Branch of the Ministry of Education has now asked Dr. Liu to prepare photographs of these charts and maps to be printed with a running text for the use of higher middle school students.

Short Quotes. We enjoyed two plays put on by the English Club recently - "The Locked Chest" and "The Grand Cham's Diamond". The science lecture room was made into a theatre by taking out the large chairs and scrubbing the steps for use as seats. Two faculty sons, Billy Phelps (named for his famous great-uncle) and Amber Van put on a puppet show for Ginling students on January 2. Billy said he had never had as attentive and appreciative an audience - they were as still as mice, so that they would not miss a word. One of the puppets was a marvelous clown manipulated with twelve strings.

Seven Burmese press men have been here on a Good Will Mission tour. Dr. Wu presented them with colored pictures of the Central Building in Nanking; our girls entertained them with an excellent exhibition game of volley ball.

We have reason for adopting the slogan, "Buy now, for tomorrow the price will be higher." For instance, rice on Friday was \$14.50 a bushel; Saturday morning, \$15; Saturday afternoon, \$18. There is only a 50% crop this season. The Chengtu plain has a good yield, but farther way it is poor. Reports of the University of Nanking Department of Agricultural Economics show that prices are four times what they were in the spring of 1937. Coal is found in large quantities in this province and it is transported by water - yet the price is enormous.

The second-hand dealers besiege us. Strangely enough, prettier things than formerly are being brought around; I think life is becoming more difficult for

formerly well-to-do people, and they are disposing of some of their valuable possessions.

Esther Rhodes, a Smith alumna recently added to the faculty, is arranging to give a class in music appreciation for faculty on Sunday evenings next term. Mid-year student recitals were held on two evenings during the first week in January.

In an air raid on December 30, Japanese bombers made for the south air field, doing some damage to planes in the process of being assembled, and destroying a commercial plane which could not take off. There have been several first warnings recently, but no attacks.

In a talk before the combined Faculty Councils of the Universities on the West China Campus early in January, Dr. Liu En-lan of the Ginling department of geography and geology discussed the place of education in a national awakening. "When," she concluded, "the exhausted nations crouch back to lick their wounds, any gain that might accrue to humanity from a truly Christian peace will be conserved only if, through education, the ideals which Christians are labouring to realize become the accepted facts and the natural environment of future generations."

Nanking Notes. On the Nanking campus, Mrs. Thurston and Miss Whitmer have the cooperation of 25 members of the Chinese administrative and teaching staff. All contributions designated for this program go into the actual continuance of instruction. No gifts go to repairs or upkeep, or to the overhead cost of operation and maintenance - items which are cared for in the regular college account. Some relief funds go to scholarships and some will go to food, for students are not able to pay all the cost of really adequate food. Rice is now being paid for at \$75 a dan, more than ten times what it cost before 1937. Medical service is also dependent on gifts outside the budget.

This year's campus program is the so-called Experimental Course, of high school grade. All of the Homecraft equipment and materials are in use by the high school students, who in this way earn part of their fees. The same staff is in charge: Mrs. Tsen, the weaver, the dyer, and the two women assistants. Their salaries (with the exception of Mrs. Tsen's) are to be covered by the income from sales of homecraft products, and since the raw materials have to be bought in a rising market, this project has to be most carefully supervised in order to balance its budget. Exchange at eighteen to one helps to multiply the value of gifts from abroad, in spite of soaring prices.

GINLING COLLEGE NEWS BULLETIN

(Quotations and summaries from recent letters and reports)

MAY 1941

Sent to - Founders
Former Faculty
Alumni in Ashes
Missionaries on Far
Family & Friends
"Inf. Only" list
Speakers & Editors
Miss. Bd. Mems.

MRS. WAY-SUNG NEW - The February News Bulletin contained the disappointing message that President Wu Yi-fang had found it necessary to refuse the invitation to come to the States in connection with the 25th Anniversary Fund. In March Dr. Wu wrote of Mrs. Way-sung New's plan to come in her stead "to represent the College in New York" and as her personal representative. Mrs. New and her son Peter were able to secure last-minute reservations on the S. S. President Coolidge, and for the past several weeks they have been on the West Coast. Mrs. New is not physically strong enough to cope with a heavy speaking schedule, but has attended several meetings, has done a limited amount of speaking, met small groups of people as well as many individuals, all in the interest of Ginling. It is hoped that she will be in New York to be present at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Founders on May 7th and in June attend the Smith College Commencement.

SPRING CONFERENCE OF 1941 - Ten delegates from Ginling attended this conference, one of whom writes:

"The Chengtu Christian Student Spring Conference was held the first week of our winter vacation, January 19th to 25th. The place of our conference was the Oberlin Memorial School, a high school one hundred li (30 miles) distant from Chengtu. The conference was not to be luxurious and amusing, but it aimed to be a power reservoir and a burning furnace in which some of the youth of China would be filled with new hopes and fresh stimulation, as well as to be moulded into useful vessels. The representatives were gathered from fourteen universities and high schools round about Chengtu. The number came up to 120 and there were thirty advisors, so the total enrollment of the conference was 150. There were ten Ginling representatives and I was one of them.

"We gathered at the Student Center at six o'clock the morning of January 19th. Tints of rosy red were shining in the east and the frost on the grass, on the roofs, and on the fields was a pale layer of silver. The chill air made us shiver. The birds began to chirp faintly but sweetly. We were equipped with long trousers and walking shoes for the long walk before us. There were a few who were not used to such long journeys on foot, so they rode on rikshas, while some rode bicycles. As soon as the roll was called, we were divided in ten small groups and started on our way. Our simple luggage had been delivered the day before by a horse carriage, so we walked light-handed. We enjoyed ourselves on the way by talking, laughing, and looking at the people and scenery that we passed. There were many wheelbarrows carrying people or goods. At noon we reached a market town and there we had our delightful noon meal. We continued our travel. We reached a very picturesque village bridge in the twilight and there we enjoyed the lovely sunset. At this moment the representatives of the Oberlin Memorial School came out to meet us and welcome us to their building. In the midst of the welcome, I tried to catch the grim beautiful outlines of this old building which was formerly the property of a very wealthy landowner. It was built in the old Chinese style, possessing a very quaint and lofty taste, with its arched doors, high thresholds and long, winding corridors. There was a garden with a water lilly pond, and the courtyard was planted with plum trees and orchids. I appreciated this old building very much.

"After our meal we had our opening service. We sat together in a quiet room and listened to the words of our chairman. He said, 'We are very grateful to the Oberlin Memorial School, our host, for their welcome and for this spacious building in which to hold our Spring Conference. It is a great opportunity for us to meet here with so many new friends. Let us put our minds and souls into this meeting so as to make it a success'"

The program of general meetings and group conferences included talks and discussions on such subjects as The Source of Motive Power, Christianity and the Individual Life, Christianity and Social Reform, New China and the New World.

"We went to visit the country people and gave them an entertainment in the market the last afternoon. We had a patriotic play and sang some patriotic songs. The people enjoyed them because they lack wholesome amusements.

"On the last night of our conference we had a candle service which was very impressive. We were ready to carry our lights back to our old life. We had a big fire in the open. We began to feel the regret of separating. We had lived a very ideal life. We had to go from the mountains back to the plain to our normal life and there put our ideals into practice.

"The song of farewell was sung. We were soon back to our campus once more. The impression of the Spring Conference would stay in our minds. We remembered the friendships we made. We remembered the inspiring talks and the hope of a new China and a new world. We remembered the encouraging words. We remembered the grim old castle-like building."

HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT - (February, 1941) - "We are not working for our own comfort," says a Home Economics student in writing of the work of this department as it is being carried on at the Chengtu campus.

"This semester, the second term after the department was started, we are fortunate to be permitted to use two small rooms in the basement of the science building. There we can carry on our laboratory work smoothly. One of these rooms is used as the office and the storage, and the other is our classroom and also the laboratory for all sorts of use. These rooms are dark and damp. The ceiling is not more than eight feet from the ground, and the windows are low enough to be used as doors. When other students upstairs are rushing in and out between classes, the noise right above our heads sounds like thunder. During these moments, if we are carrying our work straight through, we have to pay perfect attention; otherwise, we will miss part of the lecture and our thinking will be interrupted.

"In our new laboratory we have tried to adapt all kinds of native products and locally made utensils. Everything is well selected and organized, in order to fit the standard of living of a middle class family. Unfortunately we have to use charcoal as fuel, and it is impossible to fix a chimney. During warmer weather, the smoke and greasy odors will cause much trouble, I imagine. What can we, refugee students, do? We are not complaining at all. So far, we are not working for our own

comfort; we are spending all our time in making articles to use. But before we can improve the locally made articles, we have to do experiments. For this reason, we wish to have a better place and some more accurate utensils to work with. When and how to set up a better laboratory is a problem that we are anxious to solve."

When this department was inaugurated in 1939, three students registered. This number has increased to twenty-two.

HOME ECONOMICS CLUB - "This club was organized not long ago by the major students. The aim of having this club is to encourage the members to enjoy group life, to be cooperative, to make friends with others, to learn more things outside of the class periods, and to develop a standard personality. We have regular meetings every three weeks. It is a well organized group; every member has opportunity to be trained as a leader, to learn public speaking, and to work in a group. Last winter vacation six of our members with a few other students and our advisor went to Jenshow. While there we tried to help the staff of the Ginling Rural Service Center to put up a three-day exhibit to help the country people know more about how to take care of their children and their homes. Besides, we made good use of our time by paying visits to these people in order to gain their confidence in our college graduates who are starting lay-leader training centers there. Within these three weeks, we believe that we learned a good deal, too.

"We have heard that there are quite a number of books, donated by American friends of Ginling College for our department, on the way to Chengtu. We deeply appreciate their generosity and helpfulness. In the very near future, we will let you know about our new library."

IMPROVEMENT OF THE COUNTRY PEOPLE - One of the students interested in the Jenshow Rural Service Center reports:

"Last year Jenshow farmers were ignorant and they did not understand our work. In the exhibition and propaganda work, we just gave them an outline of the many-sided common knowledge, but they could not catch the real meaning. Now because of the one year's hard work of our rural center in Jenshow, these farmers were supplied with things such as medicine, and knew something about education and handicrafts. They began to understand us and to know more about things outside their simple lives. During the exhibition they asked questions, paid attention to the lectures, looked at everything and noticed every point carefully. They cast intelligent glances at those things which had passed through their eyes a year ago. All of their actions showed that they had begun to learn. For instance, when we worked in Liu Chia-kao, a new center we opened this time, we could see clearly the improvement of the country people. On the first day, we gave a war play and war songs. On the second day there was another play given by the leaders of that small place and the country children sang songs. From this fact we could see their good spirits and their growing knowledge. Even when we were giving lectures or telling stories, they listened quietly. On the whole we could say that these country people had increased their common knowledge. We know that the improvement is based upon the skillful leaders who work hard and also on a better supply of materials which are desperately needed by the country people. The future of the rural work in Jenshow will be great and bright."

Another reference to the Jenshow project says: "We shall have our English club every two weeks and shall meet in different places, such as Normal School, Agricultural School, etc. The officers were elected last week. The chairman is Mr. Chou, the English teacher of the Agricultural School; Miss Pan, dean of the Normal School, is the vice-chairman; Wei Djen Dze is the secretary; Miss McDougal (Canadian Mission) and I are the program committee. We decided to have a different person preside each time and to have reading (the English Readings you sent us), news, reports, speeches, group singing and games as our program. In addition we shall have one play and have poetry chorus, we hope."

ALL THIS, AND HUMOR, TOO - (February 8, 1941) - Dr. Liu En-lan finds her Department of Geography operating under difficulties. "Part of the new Chemistry building is done and some of the chemistry people are to move over, so that the rest of us can have a chance to stretch our legs a little. Unfortunately, they have not started to move yet and some of us are thrown out of our tiny holes and now we are without holes."

"Dr. Reeves has been very nice to us, and last term the whole department of geography has worked in her office. You can well imagine that we have been acting like Japan in China. Dr. Reeves has hardly had a chance to use her office all last term. Of course, this year she has decided to stand for her right and therefore we are thrown out as homeless dogs. To make the bad situation worse, I am having three assistants and therefore we need a place for four tables, which makes the place even harder to secure. I have been begging from office to office the whole day asking for a place to put our tables."

"At the same time, Dr. Reeves has not been well during the vacation and she is not feeling very keen about her old office in that rickety attic which seems to be full of working electric fans and which cannot be heated. Finally I secured a little place in a dark corner behind some shelves in the Zoology museum. Dr. Reeves likes it better because there she can have a fire and also be near her specimens, while I like the attic better because there is a larger space for my four tables. Therefore, we traded; Dr. Reeves is moving down and we are moving up. All's well that ends well!"

"If anybody wants to give a small definite gift to Ginling, ask them to give the geography department two little bicycles, one little camping tent, and one camera. We'll be much happier to have them than without them. I am thinking of organizing a walking tour into the mountains during the spring vacation. Travel expenses now-a-days are prohibitive."

"Formerly we pitied and wanted to help the riksha men. Now the riksha men are much better off than college professors. It is a very usual thing for a riksha man to earn \$500 or \$600 a month; as college professors, we get less than \$300 a month. In our house we spend \$80 in round numbers for food and miscellaneous expenses, and then for papers, books, entertaining duties and other obligations. Nobody has any money left by the end of the month. You do well if you do not run into debt by then."

"One cotton gown which formerly cost \$3 now costs \$40. One catty (1 1/3 lbs.) of meat which formerly cost 25 cents now costs \$2.80. Meat is rarely seen at dinner tables of the salaried class now, but not so

with the laborers and business people. On our way to Jenshow, nine of us bought a bundle of noodles and simply boiled it in water for breakfast and it cost us \$4.00, but my riksha man alone spent \$1.40 for his breakfast. We are more calculating and stingy than he is. (Note - Money quotations are in Chinese currency)

"My riksha man told me that he spent \$20 in going to the theatre and movies during the New Year, and none of us dared to go near the theatre for each ticket costs at least \$2 or \$3. It is no news to hear of teachers and officers among the junior grades in government offices who have resigned from their posts and are earning their living by pulling rikshas now. It is not a rare thing to find riksha men talking about very intelligent problems because they are people of good training. Educational institutions in China are at present going through a very critical moment. Because many teachers really do not get enough to support their families, of course they cannot be whole-hearted about their work.

"Among students, too, there has developed a very strange philosophy. There are many things they would never do before, but now they do it without question. I am glad this economic pressure is not weighing too heavily upon the farmers, laborers and business people, but the educated. If they should exchange places, there would be anarchy and confusion which would be bad for China's resistance. As it is now, it is the intellectuals who suffer. They are more disciplined and would not go off the track under the pressure of economy."

A DRY AND THIRSTY LAND - (February 23, 1941) - Miss Florence Kirk makes mention of Dr. Liu's Geography Department in saying, "Last night we had the first rain of any account since October. Dr. Liu says that she and her geography students began their weather records on November 12 and they have never recorded rainfall! And we are accustomed to think of this as a wet climate! The instruments for recording rainfall are in our yard, so we see Dr. Liu or her 'majors' four times a day. The country beyond the irrigated Chengtu plain is in dire need of lots of rain; the threatened famine gives another reason for rice to jump in price."

NOTES IN BRIEF - (February 1941) - Word has been received that Dr. Wu has been appointed one of the five chairmen of the People's Political Council. She represented the fifteen women delegates.

Liu En-lan, Dr. Wu, Catharine Sutherland, and a few other senior members of the faculty received certificates from the government in honor of continuous service to one institution over a number of years.

Miss Ying Shen-gu received first prize (\$100) for her essay, "Seven Days at Ginling." The prize was given by the International Students' Association, the contest being arranged for propaganda material.

We received the sad news a week ago that Miss Margaret Kees, who resigned from the University of Nanking English department in January to go home to be with her ill mother, had been killed when a truck overturned between Kunming and Lashio.

Dr. Djang Hsiand-lan is conducting personality and intelligence tests among our students. She will give a report at the academic council meeting next Monday evening, and if possible, she would like these tests given

along with the entrance tests. West China University is considering having Dr. Djang give them to their students.

Sunday morning discussion groups for students have been started. Six faculty members, Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan, Dr. Chen Pin-dji, Miss Chester, Miss Florence Kirk, Miss Fan, Dr. Liu En-lan, are in charge. They keep the same subjects, while the students rotate. Some of the subjects are as follows: "Friendship" (always the most popular), "Character Building", "Victorious Living", and "My Philosophy." At the end of the six weeks a student retreat may be held. Five students wish to be baptized at Easter.

Miss Highbaugh writes that a new day has come to China when college professors will walk a whole day with their students. She was speaking of the Chinese faculty who went to Jenshow winter vacation time. She was very much pleased with the work they did this year.

"COMING EVENTS" - listed in February for the months of March and April included a combined recital by Mrs. Kwan and Miss Esther Rhodes, and an Easter Festival to last three days during which time the play "The Alabaster Box" was to be given as well as one of Sir Edward Elgar's Cantatas.

NANKING NEWS - From Mrs. Lawrence Thurston's personal report written in March the following paragraphs are copied:

"Children Welfare work includes a neighborhood day school, with 80 children, continuing a service the college YWCA has sponsored since the second year of the college (1916). A half day school with 30 children, one of the one-meal-a-day schools in the city, is supported in part by funds from the National Christian Council. A kindergarten of 30 children continues the Nursery School started for children of refugees in 1938, including now children of a few teachers and servants living on the campus, and near neighbors.

"Neighborhood work, also continuing a service the college has rendered here since 1923, ministers to the needs of poor neighbors. Miss Lo, the worker in charge of women's work, holds two meetings a week, visits homes and investigates need for relief. Each month some 15-20 families are helped to meet emergencies arising out of sickness or death or poverty. A loan fund has made possible the purchase of rice at the lower prices of the harvest: rice was \$45 a picul in September, is \$85 now. A family of five needs this amount each month. Bonus additions to servants' wages amount to nearly 100% of wages paid a year ago and when food is included the cost to us is 366 2/3% what it was two years ago.

"Medical service for the campus and the community includes student clinics, vaccination and inoculation, supplementary feeding with bean milk and other needed additions to a poverty diet; and hospital care paid for where salaries and wages are too low to cover such expense - and the University Hospital income inadequate for the demands for free service. Gifts for relief continue to come in small checks from friends abroad, enabling us to do what we have time and strength to do for the known needs of our neighborhood and campus communities.

Sent to: Founders
Former Faculty
Alumnae in Amer

AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES

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On Board S. S. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE

July 1, 1941.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Perhaps some comments on life in Chengtu in recent months may be of some use in New York. I know how you want news and reports constantly. There may be nothing new in what I shall say, but it may be stated in a different way.

We are learning to live in a war refugee situation with more grace, I think. The completion of the beautiful Chemistry Building has solved many serious problems of overcrowding in laboratory classes. Dr. Liu En-lan has a lab of her own, and the youthful Home Economics Department has been grateful for the dark underground laboratory formerly utilized by the Ginling Chemistry Department.

In many ways the incoming refugees startled the peace of the lovely campus. In some cases we actually created space where there was none. In Vandeman, Ginling got permission to close the side entrance on the north, and to wall in the two hallways -- and there were two classrooms, often in use for small classes, conferences, meetings of the Curriculum and Entrance Committees, etc.

Ginling functions on various parts of the campus, the Dormitory, classes in Vandeman, Biology and Chemistry Buildings, the Music Buildings and Gymnasium, and in two Faculty Houses. Dr. Wu is everywhere respected and admired. Someone has called her "The Second Lady of the Land." Her fairness, sound judgment, humor and Christian viewpoint make her a real power. Many along the way have asked how she is. I think she keeps fairly well, but never takes a real holiday, and never has the time to look after herself. She gives everything to Ginling and to China, and puts us to shame for her devotion.

Some activities go on that you may find of interest. The Student Centre is a hive of activity. It draws students from all universities, and gives those who lived in crowded conditions a chance to play, to meet other students, and provides rooms for committees. Andy Ray is the guiding spirit, and puts great energy, thought and spirituality into his work with the students. They adore him. The two main rooms after 6:30 P. M. each evening (many dormitories eat at 5:30) are busy. In one are table games; crocinol, Chinese Chess, etc., and in the other are magazines, papers, and here students sit to talk. For 2,000 students it is a pitifully small building, but it is a beginning in this co-operative Christian venture of serving the students.

The Home Economics display late in May was a new thing for the campus. In the second semester we had two teachers, Miss Young and Miss Swen. There are quite a number of majors, and all are keenly alive. The display was arranged one Saturday in the large chapel in Hart College. Hundreds of people attended. There were tables showing what a cheap balanced diet must include, a table displaying the various products obtainable from the soy bean, a table with many foods made from blood, a table with hundred calorie portions, another showing the special values of various food constituents, (iron, calcium, etc.) Charts showed how flies and mosquitoes could be controlled, care of children, and the like. The sewing demonstrated what

attractive curtains, cushion covers, table runners could be made from native materials. (By the way, the curtains and lampshades were put in the dormitory living-room to replace the faded ones, it seemed to me this was a very practical achievement). As one left the exhibit, there was candy and cake for sale, all made by the students.

July 2nd.

Exhibits are a real part of campus life now. Dr. Liu En-lan's wonderful exhibit earlier in the semester would have done credit to any student group anywhere, but it was amazing when one considered it was the work of half a dozen major students. A campus committee interested in art arranges fine exhibits of this Chinese artist or that, usually on Saturday and Sunday in Vande-man. The last I saw was by an artist at the Nanking Theological Seminary; there was one room of religious paintings, one of secular. Such things are in the right direction.

The Ginling girls have started a co-operative store for themselves. This has grown out of the high price situation which has made food so very high that diet is a serious problem. I remember when the question came up in Executive Committee: "Shall we try to keep the quality of food up to the standard we believe necessary to maintain health and efficiency, or shall we lower it?" Of course we decided on the former, and as a result the food in the Ginling dormitory is better than in several other dormitories. (The financial implications were, however, to be faced. If we charged what the food cost, many students could not pay.) However, more and more the students found themselves hungry; there was recourse to the peanut, and some girls ate so many that stomach trouble developed. The peanuts, candy, rolls, cakes, were generally purchased at the gatehouse, because it was too much trouble to go to the city to buy. The gate-man charged high prices, and when by the girls' calculations he profited \$300 - \$400 a month, the girls decided something must be done. Fifteen or twenty girls became the business committee, and in a 10' x 10' room in the dormitory, the store began stocking peanuts, candy, cakes, towels, soap, ink, paper, etc. The Committee have worked out a plan whereby the store is opened certain hours a day, around meal-times, 4 to 6, and 9 to 10 at night.

The Peanut Butter Project of the Sociology Department has done well. Miss Djo Yu-lin was in charge, and she was able to provide work one day a week for three of her women clients. The peanuts were bought freshly roasted on Tuesday, ground in the old-fashioned stone mill (two round blocks fitting one on top of the other, and turned by hand), and on Wednesday, servants of the different households brought containers for their order. It was very popular, for the butter was much finer in quality and had more oil than what was produced in the kitchen. The rising price of milk also made peanut butter an everyday article on most tables. I have watched the women at work; one stone grinder was worked by one woman, and the peanuts dropped in by hand, one at a time. In the larger, that was managed by two women, two or three peanuts went into the hole, and a chopstick shoved them down. Miss Djo has given fine community service in this project.

In the early spring, to meet the almost certain interruptions of classes due to bombing, the campus adopted a new schedule: 7-11 A. M. and 2-6 P. M. It took a little adjustment, but most people preferred it, for the long noon hour gave a real rest time. Until I left - June 3rd - we had lost class time only a few days, and even then, we lost much less time than formerly since the warnings usually come about 11 o'clock. We had one or two bombings, out at airfields with few casualties.

The new Senior Class start out into a very chaotic world. There is no lack of positions, for there are two or three positions awaiting each girl, but the old security is gone. I think I have not seen a class more loath to go, and more sad at leaving. I was very sorry to miss the final events: Class Day, Senior Banquet, Baccalaureate and Commencement.

Miss Rhodes and I have had a good trip. We missed the terrible bombings in Chungking, and reached Hongkong safely, but had many hours wait on the airfields both in Chengtu and Chungking. We have made a quick trip, leaving Hongkong July 16th, and not calling at Japan at all. I hear that this ship is no longer the "Coolidge" but since Honolulu is the U. S. A. Army Transport.

We've had exceptionally smooth seas, and good company, but we shall be glad to reach land tomorrow morning.

With all good wishes, Mr. Evans, I must close.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Florence A. Kirk

Miss Ewing

Reference Folder

21 July 1941

*(Sent to Founders and
Mrs. New)*

The following news of the field
is taken from Dr. Wu's latest
letter to the Ginling office,
dated July 2, 1941

"I wish to thank you for writing me about the Founders' meeting on May 27th. Mrs. New has written me about some of the discussions, and I shall wait to see the minutes. I am confident that our Founders are giving careful consideration to this important question. It will take some time, I am sure, for the various boards to study the new set-up in relation to each institution.

"The joint Baccalaureate service for the Associated Universities on this campus was held on Sunday, June 22nd. Just before the service started, the preliminary air raid warning was sounded. Usually classes carry on until the first siren is sounded which indicates that the enemy planes are approaching Chengtu. When they get near the city, the urgent siren is sounded. So that morning, we went on with the service with the hall full. But we were hardly half way through when the first siren was sounded, and Dr. Frank Price had to shorten his sermon by giving only the outline in five minutes. The large congregation was just out of the hall when the urgent warning came.

"Commencement was scheduled to start at eight o'clock the next morning, and strange enough, there was another preliminary warning. We actually started going into the hall in procession ahead of the scheduled time, and we carried on the exercises as arranged. Governor Chang Chun gave the address, and his advice to the students was, "Be still, be patient, and be strong." It seemed very fitting to talk on this theme when there was an impending air raid. Again it was fortunate that we finished the giving of the diplomas before the siren was sounded. Philosophically speaking, we may take these two successive air raids to remind our graduates of the time they are going out to serve. From the four institutions, over three hundred students completed the regular college course and short training courses of various types. In Ginling the total number in this class is twenty-three. Five of them completed their course in January and two finished in Shanghai. This is the first class after the war with some of them never having been to our own campus. Some others were in Nanking for a year, but their study was interrupted for a year because of the war.

"The usual functions toward the end of a school year took place without interruption. The annual student recital of the music department was a real success, and we consider it the best program the department has ever given. The new department of Home Economics gave an exhibit in cooking and interior decoration. It was a very interesting exhibit and it roused much interest, especially because all sorts of local material were used. New recipes were prepared making use of nutritious, but inexpensive material. If widely adapted, these new articles of food will greatly reduce the deficiency of war time diets.

"During the summer vacation, various projects for students have been organized. For our own work in Jenshow, ten students and Miss Sutherland went for a period of six weeks. Dr. Liu En-lan is active in the group going to Sikong for investigation and study. Miss Phoebe Hoh is directing the students who are serving the servant class and neighborhood people in night classes. The Chengtu Chinese Industrial Cooperative is now using our classrooms in giving a week's training to students who will later this summer serve as organizers for new cooperatives. I do not need to tell you about all the student service groups. I merely wish to have you know how we are combining student relief with service. Because of the high living cost, many of the students depend entirely upon relief. However, with all these projects, they are given the opportunity to render some service in return."

8/18/41

Sent to Board of Founders and Mrs. Thomson

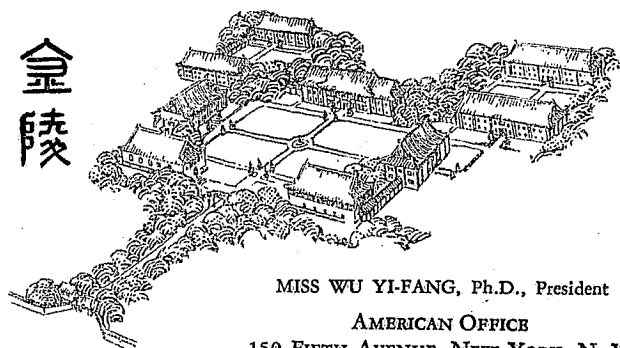
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NANKING, CHINA

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MISS WU YI-FANG, Ph.D., President

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15 August 1941

To the Board of Founders of Ginling College

Since Mrs. Charles Corbett left for her vacation on July 1st, the Ginling office work has been handled by the office staff. Miss Ewing had her vacation in July and has been able to carry on during the rest of the summer. Mrs. Foster and Miss Torrance, while having their vacations also, have been exceedingly helpful and cooperative.

Some things have come to pass during these humble days of suspense and tragedy in which the Founders will find interest.

First, the 25th Anniversary Fund cash receipts had reached a total of \$30,714.56 on August 7th. There are others who will wish to give to this fund as Dr. Wu has definitely stated that it is her desire to have it established as an Endowment Fund, and proper representations will be made to Ginling Trustee Committees to carry out this wish. This also meets with the approval of the Chairmen of the 25th Anniversary Committee, and therefore it is imperative to put the money to work as soon as possible.

Dr. Wu wrote a personal letter to Miss Walmsley inviting her to come to China - Chengtu or Nanking - during the 1941-42 academic year and work on the Chinese base of salary, Miss Walmsley to pay her own travel. This invitation was the result of Miss Walmsley writing Dr. Wu that the next year she would be free for China if Ginling wanted her. Miss Walmsley in turn asked the office to procure passage, but the State Department has refused her passport.

Mrs. Lucy Yeh has received a call from Dr. Wu to return to China and negotiations are in progress regarding her sailings. Reservations for her on a Java Pacific boat to Manila are now worthless as Manila has been omitted from the schedule. It is hoped that an American President boat will be sailing the early part of September. Mrs. Yeh's present address is - c/o Miss Eula Nagler, 2208 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, Department J3.

15 August 1941

Dr. Cora Reeves, of the Department of Biology at Ginling since 1917, has now been retired and arrived in this country the first of August, having come from the West China campus at Chengtu where she has been with Ginling since their trek from Nanking in 1937. She is still on the Coast, but it is hoped that her plans will bring her East in time for the fall meeting of the Board.

Mrs. New is still in the East, and her plans indicate that she will be staying in this area for some little time to come.

Miss Florence Kirk arrived in America along with Miss Esther Rhodes, who is now in Little Falls. Miss Kirk is endeavoring to enter Northwestern, but is ready to enter Iowa State when a scholarship is available. She has written a Ginling article which will appear in the Women's Program Number of the Methodist Board publication to be issued in the fall.

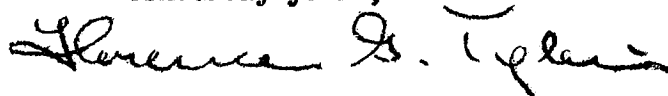
Miss Wu Mao-i will continue at Radcliffe on a scholarship for her doctor's degree. This was granted on the marked improvement in her work as the school year drew to a close. We are delighted at her progress.

Income from United China Relief has been sufficient to assure the completion of the first stage of the campaign which provides the Associated Boards with \$140,000, or a total of \$250,000 for 1940-41. Ginling's share is \$14,000, of which \$13,706 has been received and \$10,000 used for 1940-41, the balance of \$3,706 being held for the first half of 1941-42. We are awaiting a cable from China covering the operations of the past year, as the results from other colleges show deficits for 1940-41. It is possible this extra amount will be required to cover over-drafts for last year.

The freezing of funds has caused a tremendous amount of extra work. In harmony with the United China Relief, we have secured the release of bank accounts carried in the U.S. and operated solely by the Trustees. Accounts operated from China are still frozen and every effort is being made to get them free. If necessary, money can be sent to Chengtu through the Central Bank of China.

A long list of women have been considered by the Office Committee of the Associated Boards, but without securing a person to fill the vacancy on the staff specifically designated for Women's work. Two excellent prospects are now under consideration and the avoidance of haste may prove the securing of just the right one to carry on.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary

CHRISTMAS LETTER 1941
from Stella Marie Graves

Ginling College
Chengtú, Szechuan, West China
November 18, 1941

Dear Friends:

A letter from Mina, Lena and Mary came by air mail, dated October 29th, and reached me last night. That was a kind of miracle. If only this letter makes as good time, it will reach you in ample time for Christmas. Christmas! - How our hearts yearn that this may indeed be a real Christmas, that people may listen and hear the angels' song - "O little Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray, Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us we pray".

Mina asks about how I am, - very well now, thank you, - this fall I found I have been having a nine months', possibly a three years', bout with Mr. Amoeba and his many progeny, but now that he has departed, I am feeling better than I have for many a moon and really enjoying my work. Just at the present moment I am having a little enforced rest due to straining my right ankle, - I'm sure it is only a strain; it happened yesterday morning, and already it is so much better. November 20th, - all right now!

This year we have, most of us, moved over to the new hospital. Ginling had planned to erect a residence for us, but a suitable place was not found, and by the time the search for such a place was given up, the money had so depreciated in value that it could not be considered. The United Hospital was trying to finish certain sections of its big new plant and a happy inspiration resulted in Ginling's putting this residence money into the completion of one wing of this building. As a result, we are permitted to live here until the end of the war, I believe. One big reason for this is that it will be impossible to get up the Burma Road the supplies necessary for furnishing and equipping this new plant. So we are here. We miss the big beautiful garden of last year's residence, and when it gets cold, we may wish for something more than charcoal braziers, but until then we are thoroughly enjoying having so many of us together again, - over twenty of us, women teachers, in this building. Ruth Chester and Lillian Kirk are the only ones of the foreign staff not here. Ruth and Catharine Sutherland have gone Chinese so far as food goes. Lillian has been living with her cousins, the Sparlings, and has had one thing after another, ending with a so far nameless fever that has lasted since summer, but now is nearly normal. It has completely stumped the doctors. Poor Lillian and poor Dr. Wu without her English secretary! Miss Mary Lamberton (one of the Shanghai refugees, now taking Florence Kirk's job as head of our English Department while Florence is on furlough) and I are the only ones who eat only western food. Pearl Longman has breakfast with us. Alice Settlemyer will have one meal a day with us a little later, (she has two meals of Chinese food.) I would so like to eat Chinese food but it sure did not agree with me when I tried it when I came back. I wish you could hear me trying to take accounts with our former coolie, now our cook, with my very limited Chinese vocabulary! We get on very well now when we talk of ordinary vegetables and most simple things. But let him start talking about what is needed to mend the kitchen stove, or let me try to tell him how to make some new dish, - then I soon call for help. Happily, there are plenty of very patient friends around who don't seem too bored when I beg them to please come and translate for me for just a minute!

CHRISTMAS LETTER 1941
from Stella Marie Graves

-2-

We have nice big, airy, sunny rooms, - when there is sunshine. There has been a good deal of sunshine this fall that has been entirely peaceful, so far. In several rooms, even here, there are two of the younger teachers or assistants in a room. It is amazing the number of people who come and go to Chengtu and from this city elsewhere. And how this University has extended hospitality to so many people and institutions is a constant source of amazement and gratitude to us all.

I did not know it in time to be able to tell you, but I hope some of you will be listening in next week for the "Chengtu Week" program. I was asked to arrange for two half-hour music programs for broadcasting to America for the \$5,000,000 China Relief drive. The request came from Chungking that our Chengtu Choral Society, - we call it the Four Universities Chorus, - should sing. The request was for some Chinese music, but at present it would be impossible to interrupt our preparation for the Messiah concerts coming at Christmas, so we shall sing two choruses from the Messiah. I have asked a Chinese teacher in West China Christian Union University (a charming young woman) to play what is called here the "nanhu". It is a three-stringed instrument, played with a bow. Also I have asked another Chinese woman from Shanghai Conservatory of Music to play the violin. The second program on December 6th, Mrs. Lucy Yeh of our Music Department, will take charge of, and our College Glee Club will sing under her direction. I trust she herself will sing. We are so happy and proud to have her back with us at last. She is a very joyful, vivacious addition to our Department, and she has real religious convictions, which will surely make her doubly valuable. The Choral Society program will be November 29th here, in the evening. I thought people in America would also be interested to hear a chorus made up largely of Chinese University students sing choruses from a work they know so well. At present over a hundred are attending rehearsals quite faithfully. It is very difficult to be at all sure of the membership because it is voluntary and from so many universities. There may be ten or fifteen foreigners in our chorus. - - Again we are struggling with the printing of the music. Some of the choruses we have, but others were arranged to be printed in the summer. After many appeals (all was promised for October 1st), we discovered that the printer just could not get men who could or would do the making of the copies, traced from the original, from which the impression is made on huge blocks of stone and then printed. In Shanghai it would be photographed, but they can't get materials for that here, so this very primitive method is being used. So then it was my job to get students and supervise their making the necessary copies, since November 1st. It is almost all done, only two more pages, so I hope we may have all of the music soon. The chorus work has been a real pleasure this year, because of the faithfulness of attendance of the chorus, and their enthusiasm.

As I told you, prices did go down in late August, - the price of rice, I should say, - but other prices continued up. But now rice also has gone up. Whereas \$6.00 used to pay for one month's food bill in our dormitory for our students in Nanking, now they pay about \$100.00. A cake of ordinary laundry soap, good grade, cost \$1.90 in the summer. Someone remarked that a cake of Ivory Soap that was given me not long ago costs \$40.00 on the street. Milk is \$1.00 for a small cup. - - And yet, although we probably now pay as much or more than you do for food in actual gold - U.S. currency, I mean, - for western food, we still have all we need here. Some of our English friends are having

CHRISTMAS LETTER 1941
from Stella Marie Graves

-3-

very serious problems, and our teachers, to quote one of them, are living just on the border line. Those of our faculty members who have no family responsibilities can afford to supplement the dormitory food. - - - We, some of us in this residence and other small groups, are beginning to pray earnestly for a real spiritual revolution among us, beginning with ourselves, that we may find the way, in the midst of many difficulties and many unsurpassed opportunities, to live and give God's message to people on this campus and in this city. I think there has never been so much open hunger to discover how to live victoriously and be able to solve the problems that are always before us. My thought the other morning in my quiet time for the fellowship we are hoping to create among our faculty was that our fellowship may create real friendships, with God at the center; may receive greater vision of God's plan for us here because of our increased unity; that we may support each other faithfully in prayer in the work we are doing, in order that Ginling may become, to a richer degree than ever before, a God-given source of "abundant life", of peace-making, and of spiritual revolution here on this campus, first of all, and in this city and nation. Please add your prayers to ours that we may not fail by any small or large selfishnesses, or by lack of vision. In comparison with so many thousands of people in occupied China and in Europe, we here know nothing of the meaning of sacrifice or suffering. Pray for us, that if suffering does come, we may be "worthy to suffer".

I am asking our Ginling office in New York to print and send out this letter for me, since I have a little credit there.

With love and best wishes to each of you for the Christmas season and for the New Year,

Your friend,

(Signed) Stella Marie Graves

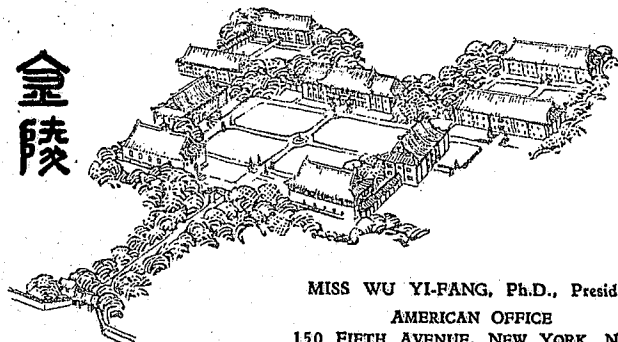
Sent to Founders, Miss Caeder & Mrs. Whitmer
GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

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AMERICAN OFFICE
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December 15, 1941

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To the Members of the
Board of Founders of Ginling College

Dear Friends:

Up to this morning no word whatsoever had been received regarding conditions in Nanking where Mrs. Thurston has been carrying on the work of Ginling on the home campus.

However, this noon, at the meeting of the East Asia Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference, two significant messages were reported. One was relayed through Manila: "MISSIONARIES IN SHANGHAI SAFE". Another message, dated at Nanking, read "ALL NATIONALS INTERNED IN HOMES BUT ARE SAFE". This is most reassuring news which brings great relief. A later message from Shanghai read as follows: "REASSURING REPORTS REGARDING MISSIONARY WELFARE AUTHORITIES INSTITUTING WIDER INQUIRIES".

As further information comes to hand, it will be forwarded to members of the Ginling Board.

Very truly yours,

C. A. Evans
C. A. EVANS

Also sent to the following Former Faculty Members

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Mrs. Walter G. Hiltner
Miss Abigail Hoffsommer
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Also sent to the following Ginling Alumnae in America

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Miss Chang Hwei-lan
Miss Djao Hua-chuen
Miss Dju Gioh-fang
Miss Hsi Mo-chuen
Miss Li Gwan-yuen
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