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Ginting
Publicity/Reports
News letters 1944

NEWS FROM GINLING

Letters from Ruth Chester, '14, and Liu En-lan tell about Ginling Founders' Day celebration, this year commemorating the retirement of Mrs. Thurston, "who spent her best years in laying a foundation for Chinese women's education, while Chinese women were struggling for emancipation. Just think! Twenty-eight years ago there was not a single Chinese woman professor in China, but now among the Ginling graduates there are not only professors, but also a college president, doctors, nurses, principals, social workers and others in special research fields. Even though the material Ginling at Nanking may be destroyed, the spirit of Ginling can never be destroyed."

"This year we had an unusually large group coming back for Founders' Day. There were over sixty present at the alumnae meeting. All classes except three were represented."

"Within half an hour of the meeting, a scholarship fund of \$10,000 was raised for a Thurston scholarship."

"We had the usual Founders' Day banquet, only this was a war banquet. The money spent was over ten times more than in pre-war days, but the food obtained was only about one tenth of pre-war days. Alumnae and Board members joined with us in the crowded dormitory dining-room."

After the banquet came a play, "all centered around Mrs. Thurston, and Ginling's history." The students took great delight in the acting of the faculty. Before the play, songs were sung by each class, and by the alumnae. "As usual the alumnae did the worst. Though they had practiced hard, they were all out of tune and time."

Sunday morning over six hundred attended a Founders' Day service where En-lan told of Mrs. Thurston's part in the building of Ginling and Peter Shih preached the sermon on "The Faith of a Great Leader".

A second dormitory has been added, where most of the faculty reside. "The Canadian School is certainly an improvement over our previous quarters. We enjoy especially the garden and flowers, and the space and privacy."

Six students live in one room. There is an Indian girl, the daughter of the Agent-General of India at Ginling this year. "Our girls are very much interested in her. This morning her room-mates have invited her out to breakfast."

"There is another Indian here in the Theological Seminary. He is an Indian college professor and is delivering a series of lectures on India."

The Ginling faculty members held a "Faculty Retreat", where they discussed "Fundamental Christian Attitudes Necessary for the Building of a Post-War Lasting Peace."

The students of the different universities on the campus were holding an athletic meet, dedicating a "new hall for the Three Principles Youth Corps of the Kuo-min party", and going on a camping trip.

Faculty and students will welcome eagerly President Wu, who is flying back to China.

*Sent to: Miss Graves list (58)
Mrs Day
Mrs Mill
Mr Egan
Mr Corbett*

4/11/44
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechuen,
February 7, 1944

Dear Friends at Home:

We are being gladdened by some letters beginning to come through by ordinary mail, as late as October 25, 1943! I had just been receiving some around New Years of the previous year, - and then these have come in the last three or four days, one from Miss Howard, and one from Helen Titcomb. I hope to get off special letters to each of the people whose letters have gotten through to me, - I hope to! How these letters are coming I have no idea, perhaps the new road is now beginning to be usable. I should mention such a good letter from Miss DeForest. It is so wonderful to receive letters. Thanks to a very popular person in our house, we have been seeing a few quite recent magazines, as late as October - that is fine for Chengtu! I should have written this last night to you, but got hold of an October American, and there went my evening!

Still, except for prices, things go on as if there were no war here. But there are signs of a beginning of a change; university seniors may or may not be called up this term to do work as interpreters, - some have been called.

I had an exceptionally busy Christmas season. Ten days before Christmas at our evening choir rehearsal I saw Dr. Crawford waiting for me. (There have been an unusual number of cases of typhus among foreigners this year). He was waiting to tell me that Dr. Agnew, the conductor of the "Messiah" Chorus, (I should say, the Five Universities Chorus which was planning to sing the "Messiah" the following week) was down sick with typhus, - and would I take over the final training of the Chorus and the three performances? I am glad to say that Dr. Agnew is now well again, and I did take over the chorus with just 24 hours' notice and one hour's preparation for the first and last main rehearsal on the following night! - ten choruses. Of course I could not have done it if I had not had the experience of the two years with the same work and chorus of a few years ago. I had one other extra rehearsal on Sunday night; then Tuesday, dress rehearsal and performances on Wednesday, Thursday and the following Sunday night. It was a bit strenuous, but went off well. My own Christmas Choir service was on the preceding Sunday happily, the Sunday before Christmas. After the Messiah and Christmas were past, immediately on Tuesday night came my last regular orchestra rehearsal, and the following Sunday, January 2nd, our dress rehearsal and three nights, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, of concerts in a city church. - I survived beautifully. Of course the orchestra was much simpler than the unexpected load of the Messiah; but it was our first public performance, so I wanted it to go as well as possible, - and I believe they did play as well as we could have hoped for, considering all the conditions. I got through without even a cold, and that is an achievement. Winter concerts are no fun in unheated buildings, temperature down to forty or even thirty-two. I marvel at the love of music our students and Chengtu people seem to have at that price. Conducting I did get some exercise, but the poor audience sitting so long! - - I have been so thankful for good health this year, better than any of the other five years so far, and I'm eating two meals a day Chinese food, breakfast and supper. But for breakfast I have added two eggs and a cup of milk! I have been gaining weight, weigh at least three pounds more than I have at any time since the beginning of my first year, about 128 pounds.

This is the beginning of the third week of our winter vacation; aside from two weddings of friends, and more concerts (not mine!) I've been resting some and getting at some writing of music I've wanted to do all last term but did not succeed in doing. And I'm thinking of what preparation I should make in case it is possible for me to come on furlough in June or July. It seems to be quite definite that the college wants me to go now if it is possible to do so, so that not all of the foreign teachers will be away when the war ends. The College will need some of us when the time of moving comes, some to be here and some to go ahead to Nanking, - how soon, I wonder?

One of my very dearest Chinese friends came out of Shanghai last October and got here in early January, Hwang Wen-yu, my former Foochow Wen Shan Girls School principal. She brought her niece with her, now just ready to enter Ginling. Of course in leaving occupied territory at every point she was just planning to go on to the next city, - because educators especially, I believe, are not permitted to leave or try to get into Free China. All was going well, but she forgot she had a tiny hand-drawn map of the road from some place just out of occupied territory to Chungking! For this she was almost caught, was held and searched while on the train, and questioned for four hours by the Japanese guard; by paying some money to the Chinese puppet interpreter, she managed to convince the man that she was not trying to get out of occupied territory. After she got into Free China, everywhere the truck or train stopped for some reason or other she was help up about ten days. - - But now after decidedly less than ten days here, she went on to Chungking where she was married to a Mr. Chu, manager of the Farmers Bank of China, - assistant manager, I mean. All reports of life in Shanghai that came through her and others certainly make it clear that things are exceedingly difficult there.

I hate to think that this vacation is so nearly over and that next Monday I must start teaching again! I've enjoyed so much the easier hours and also really getting down, this week, to some music writing I had left untouched since last summer; have been having some such good times with it and I think have been getting somewhere, -- I'll know that better a couple of months from now if I still like what I have been struggling with.

Chengtu has been having a real attack of "concertitis", both from within and from outside. A fine Vienna-trained Chinese violinist, head of one of the two branches of the Chungking National Conservatory was one of those who suffered as a result, by not having the kind of audiences he might have had, had there been fewer concerts to compete with his, not the same night, but all coming so very close together, and all wanting to make fabulous sums of money by the sale of tickets, - for good causes always, - but just too many. His accompanist, our alumnae of the music department of about three years ago, had to begin with, a most natural dexterity, and she has grown in poise and depth of tone; played both the Beethoven Kreutzer Sonata for violin and piano, and the Mendelssohn Concerto, and other shorter pieces all on the same program very well we thought. She had no difficulty keeping right with him all the time, and at times nearly stole the show, a sign of her youth. She has passed the Chinese Government exams and we are trying to help her with her plans for going to America to study, as soon as she can get away, and get passage. I suppose it is not impossible that she might be travelling with me, I would be so happy if it would work out that way. The newly organized Chungking Symphony Orchestra which came here during our examination week, fared pretty much in the same way. It is made up largely of musicians that have come from Shanghai, and have been working now for two years together. They played reasonably well and I hope they will continue to work together and improve until they are a really fine orchestra. I was thrilled most by seeing such an orchestra made up entirely of Chinese musicians and a Chinese conductor, - and it was great to hear an orchestra again that played so comparatively well. I think they probably played as well as any orchestra of that age might play.

So many are going home on furlough this year or next, it surely is going to be increasingly hard for missions and colleges to carry on (and middle schools), people due and overdue for furlough, health reasons, and perhaps in part financial. It costs now decidedly more to live here than in the U.S., unless the present exchange rate can be adjusted more satisfactorily, more nearly to what the Chinese dollar is worth in actual buying power. A loaf of bread yesterday cost thirty-one dollars (eight slices only).

We have been rejoicing in the sunshine yesterday (the 10th) and this morning. There were four or five days since a week before Christmas when we had, I

suppose, as much as one or two hours of sunshine, otherwise just no sunshine at all! In days like this you would see dozens of small groups of students and older people often, sitting out on the grass on our campus, knitting if girls, reading, but mostly talking. There has been no snow this winter, and until the last two weeks practically no rain, - just thick heavy clouds, also almost no wind. The mountains are usually not visible, but we are nearly surrounded by mountains; and Dr. Daniel Dye says it is difficult to have a big storm or much wind in a tea cup. From now on, we should have more sun, but the rainy season is not yet.

This has been a very rambling kind of letter without much point to it, - except to tell you that I am remembering you all. Our student-faculty fellowship group is growing, but slowly; this spring term we hope for more progress for each of us individually and as a group working together. A sermon last Sunday by a fine Chinese echoed what, I suppose, is in the hearts of most of us. With all the force of his personality, he insisted that there is no hope for our world outside of the Gospel of our Lord. His work in us, through us in the rebuilding, the redemption of our world. It puts the greatest responsibility on us for keeping close to God and for the most faithful and prompt and glad obedience, both in study and working together to find and do God's most gracious will. I am sure we are all doing a lot of thinking these days, and I hope a great deal of praying as well as working. Somehow I feel the work I do which is unrelated to prayer just gets nowhere, and is oftentimes worse than wasted time and energy, especially when it is spent in trying to put through some pet plan of my own for a day. I want to get clear away from this. I do feel the need so much of your prayers, - the opportunities here are so tremendous. Almost the only possible outlet for student activities, aside from their studies, at present is through work under Christian auspices, - and the Government Youth Corps (which is not very popular). Almost no direct war work is possible. We are too far from any actual front now, and transportation is so poor it is useless to try to make things for soldiers, seemingly. Other forms of public service are frequently blocked; - concerts and such unfortunately seem to be the chief means of self-expression, and the groups who want such self-expression - of raising money for worthy causes are nearly unlimited in number, but the number of music students and musicians on this campus and in the city is very limited. The result is decidedly painful at times to us. We feel rather the goats of this situation! However we do our best! And are glad to do our bit in the war effort in this way. After all I'm sure I prefer the concert method to working in some war plant at home. Still you can be sure I am getting very eager to come home for a year. I want so much to see you all, and to be at home.

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Stella Marie

Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechuen,
February 7, 1944

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My love to each one of you, and my best wishes,

Stella Marie

GINLING COLLEGE
150 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

March 8, 1944

Dear Friends:

You will be glad to know that Dr. Wu is safely back in Chengtu. She left Washington on January 28th and flew to Natal. She had to wait there several days before getting a plane to Accra, and then on to India. We have had no details of her trip, but know that she reached Chungking on February 22nd. On February 25th, she addressed a meeting of the People's Political Council in Chungking on her impressions of America gained on her recent visit. On March 4th, we had a cable saying that she was in Chengtu, safe and well. We hope to have more information about her trip before long, which we will share with you.

On February 29th, Miss Florence Kirk started back to China. She will have several stops before reaching her destination, but she hopes to be on the campus by summer.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

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| Sent To: | Founders | 25 |
| | Former Faculty | 69 |
| | Alumnae in Amer. | 33 |
| | Smith Alum. Com. | 12 |
| | Spec. Inf. List | 9 (selected) |
| | Mrs. Mills | |
| | Mr. Evans | 4 |
| | Mr. Corbett | |
| | Mrs. Day | |

{ Gladys Bryson, Pres. Davis, Mrs. Scales,
Miss Holt, Mrs. Leavens, Mrs. Eastman,
Dorothy McConnell, Mrs. Thomson, Mrs. Sears.

[1]

Dr. Wu's letter to Miss MacKinnon and Bd. of Founders
Dated April 1, 1944

Sent to: (6/8/44)

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Board of Founders | 23 |
| Mrs. Mills, Mr. Evans, } Mr. Corbett, Mr. Ballou } | 4 |
| Alumnae in America | 29 |
| Mrs. Sears (Coopted Mem.) | 1 |
| Former Faculty | 63 |
| Miss Bryson, Mr. Chalmers, } Mrs. Scales } | 3 |
| Smith Alumnae Com. | 10 |
| Mrs. Day | 1 |
| Copies Sent Out File | 1 |
| Mimeograph Rept. | 1 |
| File | <u>25</u> |

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GINLING COLLEGE
Chengtu, Szechwan

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April 1, 1944

Miss Sallie Lou MacKinnon
Chairman, Ginling Board of Founders
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss MacKinnon and Members of the Board:

A month ago today I arrived at the campus. I don't need to tell you what a warm welcome I received from our own group and from other friends here in Chengtu. I was very happy to be back again, especially after the long wait in Washington before I could start on the journey. After I started, there was only one long wait of ten days in South America. Fortunately I did not have to wait very long in Kunming nor in Chungking. There is no air service between the capital and here, and hence many people travel by the mail truck, sitting on mail bags. It was very good luck for me that a former member of our faculty helped me to get a ride in a private car. I was thus able to reach here earlier than anyone expected me and in much better condition than many travelers on the highway.

You will be very happy to hear that the College was running smoothly, and that we had taken in a fine Freshman class in February. I was most happy to find Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan improved in health. The doctor still advised her to have a few months' rest. We were just planning to give her leave of absence in April and May, when she started to have a skin trouble two weeks ago. It is like the lacquer poison but is probably due to nervous exhaustion. However, she is in fine spirits and I hope that she will be completely recovered after the leave of absence. Dr. Chester was also very happy to have me back, as she said, jokingly, that she had been saying "too long already, 'Wait until Dr. Wu is back'", when there were problems to be solved. So now when we can discuss and solve the problems together, it is easier for all of us concerned.

I was really shocked upon my return to find how the prices have jumped, especially after the China New Year. By now the index is really four times that at the time I went to America a year ago. From this alone, you will see the serious problem the College is facing. When the presidents meet at the weekly meeting, we seem to have to talk about rice and subsidy every time. However, we have not forgotten the bigger and more fundamental issues of Christian education. The presidents had had two meetings with Dr. William Penn on the aims and purposes of Christian education, and soon after my return I was present at the third discussion of this kind. We are now planning to have a more leisurely consideration of the important problems of the Colleges in the latter part of April. The important question of how to achieve closer cooperation among the various institutions will be taken up then. Miss Priest has prepared tentative budgets for the five universities and sent them through Dr. Forkner. Our budget was made more from "guess-work" than by the regular method of budget-making. Actually, nobody can tell what the situation will be next year so I did not spend much time in going through the details of the Ginling budget. However, I hope that we may get some news very soon regarding any possible change in the rate of exchange. I do wish to have a more carefully prepared budget ready for the consideration of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors here in Chengtu on April 11th. If we still are kept in suspense then, not much real work can be done on the budget.

This past month has gone very quickly and it seems as if I had just started on the things that I should be doing at the College. I have started conferences with the various departments and we had a fine faculty retreat last Sunday morning. One of the results of that retreat was the suggestion that we have discussions by the various departments as to how to relate the different subjects to the Christian truth.

April 1, 1944

In other words, this is the central issue - of how to put religion into the whole life of the College, academic and as a community.

Personally, I have been feeling well, because I was not so exhausted at the end of the journey as I was when I arrived in New York. Partly, it must be because my health has improved through my stay in America, and partly because I have become a better sailor in the air. I am so proud of myself that I was sick only twice on the long journey. While I had to travel most of the way in transport planes, there was room enough for me to occupy three seats to lie down.

I am finding it so difficult to decline all the invitations to speak. I wish Mrs. Mills were here to handle this for me, but here, where people walk into my office (which is at the end of a hall and anyone can walk in without going through an anteroom) and also when people meet me at meetings, I have found it difficult to refuse their requests. I counted up the other day the number of times I have spoken and found it had been twenty-five - and the end is not yet. There is one special condition in this region that makes me feel I ought to give some time in helping to meet the situation. Because of my knowledge of American ways and the present condition there, I should tell those that do not know anything about such things how to meet our friends. I cannot help being attracted to do my bit in promoting mutual understanding and satisfactory cooperation. Professor Caldwell, formerly of the University of Nanking and later of the A.B.C.C.C., is now in Chungking.

Permit me to take this chance to express my deep appreciation and sincere gratitude for all that you have done for the College and for me, personally, during my stay in America. Your thoughtful kindness to me and your confidence in me meant a great deal and encouraged me to face all sorts of problems courageously. When I told the faculty of your devoted support of the College, they appreciated it and received much encouragement. Even though the morale of the faculty has been somewhat affected by the difficult living conditions, our group has been carrying on as well as could be expected. We are all trying to maintain our academic standards and keep up the Christian spirit. On Tuesday evening, when the Reverend Hu spoke at our weekly faculty fellowship meeting, he said that our graduates have shown the characteristic spirit of Ginling wherever they work. It is such evidence that makes the hard labors of our faculty seem well rewarded.

With kind regards to all of you,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Yi-fang Wu

Yi-fang Wu

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GINLING COLLEGE
Chengtu, Szechwan

April 1, 1944

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Dear Miss MacKinnon and Members of the Board:

A month ago today I arrived at the campus. I don't need to tell you what a warm welcome I received from our own group and from other friends here in Chengtu. I was very happy to be back again, especially after the long wait in Washington before I could start on the journey. After I started, there was only one long wait of ten days in South America. Fortunately I did not have to wait very long in Kunming nor in Chungking. There is no air service between the capital and here, and hence many people travel by the mail truck, sitting on mail bags. It was very good luck for me that a former member of our faculty helped me to get a ride in a private car. I was thus able to reach here earlier than anyone expected me and in much better condition than many travelers on the highway.

You will be very happy to hear that the College was running smoothly, and that we had taken in a fine Freshman class in February. I was most happy to find Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan improved in health. The doctor still advised her to have a few months' rest. We were just planning to give her leave of absence in April and May, when she started to have a skin trouble two weeks ago. It is like the lacquer poison but is probably due to nervous exhaustion. However, she is in fine spirits and I hope that she will be completely recovered after the leave of absence. Dr. Chester was also very happy to have me back, as she said, jokingly, that she had been saying "too long already, 'Wait until Dr. Wu is back'", when there were problems to be solved. So now when we can discuss and solve the problems together, it is easier for all of us concerned.

I was really shocked upon my return to find how the prices have jumped, especially after the China New Year. By now the index is really four times that at the time I went to America a year ago. From this alone, you will see the serious problem the College is facing. When the presidents meet at the weekly meeting, we seem to have to talk about rice and subsidy every time. However, we have not forgotten the bigger and more fundamental issues of Christian education. The presidents had had two meetings with Dr. William Penn on the aims and purposes of Christian education, and soon after my return I was present at the third discussion of this kind. We are now planning to have a more leisurely consideration of the important problems of the Colleges in the latter part of April. The important question of how to achieve closer cooperation among the various institutions will be taken up then. Miss Priest has prepared tentative budgets for the five universities and sent them through Dr. Forkner. Our budget was made more from "guess-work" than by the regular method of budget-making. Actually, nobody can tell what the situation will be next year so I did not spend much time in going through the details of the Ginling budget. However, I hope that we may get some news very soon regarding any possible change in the rate of exchange. I do wish to have a more carefully prepared budget ready for the consideration of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors here in Chengtu on April 11th. If we still are kept in suspense then, not much real work can be done on the budget.

This past month has gone very quickly and it seems as if I had just started on the things that I should be doing at the College. I have started conferences with the various departments and we had a fine faculty retreat last Sunday morning. One of the results of that retreat was the suggestion that we have discussions by the various departments as to how to relate the different subjects to the Christian truth.

[1]
Dr. Wu's letter to Ginling Alumnae in America
Dated April 15, 1944

Sent to: (6/8/44)

Same list as Dr. Wu's letter to Bd of Founders
(April 1, 1944)

(161)

[7a]

A Letter to Ginling Alumnae in America from Dr. Wu Yi-fang

Ginling College
Chengtu, China
April 15, 1944

Dear Sisters in America:

Before another week is gone I must write to you this morning. I have intended to write for days, but just because of immediate duties I have not been able to do those things I wish to do most.

First of all, I wish to tell you that there have been many inquiries in general and from your personal friends about your well-being in America. Everywhere I have been where there were Ginling people, they were interested to hear about your work. I felt ashamed to admit that I did not see this person or that person and I regret very much that I did not manage better my program in America and had not gone to the mid-west and west. From experience of this trip I have been deeply impressed with the loyal spirit of the big Ginling family.

Secondly, I must tell you how your gift was appreciated by the faculty and also by your fellow-alumnae. I told the story to the alumnae at meetings in Kunming, in Chungking, and up here. If you fully understand the effects of the high cost of living, you will be able to appreciate how your gift really met a need. We had a sub-committee first to consider the best way of providing the supplementary nutrition that is needed. Since most people are definitely in need of protein, the committee felt that eggs would in general meet the deficiency better than anything else. It was decided, therefore, that every full-time member of the faculty - foreign and Chinese, men and women - should get two eggs per day. From the financial viewpoint this means NC\$480 a month to each person, because eggs are NC\$8.00 a piece. The committee has figured out that if the price of eggs does not go higher, the gift will last through the rest of this school year. If the eggs cost much more, then we shall have to grant only one egg a day, later. It is both amusing and pathetic that a comment was made in a "mosquito paper", what luxury the Ginling faculty enjoy in consuming two eggs per day! This leads me to the gift of concentrated vitamins from Dr. Lu Gwei-djen. They are so valuable here that Dr. Chester decided to consult a medical doctor. He, in turn, advised not to give the vitamins to everybody, but to wait until faculty members have been given the medical examination. Again this shows how such things are valued and how carefully we are making use of your generous gift. On the whole, the health condition of our faculty has been fair, but the general resistance is certainly much lower than normal. There have been frequent colds, and quite a few have a low blood count. Spring is the time when special attention must be paid, when people are likely to have more illness.

In regard to the College work, I am glad to tell you that it has been running smoothly. The two Freshmen classes admitted last September and last February have a higher academic average than the year before. It is mostly because of the larger number of students that have come to us from east, north and south China. The student Winter Conference, managed under the Student Christian Movement in Chengtu, had a successful program and started the New College Spirit Movement. I was very happy to find this movement in Chengtu, because ever since my return to China I have noticed how the morale in general has been lowered during the past year. I could easily understand that it was due to the accumulated effects of the long strain and also to trying conditions of the high cost of living. However, for students at least, we do like to see them keep up their spirits, maintain a high morale, and set an example to the community. We hope very much that from this beginning we shall see a better spirit among the students on this campus.

April 15, 1944

The social service program of the College is having good cooperation with the government and the local people. Miss Tsu Yu-dji, of the class of 1934, arrived in Chengtu to join the faculty a year ago in March. She and Hsiung Ya-na started the rural service station in a market town about twenty li from the city. During both the summer and winter vacations, students went out to carry on an enlarged program. While they rendered direct service to the people, they themselves received training under supervision. Early this year the Commissioner of Social Affairs went out to see the work. He was so satisfied with what Miss Tsu was able to accomplish with the grant from him, that he readily granted an additional amount of NC\$20,000. He was especially impressed with the economic way of conducting a nursery school with the use of local material and voluntary contribution of food items for the children's meal. In the city, Miss Phoebe Hoh continued her interesting program of people's education in the neighborhood. A new center for serving the children has been set up. The students in child welfare use it as their laboratory and in vacations they go to Miss Tsu's station for practice.

You will be pleased to hear how the prestige of the College is well upheld by our graduates. Last December the Ministry of Education gave an examination to those students who expect to go abroad as private students. Four of our graduates passed. Two are majors in English, one in music and one in chemistry. I hope that they can finish all the necessary procedure, such as the training period and the long process of securing the necessary documents, so that they may be able to sail in the summer.

The spring activities are being scheduled. The Physical Education Department is going to give a dance drama, and the annual student recital will come in June, while two piano professors will give separate recitals. Just yesterday the Glee Club presented a request for permission to give a concert for which they would sell tickets. The purpose is to help raise money to buy an additional piano and for mimeographing the music used by the Glee Club. The faculty are to have a series of discussion meetings on the relation between religion and science and on how to improve teaching. It is a very trying task for the faculty when they cannot have the supply of books or adequate equipment for experimentation. However, when we are conscious of this, we can keep on trying to do the most under the circumstances.

Again, with deep appreciation and best wishes to you for your work,

Most sincerely yours,

Yi-fang Wu

Sent 8/1/44: To Miss Graves' list

Ginling College
Chengtú, Sze., W. China
June 6, 1944

Dear Friends:

This will be just a brief note to tell you that my present plan is to try to leave Chengtu about Thursday after Commencement. "Try" is the right word, that date, June 27th, may come and go, - it is difficult to get any transport out of here or into Chengtu. After flying to India I cannot even guess which way or how or when I may be able to leave that country. But I hope to arrive at some port in the U.S.A. within three months of the time I am actually able to start! That is the limit of my information. After you receive this, address me, care of Ginling College Office, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

All has been moving along very quietly and as usual here. I had one very interesting experience with my Five Universities Orchestra. We were invited last month to play for the Chinese Air School, and had the biggest audience yet, more than twice any possible audience on this campus. The people there were most kind to us. I may tell you more of this later if you are interested! It was an enthusiastic audience.

Just three weeks left after this until Commencement. I'm feeling fine, but I'm just all ready for a vacation and a chance to come home to see you all. I wish you could have been with our fellowship group of students and faculty, about fourteen of us, keeping a quiet time last Sunday morning. Three of our young faculty members have grown so well, and with them have grown up these students. There is a larger group of students and faculty of which they are a part, who are from other Universities, chiefly, Yenching. Ralph and Nancy Lapwood are their guiding spirits. They are beginning to plan a house-party to take place right after Commencement. I may or may not be able to attend and help, I hope I may, but my too small knowledge of this language is a very real barrier to taking any large part in the meeting end of such work. With English-speaking students I can do much more individually. Of course we must use all the brains God has given us and study and work with all our might, and also how much I am feeling the certainty that our human wisdom is not enough and the absolute necessity of the guidance of God both in personal, economic, social and national and world affairs if anything like a real peace can ever be built out of the ashes of the present war conflagration. News just came of the beginning of the invasion of Europe.

All the news I can add now is that prices are still sky-rocketing higher and higher; yesterday, one hundred dollars for a pound of peanuts, roasted to be sure, but six weeks ago they were around forty dollars. People who have things to sell are all right, but it is the salaried class that are in the hole. Most salaries now are paid largely in rice, plus some cash, but the rice is of far greater value than the money.

Next time I will be writing to you individually from somewhere! Some other place!

My love and best wishes to you all. Hoping to see you soon!

Stella Marie

(Received New York, Sept. 11, 1944)

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Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan
July 27, 1944

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills
Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Mills,

I wonder what you are thinking of me? It seems only logical if you should take it that I have disappeared from this earth. Actually I feel as if it were ages ago that I wrote you last. Of course it is my own failure in not having managed better in my correspondence, but there are two outside factors that have helped cause the negligence. Mrs. Whittington has been sick with para-typhoid and has been away from the office for over two months. Secondly, I have been kept busy with all sorts of things. I am very glad that Essie Price has come to help me with letters and so now I have hope of clearing some of my "letter debt" before I go away for my vacation around August 10th.

I have read over all the unanswered letters I have received from you of the following dates: April 10th and 13th, May 5th and 17th, and June 6th. Some of the points must have been cleared by my last letters. However, I shall answer briefly all the items you raised.

Faculty Going Abroad. Dr. Lung has dropped the idea of going for research work in America for the time being. This is because the Government is putting all its attention on Applied Science and has announced that people in Social Sciences are not to go abroad at the present time. Miss Hsiung Ya-na is doing splendid work with Miss Tsu Yuedji at Chung Ho Chang and I still hope that she will be able to go to America for graduate study when the opportunity comes. I will follow your advice and send her college transcript to you so that you will have it ready to forward to any institution when the time comes to apply for scholarship help. She is devoted to rural work. I shall greatly appreciate it if in the meanwhile you can get information as to which university offers the best courses in her special line of work.

Miss Dzo Yu-lin. I have just cabled you that it will be impossible for Miss Dzo to reach America for the second term at Boston University. She still hopes to go when the way is open for her to leave for study abroad. From the College I have told her that we shall be unable to help her financially and she is trying hard to save and get additional funds. In fact, if she had been able to leave this summer, she could have managed for students going abroad were allowed to apply for U.S. currency through the Government at the official rate of 20 to 1. I have heard different reports that this rate has been increased to 40 to 1 or even 60 to 1.

Ettie Chen. She finally left on July 13th on her way back to America. I use the word "finally" because for a long time Ettie could not make up her mind whether to go or stay. Both colleagues and students urged her to stay for another year. When I failed in finding a good substitute to take over her work and Miss Lu Kwei-chin had to be the Acting Dean of the Women's College at Yenching and could not give us more time, I also expressed my wish to Ettie that she reconsider. It was only two days before commencement that she made her final decision to leave this summer. Miss Priest gave her the same travel allowance as Miss Graves, but since Ettie does not wish to commit herself to return after furlough, there is still a question about her furlough salary. Miss Priest will be writing Dr. Evans recommending that she be granted three month's salary. Ettie has given very valuable service to the College and she has had a difficult task at times. She is splendid as a personal friend, but not very business-like in administrative work. However, the past school year has been the most successful and happy year she has had and that, in fact, was what attracted her to staying on. My

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guess is that if she does not meet the right man during her furlough she will come back and we shall be glad to invite her.

Students Going Abroad. The general policy of the Government in 1943 was to send a large number of students abroad to be trained for reconstruction work after the war. By last May there was a change that cancelled the announcement for examinations for students going abroad and even stopped those who had already passed the December examinations. At the same time, the Minister of Education told these students when they were at the Central Training Institute in May that they should proceed with their preparations and be ready to go when it became possible. Furthermore, there were special cases where individual students actually sailed in June. These were either invited by groups in America or had full scholarships. From this you will see how Chen I-djen kept hoping that she might succeed in getting special permission to go this summer. I did not explain this fully in my hurried note by longhand, but from the recent cable you would have known that she will not be there in September.

From your story about how Chen I-djen's transcript went to Duke University, I have decided to insist upon any students asking for transcripts to let us send them to your office directly. Very often these students have personal friends in America who offer ready help in applying for scholarships. The students themselves may not know where the application is being sent. Dr. Chester didn't know anything about Chen I-djen's application for Duke University.

In regard to Tsai Dz-gu, I am very glad that Wellesley cancelled their scholarship grant. She was a very average student and was married a few years ago. I do not think that there is a real professional interest in Physical Education. Her husband had arrived in Washington before I left and that may be the real reason for her wanting to go.

You raise the question of travel for students going abroad. Usually they do not expect any help from the College or for your office to raise any money for them. In such cases as Chen I-djen and Tsai Dz-gu, since they have never served on our faculty, we are under no obligation to help them other than apply for scholarships. In regard to Junior staff, we have to consider each case separately. For those we wish to invite back to the faculty, we have to help in order to enable them to reach America. Could I have this understanding with you, that I shall write you if there is need to ask your help in seeking travel expenses?

Wu Mao-i. I am very glad to hear that she successfully completed her written examinations. From a recent letter from Mrs. New I understand Mao-i had passed her oral examination and was just then in New York making plans for her return in November. I do hope that by then there will be more passage available and that she will not have to wait long to secure hers. Furthermore, I hope there will be boats coming directly to India. Dr. Chester's furlough was actually due this summer but she was perfectly ready to stay for a sixth year. We would like to have Mao-i on the campus a little while at least before Dr. Chester takes her furlough next summer. I am writing directly to Mao-i about this particularly after the experience of Miss Kirk and Miss Walmsley.

Miss Kirk. We received letters from her when she first reached South Africa. She saw Miss Spicer's youngest sister in Johannesburg and also Mrs. Sparling's daughter, a distant cousin. A few days ago an envelope addressed in Florence's handwriting brought a letter from Eva's Sister. The post date was June 28th from Durban. We figured out that Florence meant to bring the letter, but when she had no prospects of getting away she mailed it. In regard to Miss Walmsley, we have had no word from her at all. I am afraid she may be still held up in Lisbon. Both were expected to teach fulltime beginning in September, so we are now approaching some evacuated missionaries from Central China for temporary help. However, the advanced courses for English Majors are not so easily taken care of as the required Freshman and Sophomore courses. You will be glad to know that the microfilm for Florence Kirk was brought to China by Vice-President Wallace and Mr. James Penfield of the American Consulate in Chengtu has given it to me.

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Annual Meeting of Founders. I am very sorry that I had not thought of the approximate date of this meeting and sent you a message. It seems that we are faced with so many daily problems that we do not give enough time for planning for the future. I am very glad about the successful meeting and shall wait eagerly for the Minutes of our own Board as well as those of the Associated Boards and Planning Committee. When Dr. Cressey was in Chengtu I asked him about any meetings of the special Committee on Post-War Planning appointed by the Council of Higher Education. He said he had had several informal conferences with members of this Committee but there had not been any formal meeting of the Committee as a whole. I am afraid that the Planning Committee in New York may be disappointed in not having received more recommendations from China.

Considerations on Closer Cooperation in Chengtu. Dr. Fenn must have written about all these meetings and I do not wish to tell much here, especially as this letter is already getting too long. To be frank with you, I was disappointed at the results after the numerous meetings and the number of hours Dr. Chester and I spent. Perhaps the big universities, with their own full program, feel rather differently from us in the small college. I wish it were possible for me to have a two hours' talk with you because there is so much involved that it cannot be adequately written about in a letter.

Information for Publicity. I fully understand how both you and Miss Tomlinson want information on how the Faculty Special Aid is meeting our needs. I promise you I shall send you a few stories before I go away for my vacation. The thing that troubles me is this, if the Smith Alumnae continue to consider their gifts over and above their pledge of \$5500 as Faculty Special Aid, then our general budget will be that much more short. You may remember how reluctant I was last November to agree to designate this special aid for I know clearly that in our general budget we would need any additional gifts that might come in. Miss Priest will say that the more undesignated gifts, the easier it is for the administration to manage the finances of the College. However, from the viewpoint and psychology of the givers it is far better to be specific so that they will know how the gifts are used. I hope you will kindly understand the whole situation and I leave it to your judgment as to how much to tell Miss Tomlinson.

In regard to College news, I have not forgotten that I should keep sending it to you. I did ask Miss Spicer to write you about Commencement and other functions. Before she left for her vacation she told me that she was sorry not to have done it but would do so very soon. Now that President Chen is in the States, you will get direct news from him.

I wish to thank you for your inquiries about my well-being and health. I have kept well but I must admit that I have already lost the weight I gained in America. Although five months have gone since my return to Chengtu, it seems I have not yet fully settled down. During the month of March I gave twenty-six talks. On June 24th when I gave the Commencement talk at the Methodist Girls' Middle School it was the 54th speech I had made in Chengtu. The month of June actually tired me out. There were four trips out of town with long ricksha rides. The trip to the Canadian Girls' Middle School took seven hours one way. On top of that when the Five Universities could not secure Vice-President Wallace as commencement speaker, the presidents voted to ask me to have the commencement talk ready in case we could not find another speaker. It was a strain and took several hours to prepare the outline. Then at the last minute we were fortunate enough to secure Mr. Wang Yui-wu, General Manager of the Commercial Press and a member of the P.P.C. Mission to England. When Mr. Wallace was here the Presidents were included in all the functions and we gave a simple dinner in his honor. As I happen to be the only lady among the nine Presidents, I was asked to propose the toast. Usually I don't mind it but when I'm tired it does mean added strain. This weekend I am going to Lung Chuan Th to give two talks at the Religious Worker's Institute. I have another week at the College. I shall then go to give a talk at the Summer Camp of the Youth Corps at Kwanhsian. I expect then to have two weeks in a temple in the hills near there. Early in September I shall have to go to Chungking to attend the meeting of the P.P.C. and also the Child Welfare Conference. It is rather unfortunate that I shall not

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be in the College when the fall term starts with registration on September 8th and 9th and classes starting on the 11th.

Reeves Scholarship Fund. I almost forgot to tell you that the Biology graduates have decided to establish a scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Reeves' 70th birthday in August. Practically Ch. \$20,000 has been collected and \$10,000 has already been invested. A scholarship will be offered to a Biology student beginning this fall.

I must stop now and I'll send you another letter early in August. I wish to apologize once more for my negligence in writing to you. In fact, I have not written to anybody for months. This made me decide to send a short note to Mrs. New by a member of Vice-President Wallace's party.

With best wishes to you, to your family, and other friends in the office.

Most sincerely yours,

(signed) Yi-fang Wu

Yi-fang Wu

YFW/emp

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Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China
August 12, 1944

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills
Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Mills:

I was very glad to receive your letter of June 14th and the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Founders. As you said, it was a beautiful Memorial Service for Miss Hodge and I am glad to have the full account of it. She gave such faithful service to the College from its very beginning and we want to think of some kind of memorial to her. I am glad that Miss Tyler and Miss Griest were asked to sort out the material from the files from Miss Hodge and Miss Bender. I am very grateful for the active interest of Miss Tyler in collecting books for the Ginling Library. That is going to be one of our greatest needs in re-equipping the College for proper work in Nanking.

This reminds me of something I have been intending to write you about. Besides books we shall need laboratory and music equipment. During these war years even the colleges in America are kept from renewing their equipment as usual. There is the possibility that after the war they will discard almost everything and replace with new equipment and there will be a large stock of used equipment to dispose of. If we could have a committee ready to receive some of this and to decide what will be usable, it may mean that we can secure quite an amount of equipment in that way. Dr. Reeves might take responsibility for science equipment and Miss Graves can make a list of things the Music Department would like to have.

You made inquiry regarding Chang Bing-i. I am very sorry that I forgot that she changed her name after graduation. On our list she is Djang Kwei-chi of the Class of 1932. She was also known as Katharine Djang and taught in the Government Middle School in South City, Nanking. Her husband is Stephen Fung who helped Dr. Lowdermilk and I understand is still helping him with some projects in the States. Naturally, he wants his wife to come to America and she herself is very anxious to go. Mrs. Stockwell secured a half scholarship for her at Oberlin. However, with the present Government policy regarding students going abroad, she could not go this summer. I am sure she will continue in her efforts to find a way of getting to America, but no one knows how soon that may be. Miss Sutherland would like to see her get some further training for she has musical talent. Her only fault is that she is not steady.

In regard to names of girls who are to receive scholarships, I will remember to send you the full list by September. The Scholarship Committee makes the final decisions in September, even though informally we tell the girls in advance that they may count on her for the year.

The Episcopal Scholarship from New Jersey. I wrote you last May and recommended Miss Shen Sung-wei, the third daughter of Bishop Shen Tz-kao, and Miss Chen I, the daughter of Bishop Robin Chen, as the recipients for the Miss Roberts' Memorial Scholarship. There has not been time to hear from you if the Episcopal women approved of both girls receiving this scholarship. In your letter you mention the amount of US\$125.00 as the scholarship. A few weeks ago Miss Lamberton received the amount of \$24,000.00 NC as an Episcopal scholarship fund. This is being held in our Treasurer's office for fuller information.

Correspondence with Girls in America. I have spoken to Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan about the request from Wilson College for names of Ginling students who would like to correspond with American girls. As she has not given me the names, I shall ask her to write directly to you. I shall also tell her of the same request from Master's School and Woman's College Club of Saranac Lake and Lake Placid. As you well know, such correspondence is difficult to establish, especially now that the English standard of the students is quite a bit lower than before.

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Furthermore, they have to be good not only in their command of English but also understand the higher values of such correspondence. Personally, I think we must find the best students for Wilson College girls, next the Woman's College Club, and put the Master's School as the last. I realize that they have made annual gifts to Ginling, yet from Mrs. New I have heard that the missionary service in the school is very old-fashioned and one cannot be sure what kind of letters high school girls would write. Furthermore, girls of that age are so enthusiastic that every girl may want to write to an individual girl in Ginling and then they will be disappointed. I am, therefore, inclined to suggest that one of our girls write to their Student Association instead of starting correspondence between individual girls in the two schools.

Mrs. McClelland - Baptist Church S.S. Gifts. I am very sorry to confess that I have forgotten to attend to this matter. I remember that when I wrote you in May I had in mind inquiring about for just the right girl to recommend, then it slipped my mind. Since I am getting away on Monday for my vacation, I shall ask Dr. Djang to attend to this also.

I said in my last letter that I would write you on College news. Luckily for me, Miss Spicer's account came before I mailed my last letter. Now I can be lazy and tell you only the most recent news! The first happy news is that Florence Kirk is in India. She arrived in Bombay on July 21st but her letter did not reach Chengtun until two days ago. We now have hope of her being here in time for the fall term, which starts with registration on Sept. 8th and 9th. We still have had no word from Miss Walmsley and we are therefore making temporary arrangements for a substitute for her. Miss Anna Moffat is expected to come on Monday - she has been travelling for ten months. I certainly hope that Miss Walmsley will manage to do better than that. Miss Yung, Head of the Home Economics Department, has asked for leave of absence as she was advised by the doctor to take a rest. This really means resignation. It has been difficult for her to do full-time work while taking care of a newly-born infant. I am glad to have succeeded in securing Miss Swen Cheng-ming (I am not sure of the spelling), also a Yenching graduate who has had two years of post-graduate study in America. She was a Psychology Major and with two years of further training in Oregon, she is well prepared to give such courses as Child Development and Care, Child Psychology, Nursery School Methods, etc. We are cooperating with other Home Economics Departments in offering of other courses and we have some part-time teachers to give additional courses that are necessary.

I read over the report of the Personnel Committee and I agree with all the points raised there. I understand fully the advisability of filling vacancies with Chinese and Westerners already in China. I am glad that there was the thoughtful consideration that, when all possible efforts have been made here, you approve the sending of essential faculty members, both Chinese and Western, from the United States. After college opens and after I have had thorough consideration with Dr. Chester, I shall write you regarding the whole picture and let you know which departments will need teachers to come out from America. The one need quite clear now is in the Physical Education Department. From my last letter you will have heard that Miss Lu Hwei-chin is kept very busy at Yenching with the added responsibility of Dean of the Women's College. If we could be sure of going back to Nanking by the fall of 1945, our problem would be solved by having Huang Li-ming return to take charge of the department. But as before, we can only wish that we might know! Even if Miss Swen proves satisfactory, there is a need for a real Home Economics Major in order to give the whole program when we are no longer cooperating with other institutions here.

In regard to our summer projects, I shall have the people in charge send you reports. There is one going on at Chung Ho Chang with ten students carrying on an enlarged program for six weeks. Here in the city at our Child Welfare Center, Miss T'ang Min-sing is supervising the students who are carrying on nursery, kindergarten and other classes. The National Christian Council in Chengtu is supervising a Vacation Bible School for primary children. The teachers are college men and women receiving work relief from the Student Relief Committee.

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The principal is a fine girl, a senior in Ginling College. At the Christian Religious Workers' Institute, Dr. Djang took care of the discussion period on Religious Education for the whole ten days. In addition, she was called on to give a series of three lectures, when the man expected was unable to attend. I understand her talks were much appreciated and quite a number of people went to see her afterwards for individual conferences. She talked on Character Building and Personal Counseling.

I don't remember if I told you that Dr. Liu En-lan has been on leave of absence since the middle of April teaching at Northwestern Normal College in Lanchow. Their spring term was over on July 15th. She is now taking several trips in that region before returning to Chengtu by September 1st.

Summer vacation for the Dean's office is quite a problem. Dr. Chester and Mrs. Shao, the Registrar, had hoped to be away for some holiday after the entrance tests were finished. The results from tests in Chengtu were announced on August 8th, but the papers from Chungking just would not come! It was only two days ago that they got here and we are having a meeting of the Entrance Committee this morning. Now they hope to get away early next week.

I hope you have managed to have some rest for yourself. I have heard indirectly that Mr. Mills is coming out soon to take charge of property. This is very important work and it calls for a man of Mr. Mills' ability and experience. Yesterday afternoon we had an informal discussion on this whole question of legal matters and we are hoping to secure a very prominent lawyer to be legal adviser. I shall write to Mr. Ballou after we have made any definite decisions.

With very best wishes to you, Mr. Mills and the girls. Kindly remember me to Mrs. Foster.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Yi-fang Wu
(have not read over)

YFW/emp

Yi-fang Wu

CAC

Letter from President Wu Yi-fang to EHB -- September 1, 1944

I was much interested to receive your account of the second meeting of the International Education Assembly. I enjoyed those three days at Harper's Ferry in September 1943. I particularly appreciated meeting the leaders in the various fields of education work. Before I left Washington I went to see Dr. Kefauver. I told him a little about the recent developments in the field of higher education in China.

In regard to the group of Christian colleges, I pointed out that they are occupying a rather important position for two reasons: First, they are now important private universities because the number of Chinese private universities has been decreased during the war years. While government universities are developing and taking the major part of the training of college students, the existence of private institutions provides a liberalizing factor in education. Secondly, the Christian universities are centers for international cooperation and mutual understanding. They serve as channels for academic and cultural exchange, particularly through the presence of professors from America and England.

I am very glad that the Associated Boards have now this formal connection with the International Education Assembly. It seems to me that this assembly will have much to contribute toward the set-up of an international education office after the war. From the Chinese papers I have read that there was a meeting in London of representatives from the governments of the United Nations of the Problem of educational cooperation after the war. While that was official and the representatives must have been appointed by the governments, Dr. Kefauver's organization will represent the opinion of the large body of people engaged in education. I remember at Harper's Ferry that the group expressed a desire to see the future international education organization consist of members not only formally appointed by the government but also those elected by private educational associations.

Here in China we do not have such associations as you have in America. I remember that when Dr. John Fairfield was in Chengtu in the winter of 1942, I talked with him about the importance of having a national association of colleges and universities formed here in China. This association should include all of the institutions of higher education, both government and private. However, it was just because the presidents have to attend to problems from day to day that they have not the time and energy to attend to this more important, yet not immediate, work. This made me think that perhaps when the planning committee of the Associated Boards sends out the educational leader to study the Christian institutions, he may help to give us a push. I do not mean that the Christian institutions are to initiate such a move to organize. However, with the leadership of this expert, there is the possibility that we can work with some of the government institutions to start the movement of getting the universities organized into an association.

In regard to the financing of the colleges, I can not express in words the sense of deep gratitude we all feel toward you and the other friends in the Associated Boards. I understand very well, especially after my trip to America, what laborious and devoted work the staff of the Associated Boards has been giving to keep the colleges going. Personally I feel it is not fair to continue asking for more and more funds, but the solution is to get each American dollar to go farther. I remember even in January, when Dr. Lobenstine asked me, "What do you propose in meeting the expenses of the colleges during the next school year?" I gave the simple answer, "Adjustment in the rate of exchange." After my return, in my informal report in Chungking, I included this unfair condition of exchange. Now through the hard work of Mr. Evans and others, we are grateful for the arrangement to sell American dollars on the open market. As you saw so clearly, even this arrangement, in its present working condition, meets only part of the increased expenditure; but even now my own thinking is to meet the rest of the need by realizing still further value out of the American currency. Miss Priest also hopes there may be the possibility of increasing the rate of 115 as time goes on. If there is anything that you and the others can work out from the other end for pushing up the value of the American dollar, that will eventually solve the financial problem.

When Mr. Sweet was here, he had a meeting with the presidents, deans and departmental heads of the five universities, and explained the very complicated program of the U.C.R. and its relation to the National War Fund. At least these people with administrative duties should understand how the money in the sustaining funds of the Associated Boards is raised.

We are glad that President Y. G. Chen is now in America and is able to furnish you with detailed information, and answer any questions you may have regarding the five universities here in Chengtu.

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P.S. In reading over this letter I realize what a poor letter this is. I have intended to write you a real letter, but, also, because of the rushed immediate work these days, I had not given any thinking how to present the two things before Miss Dow arrived to take dictation. I begin to doubt the wisdom of taking summer holiday, because this week has been most rushed due to my absence of the two previous weeks, taking my vacation in the hills. Partly it is because the P.P.C. is meeting earlier than usual, and I am leaving for Chungking on Sat. or Sun., depending on when a plane may be available to be sent down here from Chungking. The fall term will start with the Freshmen Week on Sept. 5-9, Senior Retreat 7-8, Registration 8 & 9 of September, classes on Sept. 11, and the Registrar has suddenly to ask for leave because of sickness. Am very sorry to be absent at college opening this fall.

Ginling College, Chengtu, Szechuan
September 1, 1944

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Mrs. W. Plumer Mills
Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Mills:

When I returned from my two weeks' vacation in the hills I found your letter of July 28 awaiting me. I am very glad to hear of Miss Graves' arrival in America, and that Miss Hammond evidently stood the trip well.

We heard that Florence Kirk arrived in Bombay on July 23, but there has been no other word from her ever since. Mrs. Rees of the London Missionary Society in Calcutta has written to Miss Spicer that Florence was expecting to fly to China very soon. However, in order to help her to secure passage I sent her a cable a few days ago urging her to come to Chengtu as soon as possible. Such cablegrams may help her to get better priority. I am sorry to say that there is still no word from Miss Walmsley.

As you can easily understand, this is a busy time just before college opens, but unfortunately I have to go to Chungking within a few days on account of the meeting of the People's Political Council. Again I shall not be in the college at the opening of the fall term. The Child Welfare Conference will be held right after the P.P.C. meetings and will last for a week. The Executive Committee of the National Christian Council will also meet on September 21 and 22. This will mean that I shall be absent from the college for the whole month of September. At the Executive Committee meeting yesterday we decided that the administrative duties will again be carried by this committee, with Ruth Chester as the chairman.

I promised you that I should write you briefly about a few cases of special need which the Faculty Special Aid Fund helped. Right now there is a case of the critical illness of the brother of one of our staff. His father is an Episcopal minister in Honan. The boy left there as a refugee and it was naturally a very hard trip, particularly when he had limited travel funds. Soon after he arrived in Chengtu he developed a high fever. After about a week he went into the University Hospital, and the case was diagnosed as typhoid fever. He has not passed the critical stage, even though he has been in the hospital for three full weeks. (He is in very critical stage and had one blood transfusion this morning. One kind of medicine costs \$200 C.N. a pill.) His sister is an assistant on our staff and a very fine girl. Naturally she has no extra money to meet the large hospital bill for her brother. We therefore have had to help her out by making a grant from the Faculty Special Aid Fund.

Another case is that of a senior member of the administrative staff who had typhoid in May. He preferred to see a Chinese doctor, so he had treatment at home. The medicine and doctor's fees amounted to a little over \$10,000. If he had gone to a hospital, the hospital and medical fees would have been much more than this figure.

Another staff member lost one of his daughters from Meningitis. Both the medical and funeral expenses were high, and beyond his own ability to meet.

The matron at the dormitory had a fall when she was walking through the slippery back yard, straining her shoulder muscles very seriously. X-ray fee and other bills have also been met by this fund.

September 1, 1944

There have been several dental and optical cases which normally are taken care of by the individuals concerned, but now with the extraordinary prices, this fund again helped.

Just before I went away for vacation I met Dr. Ma Wen-huan, formerly of the University of Nanking, and recently has been professor at a government university in Kiangsi Province. He had just come out from there and was now working in Chungking. He told me how Miss Du Lung-yuan of the class of 1931 is doing a very important piece of work in that province. She is managing quite a large factory for the wives of the soldiers, and helping these women not only financially but also in the production of cloth from local cotton.

She had an interesting story, even before she went into this factory work. She was a graduate from our P.E. Department and was on the staff of Miss Chang Hweilan in the Tientsin Women's Normal College. After the war broke out in 1937, she went to her native town in Kiangsi Province and started a school for girls. She raised all the funds and managed the whole thing by her own hard work and strong will. She herself is from a very ordinary family, so has no funds of her own at all. She was then called away from this school by Mrs. Nora Hsiung Chu to help her in the women's work for the province. You may have heard that when the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang started the New Life Movement, it was initiated in Nanchang. Ever since there has been quite an active program for work among women. Mrs. Chu was taking charge of it after the Governor made that work a part of the provincial government set-up. She then had to come to Chungking where her husband was working and so she invited Miss Du to help her for a short time and to take over the whole program. Miss Du did a tremendous piece of work, particularly when her headquarters helped all the branches in the hsien to mobilize women for war work. Thousands of pieces of warm garments and tens of thousands of pairs of Chinese shoes were made and contributed by these women. Then in 1941 there was reorganization of the provincial set-up, and the women's division was greatly reduced. The Reconstruction Commissioner of the province had known of Miss Du's ability and contribution, so invited her to head up and organize this factory for women. This is the one which Dr. Ma told about. If I can secure more details about this factory I shall send them on to you later.

Speaking of our graduates working in the factories, I am reminded of another girl by the name of Djang Yin-feng. When the situation in Hankow became critical, and the Women's Council of the New Life Movement helped skilled women workers to evacuate from Hankow, Miss Djang led a group of women to Chungking. A cotton factory was established in the suburbs of Chungking, and she stayed with the group of women workers. She herself was a graduate from the P. E. Department, and was not a social worker. However, she did a great deal for the women, not only in improving their living conditions, but also in directing their recreational and educational work. Her brother is in the textile business and has started a factory in the northwest, and she has gone up there to help him. Just recently I read of a reference in a magazine article commending the contribution she made in evacuating the women workers and holding them together in Chungking.

In regard to the summer projects, I shall ask Miss Tsu Yu-dji and Mrs. Hsieh Tang Min-sing to write them up and send in to you later.

With best wishes as you start your new year's work in the office,

Sincerely yours,

Yi-fang Wu

Recd 9/11/44

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GINLING LETTER

Probably By Miss Eva Spicer

The summer term of 1944 is completed, another year has been added to the history of Ginling College, and we have been in Chengtu for six years. We seem almost like old inhabitants now, and it takes quite an effort of the mind to remember what it was like to live on our own and not a cooperative campus.

Chengtu and the War.

Chengtu has remained remarkably free from the alarms and excursions of war throughout this term. One could not but feel with the arrival of our friends from overseas, and the manifold preparations for their activities that we might again become the target for air-raids. But during the term we never had more than the preliminary warning, and though just after term ended, there was one night when the urgent warning sounded, nothing happened within sound of Chengtu, and opinion is still divided as to whether it was a false alarm or no. That does not mean that the sound of planes is unfamiliar to us, and sometimes the heavy drone is very like what we used to hear when the enemy came, but now they are not the enemy bombers.

The rather rapid advance of the Japanese in Homan did send many rumours around the town, and refugees came in from Sian and elsewhere, but the critical moment seemed to pass fairly quickly, and Chengtu itself was disturbed by nothing more than talk.

Americans in Chengtu and on the Campus.

The arrival of a fair number of American forces is one of the obvious ways in which the war is affecting Chengtu and the Campus, and is a welcome proof of the reality of the relationships between the United Nations. The Campus is naturally quite a gathering place for them, both those who are fit, and who have come to visit the University Museum or friends, and those who are sick; for the American Hospital has been set up in some of the wards of the New University Hospital, and the nurses are living in one of the Canadian Mission Houses.

But welcome as these men are for what they are doing and what they stand for, the coming of a large number of American soldiers is not without its problems, especially for a Woman's College. The Chinese are naturally desirous of doing what they can to welcome these men to their country, but social habits and traditions are different, and it sometimes seems as though what the Americans would most appreciate has to be denied them.

The Presidents of the Five Universities set up a Committee to try and deal with this problem (the chairman of the Committee was a member of the Ginling Faculty, Miss Ettie Chin, an American-born Chinese). They have helped to arrange a series of lectures on subjects that will help the Americans to appreciate better the land in which they are dwelling for a time, they have collected a corps of guides (men students) who can go out with them for shopping, etc., and have arranged a few joint social occasions; but at the same time, they underlined and re-inforced the decision that already held in the Universities that students were not allowed to dance, not even with the Americans, one might almost say especially not with the Americans. Girl students might take them flowers in the hospital (as some of our students did, a service which was much appreciated), girl students might sing to them, girl students might sometimes go out to help with the Religious Services at the air-fields around Chengtu, but they might not dance with them, and going out alone with them was very definitely frowned upon. There are a few dances in private homes where some of the Chinese women faculty oblige, a bigger dance was given on July 4th, and the Women's International Club has arranged for a good many of the men to be entertained in Chinese homes, but public opinion still feels that tete-a-tetes between Chinese girls and American men, about whom in the nature of the case they can know little and who come from a different social background, had better be avoided as far as possible.

The American men, seeing the many attractive Chinese girls and conscious for the most part only of a desire for friendly intercourse with the opposite sex in their war-ridden world, feel themselves somewhat thwarted and treated unfairly; but

it is not wise to go against deeply rooted social traditions in these matters, and the University authorities had no other course open to them. Individuals of poise and experience can step outside these traditions, but it is safer for the average person to keep within, and quite essential for a Women's College to do so. It is another reminder of the difficulty of international intercourse on a large scale, and another challenge to Christians to try to so spread their standards that men and women everywhere can meet in friendliness and freedom, safe by reason of their inner purity.

Inflation and Morale.

Americans are one lively reminder of the war, another which is always with us is the ever continuing inflation, so that prices by the end of June were 560 times what they were when we first came to Chengtu. There is no denying that this constant rise in prices has an undermining effect on the morale of those who live in the midst of it. Almost everybody becomes increasingly money-conscious, and those who carry heavy responsibilities for others become desperately anxious as to how they are to meet those responsibilities. Students expect pay for work that before they would have naturally done voluntarily, teachers take more than one job in order to feed their families, and administrators spend the greater part of their time wrestling with the financial problems of their institutions. Hardly a meeting of the Executive Committee of even such a comparatively small institution as Ginling goes by without some mention of the endless question of the rice subsidy. One might think that single women with no one but themselves to look after were the best off of all the salaried classes, and if any such existed in China, they would be, but there are very few even among single women who are not responsible for younger brothers or sisters, parents, nieces and nephews, adopted children, etc., so that even in Ginling the problem of family responsibilities in this almost impossible situation is with us.

A community thus weighed down by its sense of economic insecurity will not for the most part be one in which moral and religious enthusiasm is at a high pitch. When Jesus said: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you", he was uttering not an impossible ideal but a sober fact; nevertheless it is not a fact that the majority of Christians - East or West - have taken seriously. So while there are many bright spots here and there, and individuals and groups who can rise above the purely material and realize the truth of these words, one cannot I think honestly report that life on the Campus in general, or in Ginling in particular, has reached as high a level as on some occasions, though it still has much that is honest, conscientious, and steadfast about it.

Dr. Wu's Return.

One event at the beginning of the term which gave Ginling a great lift, and has helped us all through the term was, of course, the return of Dr. Wu at the Beginning of March. Nobly as Dr. Djang, Dr. Liu, Mr. Ming, and Dr. Chester held the fort while she was away, it was not an easy time for people who were acting in another person's place to make decisions, and it was a great pleasure and inspiration to have her come back, and to return to us with new experiences and new strength to help us all. Her clearness of vision, her soundness of judgment, her continuing concern with the things of the mind and spirit, and her devoted sense of responsibility make her a leader that it is very desirable to have with the College in these difficult days.

We did not get word of the actual day and probably hour of her arrival until that very morning, when word came through by telephone that she was coming up by private car from Chungking and would arrive that day. As she arrived a little before she was expected, only a small group was at the gate of the Canadian School (where some Ginling students, and most of the Ginling teachers now live) to greet her, but word spread quickly, and it was not long before a group of girls, complete with banner and firecrackers, came to welcome her. Again that evening she was escorted over to the first dormitory where she made a triumphal procession through the throng of cheering students, had supper with them, and made the first of many speeches. There was another more formal occasion given by the students, informal one by the Faculty, and a record meeting of the Alumnae to welcome her back. In addition

to these family affairs there were, of course, endless invitations to speak on all sorts and conditions of occasions, and always she had something to the point, and something worth while saying.

It meant a great deal to many people to have Dr. Wu back, for she is on many committees of importance, and her judgment and counsel are sought by many, but there is no doubt at all that her return meant most to the Faculty and Students of Ginling College.

Religious Life.

No one person can hope to deal adequately with this topic, as no one person can hope to know it all, but there are perhaps some things worth saying under this heading.

During the Spring Vacation, a conference representing all Five of the Christian Institutions as well as two of the Government Universities was held at Tsung I Chiao in the premises of the Methodist Girls' Middle School. The topic was the New School Spirit (the Chinese words have a deeper and more comprehensive meaning than the English translation). It was an inspiring conference as they faced very frankly many of the moral and spiritual shortcomings on our own and other campuses, and were determined to try and make things better. Since their return they have been true to their purpose, and have founded a movement to establish this new school spirit of which they caught the vision at Tsung I Chiao. They have divided into small groups for regular meetings for prayer and Bible Study (the Ginling students formed one group with the students from the Theological Seminary, and have met faithfully most Sunday mornings at 7 a.m.), and have also had monthly meetings of the whole group. But they have found, as others before them, that it is easier to analyze the situation than to cure it. Individuals and groups have been helped, but they have hardly had the effect on the total life of the Campus for which they had hoped. However, they are still carrying on and may yet find the right way of approach to bring about more wide-spread results.

Believing that the members of the Faculty should do all they could to help this effort to raise the spiritual and moral tone of the campus, we at Ginling discussed a similar topic at our Faculty retreat held soon after Dr. Wu returned. One result was the realization of the necessity of thinking through more thoroughly the relation between our curriculum work and our religious purpose. With this in mind we made use of the weekly Faculty Fellowship meetings to have a series of papers dealing with this main topic - the papers were Social Sciences and Religion by Mrs. George Wu (a member of the Sociology Department), Natural Sciences and Religion by Ruth Chester (head of the Chemistry Department), and Arts and Religion by Miss Sutherland (Head of the Music Department). They were all interesting papers and led to worth-while discussion, though they revealed that not in all cases is our curriculum work very closely geared in with our religious outlook; but at least we are not alone in that, for I suppose many would recognize that departmentalization is one of the curses of modern education.

The normal religious activities of the College life go on as usual. This term the Ginling Religious Fellowship divided all its members into small groups - faculty and students - for more intimate discussion and prayer on religious and other matters. Some of the groups went well, some not so well, but the need for such fellowship is undoubtedly there. Chapel is held every day but Sunday at 7:30 a.m. It is led once every week by Dr. Wu, twice by Faculty or outside speakers, twice by students, and the other day is taken charge of in alternate weeks by the Music Department and the Fellowship groups. At Easter, there were a special series of Chapels led by special speakers. The room in which we have to hold chapel is not ideal, it is the living room of the first dormitory, where some of the faculty eat their meals, and there are many noises above and around, but perhaps the chapel has no less value for that as it serves as a more realistic symbol of the things of the spirit in the midst of the world.

There are several joint activities, such as the Sunday School for the children of the campus, which is run in cooperation with the University of Nanking, and then there are the joint services of worship for all the institutions, which are held on Sunday morning and evening, and are an inspiration by reason of the numbers which attend, the music, the preaching and above all the manifest purpose of worship.

Religious Music.

Religious music is undoubtedly one of the features of campus life. The choir for the morning service ^{was} led this last term by Miss Graves (of Ginling) and is composed mainly of girls from Ginling and boys from the University of Nanking, while the choir for the evening service was led by Miss Ward and is composed mainly of students from West China and Cheeloo. This term the morning choir with the help of special soloists, gave "The Light of Life" by Elgar. One whole service was given up to it, with just a brief talk on the meaning of the man born blind; it was repeated again at a choir festival in the city. The evening choir has given two or three very beautiful devotional services of music, which are among the best attended of all the services of worship.

University Community Church.

These services of worship have now taken what might be called a step forward and this term has seen the inauguration of an University Community Church, which is designed to meet the needs of all sorts of people on and around the campus. The first Chairman of the Board was Dr. P. C. Hsu, whose tragic death in a motor accident during the winter vacation was a great loss to the newly inaugurated church, in whose progress he was deeply concerned, as it was to other longer established Christian causes. Its program is not yet a fully rounded one to meet all the needs, but it has been well-launched, and should mean more and more to the life of the community. A service of Baptism was held shortly after Easter, at which over twenty students were baptised. Relationships with the City Churches have been carefully looked to and are good. Some students naturally prefer to keep in touch with one of the regular city Churches, and at a service of Baptism and Confirmation at the Shen Kung Hwei (Episcopal Church), six Ginling students were baptised or confirmed.

Musical Activities.

Religious music is not the only kind of music which is well liked on the campus, concerts of all sorts are to be heard, and naturally Ginling with its Department of Music (the only full one among the five institutions) does its share. This term Miss Shen Dau-ying of the Music Department gave a Piano Recital, one of the graduating Seniors gave a piano recital, and the students gave their annual recital, which was unusually successful. In addition, after term was over, the Glee Club, under the able conductorship of Mrs. Lucy Yeh, gave a special concert to raise funds for the department. It was a very successful performance, and on the second night, during the latter part of the program, Vice-President Wallace came in to hear them. He had previously been dining as the guest of the Presidents of the Higher Institutions of Learning in Chengtu, and Dr. Wu brought him to hear the concert. He joined the Glee Club afterwards in their light refreshments, and even made a brief speech, in which they were greatly honoured, for not many of the students on the campus had a chance to hear him speak. His remarks showed where his heart lies, for he commented on how cool they looked in their white dresses, and how that made him think of the Chinese farmers sweating in the fields, putting in much more physical effort than the American farmer for the same return. But he was glad he said to learn from Dr. Wu's speech of that evening, that they also were trying to lay stress on practical things.

Social Service Activities of Ginling.

There are indeed many and varied kinds of social service activities going on. The Rural work has been reported elsewhere by those more intimately connected with it, but everybody who goes there is impressed with the spirit of the workers, and the way in which they are making use in their equipment of all the local products in such a way that their set up could easily be reproduced in other places. But in addition to the Rural work there is the Social centre just near the campus, where many activities go on including a Nursery School for the street children. Nursery Schools are very much the order of the day just now, and Ginling is responsible for three, two in Chengtu and one in the country. That they mean a great deal to the children no one can deny, it is only to be hoped that true principles of education which are followed out there will be carried on into the Primary Schools, which do not always have the same careful supervision and skilled technique.

Other Activities.

The manifold activities of a Campus, on which there are four institutions and another one quite near, are too many to deal with adequately, and indeed no one persons knows them all, for every department has its own clubs, and often more than one, and then there are other groups of all sorts and descriptions. Sometimes they meet to further their knowledge of their own subject such as Chemistry, sometimes they meet to discuss the topics of the day as when the Political Science Club, the Chinese Club of the University of Nanking and the History Clubs of Nanking and Ginling met to discuss the new constitution (a subject which has been discussed a good deal during the past few months), sometimes they meet to camp and enjoy out-of-door activities, sometimes for religious purposes and sometimes for purely social. But there is a great deal of group life going on, and in all of these activities, Ginling students play their part.

One activity which is distinctive of Ginling is that of the Physical Education Department. This term, under the immediate direction of Miss Peggy Lin, but with the help of the whole department, the students gave a dance recital around the theme of spring. It was not a drama with a consecutive story, but all the dances were related to the general theme of the coming of spring, and it was very effective. In harmony with the principles of the department, not only the good dancers appeared, but all who were taking dancing that term took part, so that it really was an all-college show, and not just a few star performers. The smaller children to whom Miss Lin has been giving rhythm classes also took part, and were most fetching as butterflies and rabbits. Little money could be spared for costumes, but by dint of borrowing and clever management, very effective results were achieved at a very low cost. The classes competed in a series of national dances, and the Seniors looked very effective in their French minuet, with lace table mats acting as lace cravats for the men. In speaking of costumes it seems only right to mention the presence of our Indian student, Miss Mannon, (the daughter of the Indian Agent in Chungking, who has in all ways proved herself a very acceptable and adjustable member of the community) her saris have been most useful for all sorts of costumes, and she has been most generous in lending these really lovely stuffs, on the day of the Dance Drama she had something over 30 saris on loan.

Famous Visitors.

We are in many ways rather cut off from the outside world as it is difficult to get magazines or newspapers from abroad, but we do have a certain number of famous visitors, for once they are at Chungking, a trip to Chengtu is very natural. The most famous of the guests this term was Vice-President Wallace, though to be accurate he did not arrive until after term was over, and he did come to the campus, he was entertained by the Presidents, and has already been said, came to the Ginling Glee Club Concert. Another visitor, as famous perhaps in his own way, was Dr. Lin Yu-tan, known as an author in two languages, and welcome as a visitor whose impressions

of two countries at war was vivid and interesting. The British Council continues to send exchange professors, and this time it was Professor Ramwick, of the English Literature Department at Durham University. Under protest, he gave two public lectures, but his greater contribution and his own preference was in the teaching of actual classes, where he felt more at home and at his ease; both the English and the History Departments benefited from his instructions. Another visitor from the academic world was Dr. George Cressy of Syracuse University (Geography Department), no stranger to China as he had taught previously at the University of Shanghai. He came also from the State Department, and in his lectures made us even more aware of the many problems which face China and the Pacific area both during and after the war. Another visitor who was but returning to his first love, was Dr. Lennig Sweet who came on business connected with the United China Relief, and gave us a very clear picture of the organization in America, which is seeking to eliminate over-lapping in financial campaigns, but in doing so, must limit the individual initiative and freedom of each separate group. Other visitors of longer standing are still to be seen from time on the campus such as Professor Dykstra, the Potato expert, in addition to well-known figures who live in other parts of China - Rewi Alley of the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, Bishop Hall of HongKong and Yunnan, and Bishop Gilman of Hankow, to mention just a few.

Gifts.

We are kept in touch with the outside world in other ways than by visitors. Chengtu is one of the centres for the use of Microfilms, there are at least three projectors on the campus, and more and more material is coming through in this form. Books also come through at times. A gift of books from friends connected with Liverpool University, having arrived as far as Calcutta two years ago, are now being brought in through the kindness of the British Council, and they are getting in other books in as well, especially books connected with Science, as Dr. Needham's office in Chungking is working especially along those lines. Vice-President Wallace left behind him gifts of books, micro-films and films; and so it goes - we are not exactly gorged on new literature, but there is a life-giving trickle.

Baccalaureate and Commencement.

And so with all this activity in the foreground, and steady academic work going on in the background, the end of term with its farewell parties and final examinations finally arrived. It is always something of a puzzle how any student manages to get any work done at the end of term with all the many farewell parties that there are, even though the Administration does its best to limit the number. However, all students do some work, and some students do quite a lot, and 29 Seniors were duly graduated from Ginling at the end of the summer term. There were eight graduated in the Winter, so that the total number for 1944 is 37. There were three in the Special Physical Education course.

The Joint Baccalaureate and Commencement Exercises are always impressive occasions with the Five Presidents dignified in their robes, the long procession of white-clad graduates - men and women, the crowded room, the platform banked with palms and flowers, the gay colours of the banners, and the sense of how much solid work and real effort lies behind this climax of four years' work.

The speaker at the Baccalaureate was Chaplain Romayne of the American Air Force (and Texas). He won the attention of his audience from the first by the humour of his opening story, but the heart of what he had to say was far from humorous for he dealt with the subject of Judgement, not the judgement of the Last Day after death, but the judgement that life passes on men and on the way they live. He underlined the judgement which the present condition of the world has passed on men and the essential selfishness of their lives, whether it be of individuals or of groups; and he challenged the graduating seniors to live in such a spirit of self-sacrificial giving that they need not fear the judgement of life, but may live without fear.

It was a timely message, spoken in dead earnest by a man who has seen the horrors of war, but also the nobility of human nature under testing conditions, and overwhelming terrors.

The speaker at Commencement was Mr. Wang Yun-Wu,* one of the P.P.C. Mission to England. Short, grey-haired, and cheery of face he spoke with vigour and conviction about the war effort in England, and backed up his statements by manifold statistics quoted without reference to a single note. England, for obvious reasons, is not perhaps the best beloved of the allies, but he was listened to with interest and attentions, and at the end, after he had made some quite trenchant comparisons between the English and the Chinese efforts as regards method and spirit, he was greeted with real applause as he sat down. One realized then, as one has realized on other occasions, that it is the lack of opportunity and of organization to make use of their abilities, not lack of will, which keeps the students of China from playing a greater part in their national war effort than they actually do.

And so with these ringing challenges in their ears, the Students of 1944 went out to a China which has never more sorely needed men and women of unselfish spirit and trained ability. Let us pray that they will be able to live up to the great opportunity and challenge that lies before them.

*Mr. Wang is the General Manager of the Commercial Press and a member of P.P.C. There was another Mr. Wang in the Mission, who is Wang Shih-chih, the leader of the Mission and on the Presidium of P.P.C. (Note by Y.F.W.)

*This was not signed, but I think it was written by
Miss Eva Spicer.*

C.S.W.

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September 2, 1944

Dear Mrs. Mills:

Some time ago, I received the following notice from Mr. Henry Chambers, accountant of the China Defense Supplies:

"We have received from Pan American Airways in your name a refund of C.N.A.C. Exchange Order No. 0885 in the amount of \$585.00. We are mailing a check made payable to Ginling College for the above amount to Mrs. W. P. Mills, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y., to be deposited to your account."

Before I left Washington, I knew that this might be refunded from the Travel Expense our group of professors paid to the C.N.A.C. in Chungking. It was decided then that if and when this refund came, our group would just receive it as a gift from the government.

I have not received your word about the receipt of such a check from the C.D.S. When it comes, will you please give it to Mrs. New. I am writing her about it also.

When I was at the hills with Miss Van Kirk, I found that she had just received Fosdick's "On Being A Real Person", which was mailed from Boston as ordinary first-class matter. While she could not tell exactly how long it took to come, evidently it must have been mailed some time this year. Another thing we have noticed is that letters with 5-cent postage have come in, which took 6 to 10 weeks only on the way. Evidently, then, ordinary first-class mail has been started. Will you please make inquiries about it. Our offices are in desperate need of carbon paper and stencils. I wonder if such things could not be sent by ordinary first-class mail. In regard to books, will you please ask Mrs. New to select one or two good recent books on personnel guidance, and send them through your office. As for other types of books, I shall have to ask the faculty before we can send you a list. However, I know of one definite need, and I would appreciate it if you could send my message to Miss Edith Haight. That is, recent books on modern dancing (Introduction to Modern Dancing; Technique of Modern Dancing) and other materials in rhythmic work for high schools and colleges. Our department is the only one in China that has given training in this line and we should prepare teaching material in this subject for our own graduates and other P. E. workers to use. Miss Peggy Lin, especially qualified because of her special training in Shanghai and her own interest, would use this, and also Miss Lo Hwei-ling, who is back on our staff this year. She was Edith Haight's student. Both of these girls can do translation work, if we have the books.

You asked about Ettie Chin's plans. She left Chengtu about the middle of July, and I have heard that she is now in India, waiting for passage. No one can tell how long it will take before she can sail. I have told her to keep Smith informed as to whether she can reach there in time for the second term. I am asking Miss Sutherland to send another letter reminding her.

A letter has just come from Florence from Kunming, so she is one step nearer, even though the last step between Chungking and Chengtu is a very difficult one. The buses are in such poor condition that the $1\frac{1}{2}$ -day journey may take 2,3,4, 5,6,7,8, days! The most reliable way is the mail truck and there is always a long waiting line. Because of the lack of gasoline, there is no regular air service between Chengtu and the capital; and only for special reasons, occasional planes may be arranged. The P.P.C. members are privileged to ask for such a plane.

Yi-fang Wu

Sent to - Bd. of Founders (Miss Shank Graham)
GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA *"Zomblison"*
Miss Thurston

[7]

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FACULTY, ALUMNAE, AND
UNDERGRADUATES OF
SMITH COLLEGE

September 13, 1944

To the Members of the
Board of Founders of Ginling College

Dear Friends:

The enclosed letter from Miss Stella Marie Graves gives her own account of her trip home and of her joy in being in America once more. Since this letter was written, she has changed her plans somewhat and will spend most of September at the M.R.A. Conference being held at Mackinac Island. She expects to come to New York about the end of September. Mail for her should be addressed to this office until further notice.

Miss Florence Kirk, Head of the English Department, reached Bombay about the end of July, after a rather long delay in South Africa. We have not had any further word from her but hope that she was able to get to Chengtu in time for the opening of College on September 8th.

Miss Evelyn Walmsley, who sailed from Philadelphia the end of April, was delayed in Lisbon until late in July. We have just had a letter from her, dated July 23rd, written en route to South Africa. Miss Walmsley is a newly appointed member of the English Department.

A recent letter from Dr. Wu says that Miss Ettie Chin, Acting Head of the Physical Education Department, left Chengtu on July 18th on her way to America. We have had no word from Miss Chin, but hope that she will arrive soon.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

Enclosure: Letter from Miss Graves (Aug. 7, 1944)

Care of Miss Mina Courtright [12]
306 West Shaw Street
Charlotte, Mich; U.S.A.
August 7th, 1944

Dear Ginling Friends,

As you see by this, I have actually reached my own little home town in the U.S.A., much earlier than I had expected. And it is good to get home, and am I enjoying seeing my old home friends, and eating American food again. Already I'm feeling so much better, having gained eight pounds in weight since one time this spring, that I'm almost afraid when the College Board people see me they may think I have already had my furlough and want to send me straight back to China! - - I arrived in Miami, Florida, the 24th of July; and now I want to tell you the story of my trip.

My dear friend, Louise Hammond, who lived in Chungking, this spring became seriously ill. It was cancer that had come back the fourth time. She had radium treatment in Chungking and that was too severe and left her with a deep radium burn which became deeply infected. After she flew to Kunming early in June, she added malaria to her troubles. Of course my furlough was due, and so her mission people and her doctors felt she needed a friend to go with her, and they did their best to arrange for us both to go by hospital plane all the way from Kunming to America. This was at last granted by General Stillwell, and I was very happy that I could go with her. This was of course a very special case and took much time to arrange. I left Chengtu the morning after Commencement, - and how I did have to rush to get things ready, reports and grades in, courses turned over to my colleagues. I went by postal truck to Chungking first, starting the 27th of June. There I stayed chiefly with a very dear Chinese friend of mine, Mrs. Chu Hwang Wen-yu. She was just recently married last February to Mr. Ren-sen Chu, or in Chinese word order, Mr. Chu Ren-sen, assistant-general manager of the Farmer's Bank of China -- one of the five or six big banks of China. She was my principal when I was teaching in Wen Shan Girls School in Foochow, when I first went to China in 1930. Although they lived ten miles outside of the city of Chungking, they gave me the use of their car for more than two days to help me get my military permit to leave China, money changed, British visa and such things done. He went with me part of the time, she all of the time. And then she spent the last two days I had in Chungking with me (two nights and a day) and borrowed a friend's car to take us down to the airfield at six in the morning of July sixth. I had five delightful days of rest in her home. Before I left her home, her husband, fearing I might not have enough money (Kunming has the highest prices of all Free China and one never knows how long one may need to wait for planes) gave me a letter to his bank in Kunming, asking the Bank there to give me at once without question the \$10,000.00 Chinese National Currency which the College had given me for travel as far as India (about equal to \$100.00 U.S.) and then asked the Bank to give me any amount above that which I might need and charge to his bank account! Happily I did not begin to need this amount of money, and returned much of it to the College, but this is a good illustration of the generosity of our Chinese friends.

In Kunming I found Louise Hammond in the fine Mission Hospital. I myself stayed with the Allens. He is treasurer of the American Episcopal Church Mission. I forgot to say that just as I was about to leave the airfield at six in the morning the letter of permission to fly to America for Louise and myself was put in my hands. The trip to Kunming took about three hours. In Kunming we had a six-day wait for the right weather and plane to fly over the "Hump". July 12th we took off in the afternoon, another pleasant three-hour trip. We flew over the lowest section of the Himalays, because, though we had excellent weather, we could see only a very little snow on a few ridges and only in one direction. I have seen more snow in mid-summer from Chengtu on the Snow Mountains. We landed at Chaboa, in Assam, and from here on stayed always in Army hospitals; - we paid nothing for our travel, only a paltry fifty or seventy cents for meals that were excellent. After two nights in Assam, we flew a nine-hour trip, refuelling only at Agra, and circling round and round to see the

August 7, 1944

lovely Taj Mahal, on to New Delhi. It was something to see that lovely building from the air, though I longed to see it from the ground. In New Delhi I had about an hour for a little shopping. The next morning we went on to Karachi, a four-hour flight. Except in Assam, all India seemed very dry as we watched it from the air. Karachi on the west coast is surrounded by desert. At Karachi we had our last long wait from the 15th to the 21st. At nine that night we took off, across the Arabian Sea, Arabia, stopping to refuel at a little island of Massara in the Red Sea, and then on to Khartoum in Egypt, where we stopped again for refuelling. This is the place of the junction of the Blue and the White Nile. Then on we went to Accra on the Gold Coast of Africa, - a total of 27 hours actual flying. We had less than three hours rest at the two previous stops. At Accra, after six hours of rest, where we had to eat both supper and breakfast, we were off again before 6:00 a.m. and flew across the South Atlantic, not even stopping at Ascension Island, but went straight to Natal, Brazil. It was then 8:30 p.m. (6:30 their time. While flying our days were twenty-six hours long). We hoped to spend the night there, but no, after another short stop, about two hours, on we went to Georgetown in British Guiana. Then after an hour's rest we took off for the last time and landed at 12:30 noon, on Monday the 24th, in Miami, Florida! - an additional 26 hours of flying. Just as we reached Florida we had to fly through a thundershower, the roughest part of our trip. As I figure, it took 72 hours of flying from Chungking to Miami.

We were one weary crowd, but oh, so happy and grateful to reach American soil safely again. The plane had been too noisy to talk much; it was the biggest of the Air Transport Command, four-engined. Three were litter patients, all the rest of the twenty-six patients were able to walk; all were men save one nurse. Of course there was a Flight Nurse in each plane and one or two others in charge, besides the two pilots. There were only five stretchers, some slept on the floor. The litters were on the floor, but some sat up, I suppose, all of the way. The seats were aluminum with blankets for cushions, - a transport plane used as a hospital plane that time. So you see it was exciting and very strenuous. I marvel that Louise survived the trip. At Miami she was taken to the Jackson Memorial Hospital. Miss Baker helped us no end. I shopped most of the next day, and about five in the afternoon found that the Head Doctor had gotten parlor car arrangements for us the next day at eleven, to my amazement. Again another rush to get ready, and off we went to Chicago. On Friday morning her brother and an ambulance met our train. She had stood the trip marvelously until Friday morning, save for two bouts with malaria, one in Kunming, the second in Karachi. But that morning she was out of her head, and afterwards, on Monday, said she could remember nothing after that morning. But in Chicago, of course, Louise was taken to a hospital, the Passavant, I think it is named. It is just across the street from another big hospital, the Wesley, I think. Since Monday she seemed much better, asked to see both her brother and me, but she is not yet as well as when she started. She is a very sick woman.

I stayed with her famous brother's family in their lovely home on North State Street from Friday until Tuesday. (He is the inventor of the Hammond Electric Organ, and now of things for the Government.) On Saturday afternoon I went off for over Sunday with my childhood friend, Lena Sackett Birkett in Oak Park, but returned to the Hammonds' home on Monday night. Mr. and Mrs. Hammond were most gracious to me; she helped me shop one day, and the last night I was in their home they took me and one of their two charming daughters to the Ambassador Hotel for dinner, where we had a regular Thanksgiving feast, turkey and everything, in the famous Pump Room.

On Tuesday morning I came on to Charlotte to be with Mina Courtright, and to see my old friends again. It surely is wonderful to be at home once more. I plan to stay here till about August 25th and then expect to go on to see friends between here and New York. I expect to arrive in New York City about September 4th or 5th. There I will decide what I should do, and where I will live. So still my New York

From Miss Graves

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August 7, 1944

address is care of the Ginling College Office, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City. In the meantime I'm having one grand vacation enjoying my friends, and American food to the fullest.

Stella Marie

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Mr. Corbett
Ginling College, Chengtu, China
September 25, 1944

Dear Friend:

The past six and a half months since I left Philadelphia have been quite exciting, filled with events which resemble a luxury cruise rather than the hardships of wartime travel. The fifteen thousand miles or more which separate Philadelphia and Chengtu were a real education, for until I came to Chungking, two hundred miles from Chengtu, I did not touch at a single place I had ever seen before. Until I reached India, I did not come across - on boats, or in cities where I waited - any other person going to China, though I frequently heard of a group of thirty missionaries ahead of me, and of others following with all the speed possible in these days when governments put civilian needs second to the war effort. In India it was something of a shock to discover large numbers of China missionaries just evacuated from their stations because of the threat to their safety when the Japanese armies occupied more and more territory, stations scattered from north to south, in Honan, Shensi, Kwantung, Fukien and Kweichow. The general question was, "And are you going in now?" That I was going to "Free China" was sufficient answer. Even so, there were few women coming in this direction. In Kunming an Air-force man said, "Do you mean to tell me that you have just come in by plane from India?" When I said, "Yes", he said, "Why, then, can't my wife get passage?" When I flew the seven hours from Calcutta to Kunming, I was the only woman passenger on the two planes.

It has not been reassuring to visit Portugal, South Africa, and India, for these countries have a multitude of problems that would be difficult of solution even in peace time. It was a shock to learn, for instance, that there is seventy per cent illiteracy in Portugal, and a visitor in other countries is conscious often of the divisions rather than of the unity of feeling. I felt very ignorant of these parts of the world, and was grateful for the necessity of staying for weeks in Durban, for instance; this gave me an opportunity of observation at least, and made me interested in the whole situation there.

In India and China the Allied war effort is very much in evidence. The main street of Calcutta, Chowringhee, seems dominated by crowds of Americans in uniform, in jeeps, in trucks, in rickshas, and on foot. There are British soldiers also, especially from England and Australia. The traffic of this street, with its trams, buses, ox-carts, bicycles, rickshas, cars, and horse-carriages that make one think of the 1880's, is complicated by the army trucks and jeeps, and of course by the occasional cows who mildly chew their cud and switch their tails at the busiest of intersections, always unchallenged. Men in uniform were everywhere, both in the cities and on trains, and in camps scattered across the country. One Anglo-Indian girl on the train told me, "In our school we find it very difficult to get food supplies; the American Army buys it all up in large quantities." Similarly in China. The small Chinese children hold up their thumbs, saying "ding-hao", one phrase the American soldier uses, and which now has almost come to symbolize an American.

I was lucky to have such comfortable modes of travel. I had passage on three occasions on regular passenger boats, and had not to adjust to the strict regulations governing travel on transports and troopships. In India I found train travel most interesting, and then came in to China by plane. The last part of the journey took eight days by truck, which you must do yourself to appreciate! I felt rested when I arrived, quite ready to get to work again after being away from teaching for three years.

Portugal: I may tend to romanticize Portugal, for I remember it with some of the joy I had when I first saw Lisbon. We had had a rather unpleasant Atlantic crossing, and were eager to set foot on land; it had been an aggravation to have to see what we

could of the Azores from the ship's deck. We came up the river into Lisbon on a sunny day in early March. There followed weary hours in the Customs House over luggage, but finally about six o'clock we issued forth. A glorious sunset was casting its aura over the city, over the seven hills covered with the multicolored stucco houses. We drove along in a miniature car through the center of the city with its wide-paved streets where trees were partially leafed out, and here and there wisteria hung over walls, and flower-girls offered carnations, tulips, sweet-peas and roses for sale. It seemed a fairy-land of vivid color, The breath of spring was in the air. When we were told that we should have to wait two or three months before we could get a ship onwards, we thought, "Well, it will be a pleasure to have the time to wander about these streets, and observe a country we have never seen before."

I and a party of eight others were housed with a private citizen for the hotels were overcrowded. Our host spoke English, and took a conscientious interest in trying to make us like Lisbon and Portugal. He ate with us at meals, and these were very pleasant occasions: we felt starved continually, and looked forward to the delicious meals he served us, supplementing the generous meals with such things as chocolate, figs, walnuts and oranges, kept in our rooms! At table, he answered our innumerable questions about the city, Portuguese customs, their food, their festivals. He took us to the travel companies, to the bank and post office, and taught us a few words of Portuguese so we could find our way downtown. He said, "Make a list of the things you would like to do while you are here; we shall arrange times when we shall go as a group." He took us to the Castle of St. George, dating from the twelfth century when the Templars were fighting the Moors, and later through the Moorish quarters; now the slums of Lisbon. We came in a few days to feel at ease in going shopping, but never could do the acrobatic feats of the Portuguese who made flying leaps on speedily-moving trams. Our rooms were very chilly, though we had kerosene stoves which we lit morning and evening for a while. Outside, however, the streets were warm, for every day the sun shone, and the skies were a deep blue, untouched by clouds. Our elaborate plans for sightseeing were cut short for two of us, for we got passage south twelve days after arriving in Lisbon. However, we had gotten a "feel" for the city, and had seen a modern market, a fourteenth-century cathedral, the interesting Coach-house with its gilt coaches on display, a beautiful park, and something of the shops with their quantities of elastic, enamelware, alarm clocks and watches, - all of which were scarce in America. Some day I want to go back to Lisbon.

Lisbon to Lourence Marques: We had a leisurely trip on a Portuguese boat around Africa, traveling at the rate of about eight knots, with considerable waits in certain ports. When we came to the Madeiras, only Portuguese people were allowed off, so the merchants brought us the contents of their shops, and we could imagine our deck had become a bazaar, for hung on lines the entire length of the deck, and on both sides, were gorgeous madeira cloths for sale. In general, we were allowed on shore at Portuguese ports, and otherwise had to be content to see fellow-passengers go off. There were very strict restrictions on disembarking at ports not expressly stated in the contract with the powers which allowed a neutral boat to travel in wartime; one of our friends had work in the Gold Coast region, and it was agonizing to him to see our boat go quite close to land, and yet he could not disembark. Instead, he had to go to the next port of call, from which point it would take him a couple of weeks to work back to his home. He said, "If only they would let me jump overboard and swim ashore!"

For weeks - we were six weeks on this part of the trip - the seas were like glass. It was seldom we saw any sign of other vessels, and one night when a freighter passed near us, all dark, it gave us a feeling of insecurity! We traveled with all lights on, as in peace time. The lazy days passed quickly enough, for we spent hours looking over the rail, sometimes rewarded by the sight of schools of flying fish, porpoises, and nearer the Cape, the albatross, jelly-fish, and phosphores-

cent water at night. As we went south of the equator, we found our skies very different too. By this time, we had become more accustomed to Portuguese food, and felt very much at home. We had the usual deck-games and contests, and spent many a sunset hour on the upperdeck. I shall not soon forget watching the Negroes load coal at various ports, and their wild weird songs as they passed baskets of coal from one pair of hands to another. At one Portuguese port we visited a primary school of Negro children; their bright eager ways made them very attractive. Our day at Cape Town was delightful: we had time to go up Table Mountain, and see the panorama of the city in its sheltered location, and the mountainous regions beyond, but the "table cloth" which sometimes covers the mountain top was not visible.

Our one storm in those weeks was near the Cape, a storm severe enough to make our boat put back into port. Then we sailed northwards, wishing we might get off when we saw the row of lights which meant Durban. It was pleasant to have a few days in Lourenco Marques, where we disembarked from our ship, and saw a new Portugal, its open squares and monuments proclaiming its ties with the motherland.

South Africa: Since few boats were then calling at Lourenco Marques, we were advised to go south into the Union. By this time it was early May, and winter had just set in, announced by a fall of snow and a sudden drop in temperature, which made everyone shiver. We had a weekend at the home of a Boer family in Pretoria, and two days at Johannesburg, on our way to Durban. We liked the Cape Dutch-style of architecture, and were intrigued by the circular buildings, modeled on the kraal village architecture. The zoo at Pretoria, with its wild animals in grounds approximating their natural habitat, and the diamond-cutting factory in Johannesburg were most interesting. War-time conditions made it impossible for us to go down into the famous mines in that area. I was disappointed that I could not see my cousin who lives at Springs; that very weekend her small daughter had contracted scarlet fever - it later turned out to be measles.

Durban was involved in its "winter season" with all hotels full of visitors from other parts of the country. The climate was most enjoyable, sunny days on which the girls wore cotton dresses and woolen jackets. Swimming and sun-bathing were popular. A lottery on a big scale had been permitted in order to raise funds for soldiers' families or something of that nature, and there was much talk of the Carnival Queens. My favorite was Nellie, the elephant, representing Public Works and Gardens.

We found a room - the "we" being Mrs. Zwemer, bound for India, and I - at the Y.W.C.A., one overlooking the Bay. We were under strict orders not to discuss shipping, or the movements of boats, but there was no law regarding the use of our eyes. We had a real pleasure in watching the varied craft which came and went before our eyes. Often we would say, "I wonder if our boat is in the harbor." Our travel agent asked us to call in at his office every day, and so we lived from day to day, never knowing when we might get away. We became accustomed to the atmosphere of uncertainty, and enjoyed our six weeks there very much. We "did the sights", including the parks, the "Snake Farm", and the Valley of a Thousand Hills a little distance from Durban, went to movies, and all the Symphony Concerts which we prided ourselves on hearing for a shilling a concert! We tried to make ourselves useful by helping at the Y.M.C.A. Canteen for service men: my job was to cut up fruit salad - bananas, oranges, pineapple, paw paws, and an occasional lemon for flavoring. It was not inspiring work, but we enjoyed meeting the women who came to work. I found interesting books at the Public Library and did a good deal of reading.

After the long wait our sailing orders came suddenly. On a Monday night I heard that we could go on Wednesday, - if I could arrange to get my yellow fever inoculation on the Tuesday. Well, Tuesday was a hectic day; the Army cooperated and got enough men together for the inoculation to enable them to open the serum.

India: Three weeks on a British passenger boat landed us in India. I was there more than a month, seeing on my way to Calcutta the famous Taj Mahal, and the new and old cities at Delhi. I was impressed with the multitudinous attitudes and beliefs of India, and felt it would take me a very long time to come to anything like an understanding of it and its problems. I had the privilege of meeting Dr. Ambedkar, the leader of the outcasts, and of hearing him discuss some of the problems of his country and of China. We were told that this was the "cool" season, but "cool" seemed scarcely adequate to describe the damp heat which marked the whole month I was there. In Calcutta I had dengue fever, which delayed my trip into China.

There was a good deal of fussy business to be done in Calcutta about customs and censorship, and packing the amount of luggage I was to be allowed to take on the plane. "What is most important?" I asked myself, knowing that if I decided on this, I should have to leave that behind. I discarded all suitcases and containers, and packed my possessions in blue cotton bags: thread I took off of spools, typewriter ribbons off of the metal holders, realizing that every thing I could get in was of great value in China where inflation is so serious. It was on a hot Sunday afternoon that I went to the plane office to get "weighed in", looking with my various layers of clothes more fitted to start on a polar expedition than to go on a plane trip into China. One of the officials said to me, "I wish you'd take off your coat: we're afraid you and the others are going to die of heat stroke!" We were, indeed, a bulky, hot-faced group of passengers. Then we went home, to come back in the early morning.

The trip over the "Hump" was without incident. We were seven or eight hours on the way, smooth flying that day. I was disappointed that the Himalayas were not visible; instead, jungle areas below us, indescribably beautiful cloud formations, and as we neared Kunming mountains spread out below us that surpassed in beauty the Valley of a Thousand Hills near Durban. There was oxygen available, but no one asked for it.

China: Kunming, with its sunny invigorating weather - it is six or eight thousand feet high there - quite won my heart. I had my reinitiation into China there, getting acquainted once more with some aspects of Chinese life I had forgotten. The prices appalled me: I had had to pay one hundred and fifty dollars for each of two rickshas from the plane office to the China Inland Mission compound - in pre-war days we would have paid, I suppose, thirty cents. I was amazed at the variety and quality of articles for sale, many of them of foreign manufacture. It was said that one could get anything if one would pay the price!

A Chinese girl who used to teach at Ginling, Alice Chang, is now doing library work with the Air Force unit in that region. Twice I went out to visit her. The approved method of getting transportation was to stand on the sidewalk of a main street, and hail the first jeep or truck that came along!

I had hoped to arrange to go to Chengtu by plane, but that seemed so indefinite that I got permission to travel by British Military Mission Truck. Thus I had six days' travel on that section of the famed Burma Road. The trip could not by any stretch of the imagination be called luxurious. Most of the passengers, taken on as a courtesy, sat in the back of the trucks, and were jostled by pieces of luggage which worked loose and prodded them uncomfortably. The four women in the company were accorded preferential treatment, and we sat with the drivers in front. The roads were terribly bumpy, even from the cab; we saw American truck drivers wearing very wide, tightly buckled belts, and learned that six months of jostling on these roads resulted in all sorts of internal disorders because organs were displaced - the belts were to "hold them together". I was surprised to see so many trucks on the road, but it was soon evident that about fifty per cent of them spent a good deal of the day drawn up alongside the road being repaired! There were spectacular hairpin curves, one con-

sisting of seventy-two curves in rapid succession, in traversing which we descended five thousand feet in about half an hour. We had trouble with engines and tires, and one day we formed part of a line of fifty trucks drawn up on a long hill, waiting for three cars stuck in the mud to be extricated. We spent the nights in Mission compounds, or Chinese inns where fleas sometimes gave us a bad time. I wonder if you've tried sleeping on planks - well, with one quilt as a mattress! I did this for three nights in succession, and then could tell a good deal more about the bony part of my anatomy. But it was fun: we enjoyed the clear weather - the rain was not so much fun - the ever-changing scene which made me think that sleeping as we drove was a waste of time, the stops at inns to get tea, or Chinese food, the pleasure of stretching our limbs while the mechanic did some repairs, the feeling that we were all on a grand holiday. Our driver seemed to court disaster at every difficult turn by choosing that moment to light a cigarette, fuss with the car door or hang up his jacket, and yet we had no accident.

It was harvest time: we saw the rice being cut, threshed by being beaten against the sides of a box in the field, sunned in open courtyards, and then the field being plowed by the stolid water buffalo in preparation for another sowing. We saw red peppers, cobs and shelled corn being dried, and cabbage leaves hung on lines for the salted pickle. Here the soil was rust-red, and there it was the color of chocolate. Evergreens grew near bamboos and the false banyans; morning-glories and roses still bloomed, but asters and golden-rod reminded us that fall was near.

Now I am back on the West China campus, busy with classes again. I feel in some ways a very great stranger, for I have been away three years, and many changes have taken place in this time in China. Ivory Soap sells for \$2,000 and a bicycle bought nine years ago for \$120 now will bring \$150,000. I still find it almost impossible to believe such things, but a wooden pen handle costs fifty dollars - as I found out the other day when I went to buy one.

With all good wishes to you,

Sincerely,

Florence Kirk

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Mr. Connel
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China
October 17, 1944

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills
Ginling College Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Mills:

It seems such a long time since I wrote to you last, and it happens that during this interval I have not heard from you, either. I am sure that when you returned from your vacation in August you must have plunged right away into busy work for the fall season. In August I managed to send you a short letter reporting a few cases in which the Faculty Special Aid Funds had helped to meet real needs. I hope that letter has reached you promptly so that you may have something to send to Miss Tomlinson.

While I am on this point of Faculty Special Aid, I wish to express again the advantages and disadvantages of having the Smith Clubs give contributions to this fund. On the one hand, it answers needs which are not taken care of by the medical grant from the U.C.R. - for instance, dental work, oculists' bills, and medical bills of members of the family not taken care of in the regular way. This is because the joint medical grant takes care of only children of the faculty and not mothers or sisters. When we are only a small group and know the individuals very well, we do know who is bearing the full financial responsibility toward such relatives. Furthermore, I understand fully how the appeal for specific needs receives much more prompt response than for unspecified general current budget. However, the disadvantage, on the other hand, is that on the general budget for 1944-45 there is still a big shortage. So we would like to be able to use all the contributions for general purposes. May I suggest, then, that if possible they would not make it strictly definite that every dollar, over and above the pledged amount of \$5,500, is to be given to this Faculty Special Aid Fund? If there is this understanding with Miss Tomlinson's committee, then we would feel free to use part of this gift for Faculty Aid, and part toward the general budget, if necessary.

I must tell you something about the fall term. The new term started on schedule, with registration on September 8 and 9, and classes starting on the 11th. The "Freshman Week" program was given before the registration. One difficult condition all the colleges have to face is the increasing difficulty of transportation. It is absolutely impossible to expect every student to arrive on time. Actually, there were even a few old students returning to College during last week, though the Registrar's office had sent out notices asking them not to try to come any more during this term. The total registration is now 312. It is a little higher than we expected, because we had hoped to limit the enrollment to 300. But practically all the old students returned, although, in former years, there have always been some who did not come back.

Florence Kirk arrived in College on September 17th. I don't need to tell you how happy we all were to see her back. Actually, her return means a great deal to the English majors in the five universities, for now that Dr. Penn is not teaching, Mrs. Kennard, from West China University, is on furlough, and Miss Boynton, of Yenching, will return to America in January, it means that Miss Kirk, Miss Lamberton and Mr. Yeh of Nanking, will be the only ones left to give the advanced courses for the English Majors. Miss Walmsley cabled from South Africa that she hoped to reach India in October. We have not yet heard of her arrival there, but we hope very much that she may not be delayed too long during this part of the journey. I hope also that Miss Wu Mao-i will be able to make the journey in less time than Miss Kirk and Miss Walmsley. As you know, Dr. Chester is due to have her furlough next summer, and we certainly do wish to have Mao-i on the campus before Ruth has to leave. The P.E. work is being carried on as well as we can expect. Mrs. Chen En-tsi is the Acting Head, but she has to leave her baby at home while she is on the campus, and it is, of course, different from the time when Ettie Chin was

October 17, 1944

living right in the dormitory and could be reached at any time by the girls. If there are good Chinese candidates for P.E. work, I wish you would continue to make enquiry. It seems to me that by next Fall we certainly need at least one additional member. Most likely we shall need more, because Peggy Lin is hoping very much to go abroad for further training, and if the opportunity to go should come next summer, she certainly would wish to take it. I shall write to you about this when I take up the whole question of those faculty members who plan to go abroad in the near future.

Miss Tung Hsiao-yün has resigned from the Home Economics department on account of ill health, and her sister-in-law, who was instructor in the department, also left at the same time. We have invited another Yenching graduate, Miss Swen Tseng-min to be the Acting Head, but she, herself, did not take up Home Economics until she was doing graduate work in Oregon and in Merrill-Palmer in Detroit, and she has consented to act for only a term. Just before I returned from Chungking, I happened to hear of Miss Chen Pei-lan, who was the Head of the Home Economics department in Hwa-nan, and who has been at the Government Normal College for Women during the last two years. She has now consented to come to join the staff and I hope very much that she will prove capable of filling the vacancy as Head of the Department. Fortunately the fields of specialization are different with these two experienced women, so it may work out to be the best combination for our department.

I must report to you on the situation of students going abroad. When I wrote to you last, the Ministry of Education had stopped students from going to America. Recently, through the arrangement of Lease-Lend funds, for the purpose of post-war reconstruction, there are government scholarships for 1200 students to be trained in different technical lines. Because of this arrangement, the Ministry felt it is only fair to give those private students who passed the Government examinations last December permission to go now. This official order was given when I was in Chungking. As you remember, there are four of our graduates who passed the December tests. Chen I-djen is one of them, and, since the American consul wanted to have confirmation from Smith College, she cabled directly to Smith for it. I do not know if this cable reply has come and if Miss Bryson has written to you about it. Chen I-djen did not consult me before she sent the cable. Otherwise I would have advised her cabling you in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding. The second person is Miss Hung Da-ling, a music major. She made arrangements with the help of Miss Mei Ching-hsiang to go into some institution in New York. When she arrives there, she may need some help, because she is rather shy, and has not been used to using English much. The others are Djang Shui-gi and Yang Ging-djung. They are still waiting for the statement of admission from the University of Michigan before they can secure passports from our Government. If Dean Okkelberg writes to you about sending cables or any other matter, will you please help? Enclosed I am sending you the College transcript of Dzo Yu-lin. She told me that she had sent the formal application to you to be forwarded to Boston University. She, herself, hopes very much to go abroad, but at present I still do not see the procedure whereby she can secure a passport. This is because she did not try the examination last December, and she is not an experienced professor who might be permitted to go abroad for sabattical leave. I shall try to do what I can to help her, and I shall keep you informed. I should add that in our plan of reducing the staff last spring, she asked for a year's leave of absence. Actually, this was because a year ago in the spring she was among the few who were decided upon to be dropped. She has been helpful in many ways during her years on the faculty, yet she had not shown enough keen interest academically, so the Head of the Department did not wish to keep her on. Because of the years she has served in Ginling, I feel I should help her, yet, at the same time, I am quite sure we are not likely to invite her back immediately after her return. That makes the situation very delicate, because I should do more for those members of the faculty whom we definitely count upon returning to serve the College.

October 17, 1944

A few words about my trip to Chungking. I was there a little over three weeks, and it certainly was a very full program. It seemed that the minute I arrived in Chungking I got into all sorts of activities and meetings. The session of the Peoples' Political Council lasted two full weeks, and then there was the week of conference of the Child Welfare Conference. Since I am the chairman of the Child Welfare Training Program in Chengtu, I thought I should attend as much of this conference as I could, and somehow, because of the general impression that I was a good chairman, I was dragged into being the presiding officer at some of the general sessions. There was, in addition, the two-day meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Christian Council and I attended also several other committee meetings, such as the executive committee of the National Association for Refugee Children, the co-ordinating committee of the U.C.R., the Child Welfare Committee in Chungking, and the Board of Directors of the University of Shanghai. From newspaper reports you must have heard that this session of the P.P.C. was more active than earlier ones. Actually, it was because of the serious condition of the military situation that all the people were concerned and expressed themselves more frankly than the formal Chinese courtesy would have approved. However, it was a splendid meeting, and in spite of criticisms of the present condition, there was still support of the present Government, and the earnest desire to help in improving the present condition. The Government representatives also showed splendid spirit in making reports, and in answering all sorts of questions fired at them by the members of the P.P.C. I was much encouraged and felt that the Assembly was gradually becoming similar to a real assembly of peoples' representatives.

At first I had thought of staying in Chungking a little longer in order to have time to call in person on the Minister of Education and other officials and to have more leisurely visits with our own alumnae. However, because of the difficulty of travel between Chungking and Chengtu, I decided to return with the other members of the P.P.C. on the special plane. It was a very special arrangement by the Minister of Communications that the C.N.A.C. sent a special plane to take us to Chungking and to bring us back, as normally there is no plane service at all between the two cities. Next April a new P.P.C., with enlarged membership and increased powers, will convene. Most likely I may still be chosen as a member. The N.C.C. is planning an enlarged meeting of the Executive Committee about the same time, so my next trip to Chungking will be in April.

Since my return to College on September 26th I have been kept quite busy with College work, and reporting on the P.P.C. sessions to different groups. I hope that from now on I can give more time to thinking and planning for the College work. The first thing Miss Priest and I shall do is to revise the budget very carefully and try to get a clearer picture of how we stand financially. After I have had time to think through College problems, I shall write to you again.

Our rural nursery school is of a special experimental type, so the Child Welfare Conference invited Miss Hsiung Ya-na to attend. She gave a splendid report in the allotted time of six minutes., and in fact, it was the best of some thirty reports from the various organizations represented at the conference. She also prepared splendid exhibits of the work done at the nursery school. The best evidence is that two big organizations were so favorably impressed by her work that, independently, then wanted to "borrow" her from Ginling to start the same type of nursery school for rural districts elsewhere. We would like very much to be able to lend her for this, but not just now, because she and Miss Tsü have made definite plans to complete the writing of texts to be used in nursery schools, and to complete the sociological survey of Chung Ho Chang. Enclosed I am sending you a copy of the report of last year's work there.

I was very glad to hear at the N.C.C. meeting that Mr. Mills is coming to be the secretary on legal matters. I hope very much that he will be able to come to Chungking in the near future. Speaking of N.C.C., this afternoon there will be a meeting

From Dr. Wu

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October 17, 1944

of the Chengtu members of the Executive Committee with other mission~~y~~ and church leaders.

With best wishes to you and other friends in the office,

Most sincerely yours,

Yi-fang Wu

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Encl: (1) College transcript for Dzo Yu-lin and for Hung Da-ling
(2) Report of rural work at Chung Ho Chang

Mr. Corbett

88-11 Elmhurst Avenue
Elmhurst, Long Island, New York
November 6, 1944

Dear Friends:

I think you will all be interested to know first that my dear friend Louise Hammond, whom I helped bring home is actually better. The cancer seems to have been burned out by the radium treatment in Chungking. At present they are doing skin grafting and she is hoping soon to be actually out of the hospital. In a letter to one of her friends here I heard she is hoping and planning to return to China. Isn't this one miracle, especially as I remember so well the attitude of all the doctors on the way, a hope that she might be able to live about six months after returning to America!

At last I have gotten well settled in living with my good Chengtu friends, Dr. and Mrs. Liljestrang at the above address. I am now taking private lessons with Mr. Bernard Wagenaar of the Juilliard Graduate School. I am so pleased that he wants me to study just what I wanted to study, a continuation of my former studies, in music composition, first, and orchestration and fugue. I am finding new light as I work with him. Also Dr. Wedge, Dean of the Institute of Musical Art has given me permission to visit all the classes in music theory at any time, and also the chance to attend their student recitals.

I spent until after Labor Day visiting my Michigan and Ohio friends, and you can be sure I had one wonderful time. It was in Royal Oak that the doctor employer of my old friend Iva Rose, advised me to accept the two invitations I had received to go for a further holiday to the M R A (Moral ReArmament) Training Center at Mackinac Island. She gave me a partial physical check-up, and a fifty-dollar bill, which naturally ended all of my hesitation about going. I was grateful too for the Ginling College Board's consent that I should go. I had eighteen of the most wonderful days of my life there. I will enclose a reprint of a Grand Rapids paper which will tell you better than I can what it was all about. I hope you will read this carefully and then tell me your thoughts some time on how you feel we can best work together in the fight to build a new world. -- I want to add a few points that struck me unforgettably in the life there, for it was a practical experiment in building a new world.

The basis of this experiment is learning first how to listen together for God's plan, beginning with oneself; then finding His plan for changing our homes, for creating team-work in industry, business, government, entertainment, -- in fact, in every phase of our individual, national, and international living.

The Sunday morning service was something new. It usually began with the children. They shared some of their experiences of that week and sang a song or two. The teen-aged group did the same. Two things I perhaps will remember longest were certain lines from the song the children (up to twelve) had made: -- Title, "The Bungle in the Jungle" telling how the trouble in the children's jungle of all kinds of animals (a skit they made), caused by a bad tarantula, was solved finally when the Polar Bear came down from the North, --

"Making honesty, purity, love and unselfishness absolute every day,

So rising in the morning early, taking time to be guided and gay,

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This had a very gay tune. The music was written for them by one of the music production team. -- The second unforgettable was a certain small girl of about ten, telling the outline of her quiet time, and also what she did for each point. The outline was (1) to thank, (2) to listen, (3) to change, (4) to pray for, (5) to fight for. "To fight for" meant for her that she was thinking of someone whom she

saw had some real need and that she felt God wanted her to help that person in every way possible to her. In addition to these two groups some group from Canada, or Australia would make it their nation's Sunday, but it never stopped with their nation. Or it was management and labor in charge. Always there were stories of change in individual lives leading to similar miracles in the lives of others, and sometimes to results of large importance in industry, business, agriculture or national or international relations.

Everyone, including the leaders, were finding daily change a necessity, but the aim, to be so transparent that God can cleanse and forge us into a great revolutionary army, unify us with the love of a real family, and give us power to share in His plan for creating a new world, made the pain of hurt pride in honest apology a very negligible thing.

Frances Roots helped me to know myself better by her smiling, teasing, but deadly earnest question, "Stella Marie, I want to know what really makes your heart tick, - not what you want should make it tick, but really what does make it tick." Of course, that put me on the spot when I thought about it seriously. In the past I have had, to me, a number of wonderful experiences of the guidance of God, coming home with Louise Hammond safely by plane all the way, and her survival of that trip, is of course one of these for which I am most deeply grateful. But I saw that still much of my use of time is far from guided, - from any conscious asking for or wanting God's direction. I have given God only part of my time. And as I thought more about it I began to believe that what someone said was true for me, - that to use my time as if it were really mine, in these dark days of tragic need of God and His direction, is nothing less than betrayal of our Lord, and that when I am not guided by Him I am guided by the devil - of my own self-centeredness. And I saw how self-centered and sentimental I easily become apart from Him. I saw something of how much unguided thinking and emotions cost my Lord and my friends, - and so this is where I am asking daily that God should change me. Frances helped me to see how such love of self and persistence in getting my way, when given to Christ whenever the temptation arises, can be transformed by His Cross into a dynamo of power. A wonderful definition was given: "Purity is a passion for God-control." And I saw how greatly God needs everything I've got and everything everyone of us has, now, to end war in our own individual lives, in our homes, in society, not to mention, winning the peace and building the kind of world we all want. I saw for instance how much more my study, writing of music, teaching, and our department's work in music in Ginling could do to create and give to China the kind of songs that China needs right now, that will help to give her new life and hope.

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"For the new world we're wanting, we'll certainly find
In the heart of the ord'nary man,
When we leave all our greed and our grouching behind,
And listen to God for His plan."

I do want to send each of you my warmest greetings, and I am looking forward to seeing you all, I hope, in the months that are ahead.

As ever your friend,

Stella Marie Graves

75 copies - to be distributed by Miss Graves, herself
also sent to Ed. of Iders

88-11 Elmhurst Avenue
Elmhurst, Long Island, New York
November 6, 1944

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Mrs. Corbett
Ginling College,
Chengtu, Szechwan, China
November 17, 1944

Mrs. W. Flumer Mills
Ginling College Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mrs. Mills:

Your letters of October 3rd and 9th have been received, and I am very glad to hear all the news. Now to give you some news of Chengtu.

Faculty. Dr. Liu En-lan is back in Ginling after an absence of four and one-half months, as she did not leave Chengtu until the later part of April. She has been kept busy giving talks on her observations in the Northwest.

Miss Walsley has not arrived, and the last word I had from her was sent from Durban on October 14th. There is nothing we can do but to wait and to hope that she will be able to reach Chengtu before the spring term starts the latter part of February.

Florence Kirk reached Chengtu the middle of September. I hope she has reported to you promptly. I was in Chungking then, as you know.

In regard to Wu Mac-i, I hope she has no difficulty in securing a passage, since, after all, she is a Chinese returning to her own country. I have heard that it is very difficult for Americans to secure passports for coming here, so I hope Wu Mac-i will not be treated with the same precaution.

Graduates coming to America.

Chen I-djen and Hung Da-ling flew to India early in November. I received a copy of Miss Bryson's letter to Cheng I-djen. I have right away sent it to Dr. W. F. Chen, and asked him to forward it to her in India. Most likely she has to wait some time there, so I told her that she must keep you informed by cable, whether she sails soon, or is to wait there some time. It is only fair to Smith to let them know if Chen I-djen should not be able to reach Smith in January. Hung Da-ling is a music major and is one of the four Ginling graduates who passed the Government examinations for private students last December. Through the help of Miss Mei Ging-shiang, she was admitted to Juilliard (if I remember correctly). I wrote to her to come to see you after her arrival in New York. She is in a very bad condition, and in a rather depressed mood. She met with an accident last May and had her right hand injured, and so is not able to use the fingers normally. She is practically the best piano graduate we ever sent out, and was hoping to get real good training in America. After the accident she had some good doctors in Chungking, and she was told that it could not be cured. Then, suddenly, the Government changed its policy and permitted these students to go abroad. We can easily sympathize with her in her present condition, that is, going to America as a music student, yet with her hand permanently crippled. Will you kindly help her to see a real good specialist? I wonder if it may not be best to send her to the Medical Center through the Presbyterian Board? Her father, you may remember, was on the Nanking Middle School faculty for many years, and later on, went to work under Dr. H. E. Kung. Fortunately, Miss Graves is likely to be in New York, so she may be able to give Hung Da-ling some help.

The other two graduates are Djang Shui-gi and Yang Ging-chung. Djang Shui-gi was terribly anxious to complete her preparations for going abroad when she saw Chen I-djen completing hers. The transcripts for both girls had been sent to Michigan but there was not time enough for the cable reply to come, so I thought of the time-saving scheme of troubling you to get her transcript and send it to Michigan for their consideration. Yesterday I received the cable sent by Mr. Evans, saying that Michigan

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has accepted both girls. I wish to thank you very much for having attended to this matter in a roundabout way. In a way, I can understand why the girls were so anxious because with the present war conditions, they are afraid that they might not be able to leave the country if they waited too long. In general, I do not approve of so many of the students leaving China at present. However, with the batch who passed the examinations almost a year ago, and had been kept waiting for so long, I rather feel that they should be permitted to go. I have written to Djang Shui-gi that she must settle with Mr. Evans, the Ginling Board Treasurer, for the amount of money he has advanced in sending the cable to Chungking and to Chengtu. I think we should ask the girls to clear such accounts and for the many Western Union telegrams you must have sent back and forth for them.

I am very glad to know that it is possible to send parcel post from America. I do hope that ^{we} shall gradually receive such precious supplies as carbon, paper and stencils from your office. I suppose they may have been sent to Miss Priest, so I shall ask her to divide the supply somehow to meet the urgent needs in the universities. We had heard something of this arrangement, so we are asking professors to submit lists of books they want very badly. At least it will be good for you to have such lists available so you may arrange for the sending as soon as there are the facilities.

Thank you for sending me a copy of the letter from Dean Phillips and Dr. Lu. One of our chemistry graduates has applied for a scholarship through her uncle, Dr. Chou Ping-wen, who is in America. I do not know enough about the Washington State College to say whether it is the place which will give Hsiung Ya-no the special training she should have. She is keenly interested in social work for rural women and she has gained much experience from practical work. This is a very big field for future development, so if she should have the chance of coming to America, I certainly would like to see her receive further training to help her render further service in this field upon her return to China.

I am glad to hear of the possibility of getting the Zeta Tau Alpha scholarship for next year and there are girls now in College who need and are worthy of such generous scholarships. I wish to thank you for the letter from Mrs. Winter, and I talked this over with Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan, and will write to Mrs. Winter through you. In regard to cases which the Faculty Aid Fund has helped, I sent you a letter early in September. I hope that reached you very soon after you wrote to me.

We are celebrating the Founders' Day this weekend, but I am afraid the students have their minds on other things. There has been a call from the government for educated men and women to join the forces, and the students have been waiting for definite plans to be announced. However, with the big news from the Kwangsi front, they have become quite worked up and can hardly wait for further orders from the Government, and have asked the university authorities to modify the curriculum. The presidents had a joint meeting last Friday and are actually meeting this minute. You will wonder, then, why I am dictating this letter instead of attending the meeting. It is because I have had a slight case of nephritis, and the doctor still wants me to stay in bed. So I can dictate while Dr. Djang goes to the meeting in my place. It is rather difficult to be free from duties as the doctor wanted me to be, because there seems to be always urgent business coming up. Poor Dr. Djang and other faculty members have to be trotting up to my room for consultations. In fact, the fall meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors was held in my room on Tuesday. The one important item of news from that meeting is that Miss Priest managed to prepare and present a revised budget, balanced! This was done by (1) using the average rate of exchange of 150:1 (it is now 200:1, according to word from the Chungking committee), and (2) reckoning that the full-time increment subsidy is to stop when the living index comes up to 900 times that of 1938. (By "stop", I mean stopping at that figure when the living index is 900 times, and not increasing along as the index goes up further than 900 times.) During the

From Dr. Wu

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month of October, the index has gone up from 612 to 720, the biggest jump we have had in a long time.

I hope to write you a long letter very soon. I wish to apologize for this one, because actually, my mind is not here, but rather in the chamber where the presidents are meeting.

Yi-fang Wu
Nov. 29, 1944

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*Sent 2/3/45 - To Founders
Former Fac.
Alumnae in Amer.*

Ginling College, Chengtu
November 25, 1944

Dear Mrs. Mills:

Well, Founders' Day celebrations are over for another year. In the dormitory, a note of festivity was added to the daily menu by the killing of a pig that had been fattening. Two men came to do the killing, and asked the sum of \$500 for their work! I understand it took them a whole morning, but even so, it seems a lot to pay for the mere work in connection with slaughtering. The decoration committee made the Dormitory gay with class banners, the beautiful Ginling purple banner, and cutouts representing the various graduating classes by stars. Luckily in our "temporary" style dormitory, there are no restrictions on putting thumbtacks (we are fortunate if we have such things now, even nails are expensive, and tacks) into walls, or pasting on the brick, white-washed walls. That makes the decorators' task easier. The activities of the Ginling girls are indicated by the number of bulletin boards around the dormitory: current events, the map showing the fighting fronts, the papers of the Sociology Club and the English Club. Just recently a framed picture of Dr. Reeves has been put on the wall of the main social room by Miss Phoebe Ho, so she looks down on us at chapel in the mornings, and when we have gatherings in that much-used room.

It used to be that we had toasts during the "banquet" (it can no longer be called this) and that was the chief week-day program for Founders' Day. In recent years it has been a difficult thing to get space for the students, faculty and guests (alumnae and Board members) to sit and eat, even when we use the main dining-room with the wing newly added since I left, the social room and the tiny social room. Therefore, we have gotten into the habit of having the assembled crowd go to the theater room of the Educational Building of the West China University, and having some sort of program there. I was convenor of the program this year, so I know some of the difficulties that are inevitable nowadays in these wartime conditions.

The program was, as usual, a dramatic presentation of the Ginling Spirit. The title of the performance was "A Little Light - A Bright Flame, an allegory of the Ginling Spirit from 1915 to 1944." The chief characters were: The Ginling Spirit (dressed in a purple dress, with white silk jacket); the Narrator who bound together the different items, and commented on them; a Ginling Chorus of eight girls who sang appropriate songs at intervals. The five acts were as follows:

Act I: "The Kindling of the Ginling Spirit". The Sophomores did this section, and the details were taken from a report by Mrs. Thurston in her account of the first year at Ginling. She wrote that there were four "red letter days" that first difficult year which showed that the Ginling Spirit was alive and a potent force: the first chapel; the first Founders' Day celebration in November; the day in May when Ginling announced its existence to the academic world of Nanking, and the final day of school, when there were no graduation exercises, but only a meal together on Saturday evening and the Service on Sunday morning. The Ginling Spirit introduced this section, and then we showed the Chapel Service, with Eva (Spicer) as Mrs. Thurston, with nine students dressed in old-fashioned skirts and jackets, and five of us dressed in old costumes as the first faculty members. The costumes of Eva (a lacy dress, very old-fashioned), of Miss Causer (Mrs. Small's wedding dress, 28 years old), Ruth (Chester) and Mrs. Whittington were very interesting, but Catherine (Sutherland) and I were more modern, and therefore not so good. When the students - such a handful - and we appeared, we caused a roar of laughter, and I thought, "How shall we ever establish the atmosphere of that first chapel?" Eva can do wonders, and her brief talk was wonderful - not, she says, as Mrs. Thurston would have done it, but certainly the spirit and ideas of the address were suitable. It was a very effective first scene.

Already we had come to some of the difficulties. We routed out the foot-lights, and got bulbs, but there was no connection! Days later we heard that one previous occasion they were borrowed and the long cord came back one tenth of its original - part of the price of cooperation these days! For a wonder, the "lights were on" but what lights! A feeble glow indicated where the bulbs were, but the stage was anything but adequately lit. After the first scene, various of our faculty friends from the audience came to protest, "But we can't see their faces!" What to do? Already on the stage was a bright gas light borrowed from Mr. Stockwell. It was suggested that we move the light to the front of the stage. This improved the lighting somewhat, and at nine o'clock, the electric lights became a little better. In the classroom where the students dressed, candles gave a much better illumination than the electric lights! In the halls back of the stage, everyone tripped along in the dark, stumbled down the stairs where there was no light - until we put a candle on a desk on the landing! And the curtain! You can imagine how well it worked. A servant pulled it by sheer might, and this meant there was no possibility of "a quick curtain!" About halfway through the Narrator asked for a drink of boiled water. I felt I would need to be a conjuror to call up out of the Education Building the drink. Well, I asked a janitor. He at the moment was carrying along two thermos flasks, and he said, "Could you ask Mr. Foo if he could give you hot water?" Mr. Foo, a West China University teacher was busy in his office on the same floor, and when I told him my need, his reply was, "Of course. I shall be glad to help in such a small way." I brought back the cup of hot water, and later on that evening the janitor brought another cup.

After the first act, the Chorus sang "The Old Ginling" to the delightful tune composed by Catherine Sutherland, and under the leadership of Mrs. Yeh.

Act II: (by the Seniors). First, a pantomime of the growth of the Spirit, in which representatives from the first ten years of graduates added their lights to the tiny one carried by the Spirit. (Chorus: "G-I-N-L-I-N-G")

Second, two scenes where the Ginling Spirit might be shown in action:

- a) The fire in the Old Ginling where Mrs. Thurston shouted to the girls, "Girls! Girls! Form a line!" And they formed a line from the well to the fire and passed along buckets of water and extinguished the fire.... Cooperation in a practical crisis.
- b) Sunday Morning Visiting, where Miss Vautrin and two girls went to visit a farmer's home near the new Ginling.

Chorus: "The New Ginling" (words by me and tune by Catherine Sutherland)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) In T'ung Kwa Sz the Spirit grew Grew till its light shone clear; Alumnae and students were conscious of it, More conscious, year by year, In the new Ginling In Nanking. 2) "Oh, what am I? Oh, what am I?" The Ginling Spirit cried, "I know I live in many lives, That cannot be denied In the new Ginling In Nanking. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) "Cooperation, service, love, Good-will extending wide To all its neighbors and beyond To China, on every side, From the new Ginling In Nanking." 4) First verse repeated. |
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Act III: A Dream of the Ginling Spirit (by the Juniors). The Ginling Spirit had its difficulties, when crises threatened the very life of the institution. It was after 1937 and the beginning of the war when the Spirit had a bad dream and thought she was being tried by a judge and jury (Mr. Common Sense, Miss Graduate,

and Mr. Man-in-the-Street). The point at issue was whether or not the Spirit had died: Miss Grievance and Miss Hopelessness (from inside the College) and two from outside, Mrs. Old-Fashioned, and Mr. Old Scholar, argued that the Spirit was undoubtedly dead, but there were others who were as sure that the Spirit was alive in spite of great difficulties - Miss Ingenuity, Miss Loyalty, Mr. Courage and Miss Hope. The Spirit woke up just when it seemed the Jury were to retire to decide the verdict! It was a good act, and the costumes and details, such as the queer horn of the Clerk of the Court and the way the witnesses were announced, provoked a good deal of laughter.

Act IV: This was a presentation in dancing of the difficulties and hopeful features of life in Chengtu, introduced by the Chorus singing to the tune of "We are from Ginling", the following:

We have been six long years in Chengtu;
Six years of gray skies, and sunshine too;
And since we all are together, we can't be blue,
For all of us like Chengtu.

This part was perhaps the cleverest and most effective part of the whole program. Loh Hwei-ling took my suggestion of the "difficulties and advantages" here, and worked up a brilliant dance: girls representing the different cooperating universities in the dance being welcomed by West China; and then the very great difficulties: housing, where Miss House was tugged here and there by interested occupants; Poor Lighting, in which a girl representing the scarcity of books tried to read by the light of a very poor lantern; Malnutrition aided by the girl representing Ginling; and a very clever dance by the girl representing the Amah situation, herself an amah, and "ornery" to the nth degree, arousing storms of applause. Then this section of the dance was followed by a dance showing the cooperation of the different universities. The whole thing was most effective, colorful, rhythmical, and the ideas carried out were just what was wanted.

Act V: This was meant to represent the Alumnae (done by the Freshmen). The first part showed the different types of work that Ginling alumnae have done, girls dressed in certain costumes representing the medical profession, educationalists, homemakers (with a child), government work, etc.

Chorus: (to the tune "Tilli-ay")

Alumnae, alumnae, alumnae!
They are from Ginling, joyous and free.
Ginling alumnae we'd like to be -
Alumnae, alumnae, alumnae!

Alumnae, alumnae, alumnae!
Doctors, and nurses, and teachers, see;
Ginling alumnae we'd like to be,
Alumnae, alumnae, from our G. C.

The second part showed statistics about the alumnae, twelve girls in academic gowns being the robots who represented the actual figures. Each girl stood for fifty graduates. When the Narrator asked them to tell us the number of graduates, all twelve stood forth; number of married, $5\frac{1}{2}$; those who had no notion of getting married, 3!; those who liked movies, 12!; number of doctors, teachers, social workers, etc.; those afraid of rats, 12! At the moment when the number of college presidents was called for, Dr. Wu was supposed to be called up and to make her speech. She couldn't come, so Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan gave her regrets, and we finished with the Founders' Song, and the various class songs. Dr. Djang read the telegrams of greet-

ing also. (Dr. Wu had been ill for three weeks and was thus prevented from attending the Founders' Day celebration).

We felt it was something of a miracle that we had a performance at all. There were mid-term tests which went on and on. When the Ginling ones were over there were still tests in courses taught in other universities, for our term arrangements did not coincide. The campus was in a furor of excitement over the plans for volunteering for the army and other services. The girls had to play in a volley-ball competition even on Saturday afternoon and could not come till five for a rehearsal of one part! The auditorium needed certain attention: taking out of all the seats on the tiers so that the crowd could be accommodated by sitting directly on the floor of the tiers, washing off of the floor, seeing to lights and setting the stage. However, there were classes (West China) till five on Saturday afternoon - the earliest moment we could do anything! Supper was at six. I did not get to supper at all - which was no tragedy, of course.

I had two hectic weeks trying to keep things going under such difficulties. One member of the faculty, who is getting ready for government exams, asked to be released from my committee; another was in the hospital a week - so nothing goes as one expects. I was very pleased with the spirit of cooperation among students and faculty. There is a Ginling Spirit at work in Chengtu still, in spite of war-time fatigue. Ruth said, "Well, I suppose I can dress in some dowdy dress as I did last year," in a resigned tone of voice, but she and the others were good sports all the way through. I think it is almost heroic that we still think we can do what we used to do when now the conditions are so complicated.

The Sunday service was most impressive, and mentioned appreciatively by various people not connected with Ginling. As usual it was the nine o'clock morning service - now held in the West China gymnasium, since the Hart College Chapel, used when I left in 1941, is no longer large enough to accommodate the crowd.

Dr. Wu, on protest, was granted permission to get out of bed for this occasion. The speaker was Dr. Hsü, Mrs. New's lawyer brother, and he gave a most inspiring message, and told the community a good deal about Ginling that it had never known before. It was a delightful tribute to Ginling during its brief career. The Glee Club sang beautifully, and the seniors in their academic gowns gave an air of dignity. Those on the platform were Dr. Hsü, Dr. Wu, Phoebe Ho, Ruth Chester, and the regular pastor of that morning service, Pastor Gwoh. The only decoration was the Ginling purple and white banner hung on the white-washed brick wall, and bamboos flanking it on either side, and chrysanthemums at the front of the platform.

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I really should keep a diary these days for things happen so suddenly that what is true one day is out-of-date the next.

The Generalissimo issued a call for Volunteers, and ever since the students have been searching their hearts and consciences to determine where their duty lay. One of the difficult aspects is that definite authentic information seems to come through slowly - or so it appears to a group of young people ready to act at once. I understand the "call" asked for 100,000 men and 2,000 girls. Whole classes of medical, dental, and pharmacy students volunteered at once, and placards appeared on the wall, saying: "China needs you. Will you go? We are going." - Signed by a certain class in a certain institution.

The lack of a well-organized plan has brought a good deal of anxiety and worry to students. However, let me give you some idea of what is going on by telling you some facts about Ginling in this crisis. So far about forty girls have volunteered

for actual service. The other day word came through that none of the girls would be called before the first of February. Already a first-aid course is in progress, taken by about a thousand boys and girls: a course from three to five each afternoon for two weeks. Those attending are freed from classes coming in those periods with as little penalty in the matter of catching up on missed work as possible. Early this next week begins a Nurses' Aid course on a much more pretentious scale as far as the work involved is concerned: nine hours of work each week for eight weeks: three hours of this each week is devoted to lectures, and six to practical work. The class will consist of at most 160; at first 150 Ginling girls were interested, but their enthusiasm was a little dampened when they realized it meant so much time, and probably involved the dropping of courses they are now taking. I expect that by this time, Ruth knows what proportion of that number are Ginling girls and what proportion are from other institutions.

One type of work mentioned that both boys and girls could do was translation and interpretation, and the Deans asked the English departments to arrange some work along this line. We are in the process of doing this, but a great difficulty is finding personnel for this, faculty members who are fitted to do this and who have time to undertake extra work. Our two Miss Pans, of the English department, are going to help. We may revise other English courses, attempting to give training in a practical kind of English that would prepare students with good English and Chinese for these types of work. So you see how interesting life is here these days!

Just this morning two of our faculty members left - Liu En-lan and Hu Ya-lan (she taught five hours Chinese, and gave the bulk of her time assisting Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan as dean of discipline, and was very successful in this work). They went to Chungking to give their time to the new work for the children refugees from the newly occupied Japanese territory. Thousands of children are to come in this direction, we hear. Three agencies are behind this movement - U.C.R., Child Welfare Association, and some government organization. Our two faculty will talk it over in Chungking and see the set-up. Tomorrow the students are being appealed to to help; ten girls are wanted, or girls and faculty, to go there soon, perhaps this week.

Another call that has come this weekend is for ten or twelve girls, or an equal number of boys, to go to an airfield for secretarial and office work. Some of our girls are volunteering for this. The students are in a dither. They want to help, but do not want to act foolishly. We try to give advice, but in many cases scarcely know what to say. Already a good many men have left by plane for India, to be trained there.

This morning we had our First Semester Retreat - in the Dye House where six of us lived the year before I went home on furlough. It was a stirring morning's discussion.

This weekend the Women's International Club had a program for raising money for social work, especially for Children's Aid. The program was International Dances, or rather National Dances from various countries. I did not go, but I heard very favorable comments on how well the Ginling items went. So many people said they were surprised at such talent. Mrs. Millikan - she finds now she cannot teach our English class - spoke most appreciatively of the performance. It was carried out, too, with very great difficulties, no electric light at all, for instance.

We have air raids, especially on moonlight nights. This is a perfect night - clear sky, bright moon, so we may have an alarm.

All good wishes,

Florence Kirk

Just a footnote:

At Ginling has been distributed the vitamin share of the Wallace contribution, and the vitamins I brought, 2,000 capsules which were a gift to the faculty. Already I see a difference in the energy of some of the faculty members; I think, especially, of one teacher in our department, who, when I came, was lackadaisical and lacking in energy, though she wanted to do a good piece of work. Now she looks as I remember her, and enjoys, quite obviously, doing her work, and is willing to consider special pieces of work which always seem to be cropping up. Not long ago the American gift of an egg a day was once more started, the necessary funds to carry this through the semester being taken from a gift fund which the college has.

Someone estimated the wealth represented by what I brought in: 2,000 vitamin capsules at \$200* each (the price on the street a few weeks ago), and 500 sulphadiazine tablets at \$100 each! It is quite likely these prices are very much outdated.

A missionary the other day bought a pair of shoes on the street and paid more than \$10,000. Knitting wool of any kind of good quality is about that figure per pound of twelve ounces. A medical student paid for two textbooks - one was Anatomy - \$6,000 and \$8,000 respectively. Eggs are now \$24 each, having risen from \$18 in a month or so. A small tin of shoe polish (not the tiniest, but it would be small at home) costs \$400. What is cheap? I don't know. I paid \$300 the other day for a cake to give some Juniors who were visiting me!

Florence Kirk

* Prices on this page are quoted in National Currency.

Mr. Corbett

November 27, 1944

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Dear Mrs. Mills:

So many things have happened, so I wish to send you an additional letter in this mail. Mrs. Whittington was sick for a few days with a bad cold, and then she gave a good deal of time to managing the Annual Entertainment for War Relief of the International Women's Club, because she was the chairman of the program committee. So my letter of the 17th did not get finished, and I shall send the two together in this envelope.

First of all, let me tell you some good news. The Chinese oratorical contest among the ten universities and colleges in the Chengtu region took place yesterday, with two students representing each institution. Miss Chen I was one of the two Ginling representatives. She did so well that she was unanimously elected by the judges to win the individual first prize, and her score was so high that the first prize for the team was also awarded to Ginling. We are very happy over it, because she is an all-round girl. She is one of the two girls who receive the Episcopal scholarship.

Another excitement was the sudden call by telegram from Mr. Lemig Sweet, asking for teams of faculty and students to go to Kweichow and help rescue refugee children from the war fronts. The telegram was received at four o'clock Friday afternoon. We announced it to the faculty at supper and to the students Saturday morning. Yesterday morning Dr. Liu En-lan and Miss Hu Ya-lan left for Chungking. For slow-moving China, and with the difficult situation in securing transportation to Chungking, this was pretty good! It was most fortunate that there was a bank truck going to Chungking and Kweiyang, and that Dr. Liu and Miss Hu got a lift on it. There has been a very enthusiastic response to the call from both the faculty and our students. We have to ask them to wait because this calls for the five universities, and the lists from the other institutions are to be handed in to Mrs. George Wu by Tuesday afternoon. She is, as you know, the executive secretary of the Five Universities' Child Welfare Training Program Committee. Naturally, we wish to have our training program closely related to the work for the refugee children. In fact, this Committee did have a meeting yesterday, and voted to get one team of ten ready while finding out more particulars as to the number of people needed, and how long they will be required to work. From the long-distance telephone conversation yesterday, we found they will need around twenty, and that when the students go, their services will be counted, probably, as one form of the women's war-service corps.

You may have heard that the Generalissimo is calling for 100,000 men volunteers from the educated youth, and 2,000 women. The students gave serious consideration to this as soon as the call was made. However, because of the unfortunate management of the student interpreters last spring, the men students were hesitant. Recently, more definite announcements have been given out and more students have volunteered, but they will not be called for going to the camps for training until sometime in January. In regard to women, it was, also, only a few days ago when the announcement was made that their work will be divided into the following categories: (1) First-aid and nursing, (2) War information, (3) Communications, and (4) Secretarial, and that they will be called up for training on February first. Forty of our girls have volunteered to go into this Women's Corps. Some of the parents have already written asking their daughters not to go, so we do not yet know if some of these may not be kept back because of family or health reasons. The thing that we in Ginling are grateful for is that the girls are taking the thing so seriously and are expressing their desire to serve the country in the right direction. Actually, the very first expression of student activity took place on account of a local incident. It happened in a Municipal Middle School, when there was trouble between the police and students, and several of the students were injured. The students in schools and universities got stirred up and sent representatives to petition the Governor to punish the officials responsible for

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the incident, and to safeguard the personal rights of individuals. These are certainly legitimate requests, but there was real danger mixed up in it all. The fact is that there were political agitators who wanted to make use of student demonstrations and to bring discredit to the Government. We faculty were, therefore, in a delicate position because we did not wish to discourage student activities, and yet we had, at the same time, to guide them to do the thing that is of real service to the country. Now that Ginling is only one of a group of institutions, and particularly, when our students have so many boyfriends in the universities, it is much more difficult to handle our girls than it was when we were in Nanking. The Presidents of the Universities were also taking the problem very seriously, and Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan represented me at the meetings and worked with them in facing this delicate situation. I am very glad to say that our girls saw the situation earlier than the other students, and decided not to join the student parades. The situation in all the Universities has now greatly improved, and the proposed big parade for yesterday did not take place.

We faculty had to work fast in order to provide enough of the right kind of activity for the students to express their warm sentiments for the country. One class of First Aid was arranged by the P.U.M.C. Nurses' School, and we from Ginling, especially asked for a longer training in Nurses' Aid. Miss Vera Nich, the Principal, has been very cooperative and generous in arranging for her staff to give their time to this. About 100 of our girls have registered in the First Aid class, and about 80 in the Nurses' Aid. This has given Dr. Chester endless additional work in arranging the schedule to accommodate these additional classes without interfering too badly with the regular work. The presidents and the academic deans have had conferences as to how best to meet the urgent situation. On one hand, the students are eager to do something for the war, and on the other, the Ministry of Education has notified the universities that they should modify their curricula to meet the needs of war-time. However, they do not give any instructions as to what special types of personnel will be needed, and what type of training program we should develop. I have written to Chungking to try and get more light on this question, so that we may be able to work out a more practical and useful program for the spring term. I feel that here in Ginling, where we have only a small staff with everybody carrying a full load, we have a much more difficult problem to solve than in the bigger universities, where shifting and adjustment are easier, since there are bigger staffs. For instance, this morning I talked with Dr. Chester as to how best to arrange for the courses which Dr. Liu and Miss Hu have been teaching. If a student volunteers, it is one individual withdrawing from class, but when a teacher volunteers, the College is responsible for meeting its obligations toward the students in some other way. Perhaps I should add that Miss Hu was assistant to Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan in the Office of the Dean of Discipline, and she taught five hours in addition to the administrative work. This means that Dr. Djang has additional responsibility in the dormitories, and during the past three and a half weeks, while I have been laid up she has had to attend all sorts of meetings as my proxy. Now I have hope of getting up soon, because the doctor is permitting me to go to the hospital for a thorough examination soon. Actually, I have not felt miserable at all, so there have been conferences, committee meetings, and all sorts of things taking place in my room.

The only thing I got up for was the Founders' Day Service on Sunday morning, November 19th. At first we expected Governor Chang to give the address, but five days before then, Madame Chang came to ask me that the Governor be released. He had been too busy, and the British Ambassador was coming to Chengtu that weekend. At the last minute a bright idea came to my mind, and we invited Mr. Hsu Sze-hao, Mrs. New's lawyer brother, to be the substitute. He, himself, gave honorary service to Ginling in regard to property deeds, and you may know of T. T. Zee's great help to the College in 1927. But you may not have heard that the Founders' Day song in Chinese was written by Mrs. New's father, and the Chinese translation of the College Motto, "Abundant Life", was also made by him. It was, therefore, most befitting to have this member of the family

From Dr. Wu

-3-

November 27, 1944

speak at the 29th Anniversary of Founders' Day. He gave a splendid address on the word "Courage". The Glee Club again rendered a beautiful anthem under Mrs. Yeh's direction. By the way, she has served splendidly as the choir leader for the University Community Church. This choir had been under the leadership of Stella Graves for several years. On Saturday evening we kept to our tradition of holding the Annual Founders' Day supper. However, both because of the limit of space, and of money, we could invite only the alumnae themselves, not their husbands or children. The only exception we made was in regard to the husbands of Board members. You may be interested to hear where the meat for that supper came from. It was due to the matron, Mrs. Wang's, long planning, for she raised a pig especially for it. The program after supper was directed by a committee headed by Florence Kirk, who, I believe, is writing you about it. So I will not steal any of her thunder by describing it, even briefly. I have always counted the Founders' Day events as the important fall activity in initiating the new students into the College spirit. Again this year, in spite of the many distractions on their minds, the students thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed it.

It seems to me, too, that it shows a very good spirit that our girls are so willing to help with community affairs. Ginling quite shone at the International Women's Club show last Friday and Saturday. Several numbers from Peggy Lin's Dance Festival of last spring were repeated, including the original dance which she herself learned from the tribespeople in the Border country. And about twenty of our girls took part in the finale, which illustrated the songs and flags of different nations. Some of the little children in Peggy's class also gave dances.

November 29th:

Mrs. Whittington sent this letter and the one dictated on Nov. 17th, to me this afternoon. After I read over them I was inclined not to mail, for they were poorly dictated and poorly typed, too! It happened that there were always interruptions when Mrs. Whittington was here, and I cannot concentrate very well these days. There seem to be always problems coming up every day and the news from Kwangsi is causing serious concern. I am so anxious to get over the present trouble, that I am getting to be very impatient. However, I know it is only wise to listen to the doctor, in order to be able later to work. The kidneys reacted very sensitively after I was up (on Founders Day and the next day to speak to the students at the Monday assembly period), but there has been very steady improvement since then. I made several attempts to dictate a Christmas letter, the last one this morning. But I had to send Mrs. Whittington away when two different faculty wanted to talk over something with me.

Kindly excuse this poor letter and with greetings for the season,

Affectionately,

Yi-fang Wu

Dear Mr. Ballou:

I wish to thank you very much for your letter of October 26 and your letter of October 23 to the Presidents. Miss Dow is living in the American Board house on this campus and is giving much valuable help in conducting choirs in Yenching, in Cheeloo, and for the evening service on this campus. She is also teaching four hours of Harmony to music majors in Ginling. We are very grateful to her personally, and to the Ad-interim Committee of the American Board for granting her part time to help Ginling.

Just as you say, the Presidents joint letters in June were all out of date by the time you were talking the matter over with Dr. Kung. The situation has changed further since you wrote on October 23rd. The exchange rate decided by the United Clearing Board has gone up to 380:1. This abnormal change is due to the military situation in Kwangsi. We do not know whether it will remain at such high figures or there may be a gradual change downward. It seems that the whole question of exchange rate between Chinese and foreign currency may be taken up by our Government. However, it is such a big question, involving tremendous consequences, that it is likely to take some time for any change to be made. Perhaps I should add that the U.C.R. appropriations are in National Currency, and so the colleges are not benefited by the favorable increase in the rate of exchange. We are, rather, faced with the difficult problem of rapid jumps in the price of commodities. The Presidents are giving serious consideration to this question and hope to present some requests to the U.C.R. for aid from their surplus fund built up by the gain in exchange.⁽¹⁾

We are looking forward to the visit of Dr. Decker and Dr. Cartwright. We are sure that their coming will help not only the Christian movement in general, but also the Christian educators in planning for postwar China. The National Christian Council is planning to hold an enlarged executive committee meeting in April, and we expect also to have a meeting of the Council of Higher Education. We are faced, of course, with the changed war situation in China, and if Lingnan and Fukien Christian universities and Hwanan will still be able to carry on in their isolated localities, their presidents will not be able to come to Chungking. If Dr. Decker and Dr. Cartwright have not yet left America, I wonder if they may meet with difficulty in getting passports from the State Department to leave at this time. I understand that Dr. Bates had not secured his in October.

This campus has certainly been active lately. Take Ginling, for instance. Faculty and students have responded to different calls for help. Forty girls have volunteered to join the women's corps in the army, and will be called up for training in February. One hundred have just finished a two-weeks course in First Aid, given by the P.U.M.C. Nursing School, and eighty are starting this week on a two-months course in Nurses' Aid. It will mean nine hours work in addition to their regular work, so some girls have to drop a course from their regular program. A few exciting days followed when we received a telegram from Mr. Lennig Sweet calling for volunteers to do work with refugee children in Kweichow. Six⁽²⁾ from our faculty volunteered to go, and seventy students signed up within a few hours after the notice was posted. Dr. Liu En-lan, head of the geography department, was among the faculty who volunteered. Through a friend of hers she secured

(Added in longhand as postscript, December 7:--)

(1) At the weekly meeting of the Presidents yesterday, Miss Priest reported that the U.C.R. is making additional grant to cover the increase in prices over and above the 10% increase each month estimated and included in the approved budgets. In view of this and the grant of 22 million to the 12 Christian Universities as medical, children's education subsidy, the Presidents decided not to make other requests to Mr. Sweet.

(2) "Six" refers to all full-time members. Actually only Liu En-lan and Hu Ya-lan have gone. The seventh who was also ready to go is Kao, C.C., (= Mrs. George Wu), the Executive Secretary of the Child Welfare Training Program Com. and half-time Prof. of Sociology in Ginling. She has come to tell me that another long-distance telephone message had come from Mrs. Wm. Wang, asking three faculty members from this Com. to go

a "lift" on a bank truck to Chungking, so she and another faculty member were able to leave within 48 hours. This, for Chengtu, is almost unprecedented, because it usually means days of waiting before one can get a ticket on the mail truck, which is more dependable than the regular bus service. The latter may take from two to ten days to make the trip. However, before the teams were organized to go, a message came from Chungking that, because of the very difficult conditions of travel and very crowded conditions of huge numbers of refugees near the war front, it was considered unwise to send more people to that region. After Dr. Liu reached Chungking she met with Mr. Sweet, Mrs. Nora Chu, and Mrs. William Wang, the general secretary of the Women's Advisory Council of the New Life Movement, and the decision was for Dr. Liu and Miss Hu to proceed to Kweiyang and find out the actual conditions. We are now waiting for word from them before taking the next step.

Yesterday, two members of our P.E. staff, Dr. Chester and several students went with Mrs. Millikan to an air base in the vicinity. Mrs. Millikan is going to live there as the hostess, but she needs recreation directors to help her in directing the activities of two recreation halls. It is very difficult for our P.E. department to release staff members, because we have college students majoring in that department and we have a short course for training physical education directors. However, we realize the important service which our staff is able to render, so Mrs. Chen En-tai, the acting head of the department, has given much time in re-making the program and in releasing part time from two members of the department, Miss Peggy Lin and Miss Dju En-djen. At the same time Yen-ching is releasing Miss Djou Gi-hsing, also a Ginling graduate. Yesterday, after the girls had seen the place and talked with the commanding officer, it was decided that they are to go out with Mrs. Millikan on Wednesday. The students who went out with Dr. Chester are English majors. They went in answer to the request for typists and telephone operators. It seems that there is desperate need of such workers to relieve the men from attending to such jobs. Normally girls may not be interested in such work at all, but now they are taking it as one form of war-work, and they are ready to stop before the end of the term to meet this need.

The Presidents, at one of their recent meetings, decided to ask the Ministry of Education to consider shortening the college course to three years, and the deans are giving consideration to possible modifications in the curricula for the spring term. While we have no way of knowing what the new Minister of Education will say to such a request, we should, ourselves, give consideration to the possible changes which may be made profitably. I am now sorry that I did not bring back with me more material on the various types of accelerated programs in America. I feel strongly that before the colleges in China make any drastic changes, we should be benefited by the experiences gained in America, during the past few years. Will you or Dr. Corbett have time to send us some consensus of opinion on the modified programs for the war? I realize this is a very general question and cannot be answered briefly. What I have in mind is simply this: if there is this possible change and any modification of the curriculum in China, we as private institutions, ought to make contributions--suggestions to the Ministry of Education. However, we are handicapped because of lack of time and lack of recent information. We have been attending to the immediate problems of how to keep going and recently we have additional problems in facing the serious war situation. That is why I have thought of writing to you and asking for help from your office. Personally I am inclined to think that we should not expect too drastic changes and should be prepared to get as much improvement as we possibly can from any minor modifications that may be brought about.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Ballou, and Greetings for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

(Postscript--footnotes con.)

(2) con.-- to Chungking and help plan the work for the refugee children as they gradually move away from the front. Mrs. Wu herself and two others, all with experience in children or welfare work will go to Chungking soon. I am in the West China U. Hospital for several days for examination and tests. I have hopes that my doctor will let me get up after five weeks in bed.

/s/ Yi-fang Wu

Mr. Corbett

Ginling College, Chengtu
December 14, 1944

Dear Cornelia,

Well, there are sudden flurries of snow today - a most unusual thing in my experience in Chengtu. It made me remember watching the much more real thing which I used to watch from my office in "500" in Nanking, seeing the downcoming snow against the red pillars of the business building next door. Now I am reminiscing - a sign of advancing age! In this connection, it was rather funny the other day to hear a Junior say, when a Senior told of the times when there was central heating in the West China library, and a fire in the dormitory social room: "Those were the good old days!" I laughed, for to me the "good old days" go back to Nanking and the life there; it is humorous that any aspects of our life as refugees should seem - while we are still refugees - to have such a glamour cast upon them.

Dr. Wu is home from the hospital where she spent about a week under observation; she has not been given permission to be up and around - much to her disgust - so I suppose she still is not fully recovered. This has been a strange week for me, for I've spent three days in bed with a heavy cold which started out with quite a temperature; then I went out into a cold, damp world to teach, and after two days, was distinctly worse; since then, I've been staying inside till this weekend is over, hoping thereby to finish with the germ. It is "Chengtu cold", according to the doctor, and cannot be treated with the unconcern we usually show!

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Chinese girls for going to an American camp, and for taking a regular salary. To the girls it represented a very real sacrifice - giving up of their work before the end of the semester, facing the criticism, etc. An officer talked with them individually when they went out on two different occasions, (Ruth accompanied them, to help look over the situation, and give them official backing in the venture), gave them typing tests, etc., to see what their qualifications were. Finally, seven went from Ginling: the Ginling office typist, a senior English major, and the rest junior and sophomore majors in English. There are also in the group two Yenching English majors. They live in tents, heated by individual stoves. A note from one girl yesterday said it was too early yet to give their impressions. There was some difficulty about a bathroom, but another tent was being put up for that. We are proud of the girls who went out, and think they are serious-minded and want to do a good job. One said last Sunday evening when we gave them a simple party: "Why, the reputation of Ginling rests on us." The reason this has come up now, we understand, is that a new policy has been instituted: "Get your office help from the country in which you are." I hear that men clerks have been gradually been sent on furlough and have not been replaced.

The girls were, in some cases, volunteers for active service. They came to the decision that this was a piece of service that had to be done now, and finding that they seemed capable of doing the work, they were willing to look upon this as active service. Some of my advanced classes seem rather empty without them; Five of them are my "turees" so I expect to be hearing a good deal about the experiment.

November 30: I talked today with Peggy Lin about how her department has adjusted to meet the present wartime emergency - of course, Mrs. Chen Chen En-tse is the Head of the Department, but I talked with Peggy. It was about the first of November that the Department decided it must do something to fit in with possible emergency situations. Normally, there would have been a Field Meet to wind up the activities of the fine weather, but instead this year there was no Meet. The prizes and awards were given at a meeting of the weekly Assembly. It was a very simple affair, and the difficulties of life on the campus were evident in the fact that at such a ceremony the lights went off just as we were starting. Candles were produced, and in a very dimly lit gymnasium, the names were read off of successful teams and students who had done outstanding work.

The changed program then began at half semester. The emphasis has been placed on military marching and hiking, and every day from 3 to 5 a crowd of Ginling girls, looking very trim in their slacks and sweaters march off at a good pace to a definite objective: Youth Island, Kwang Hwa University (10 li. away), or the Wang Chien tombs, an equal distance away. This is the new China when college girls can walk as these girls do. If they had to be refugees, they could walk at least, without feeling it as hardship. The regulation for non-majors is two hours P.E. a week; now the marching has become so popular that they have voluntarily added an hour, doing one hour of apparatus or indoor work and two hours' marching. Weekly lists are posted, and each girl signs under the day she wants to go walking. The girls like the new regime. Even the girls on "restrictive" want to be allowed to go hiking, but the doctor's permission has to be gotten before that is allowed. The hikers are divided into military groups, with captain and squad leaders in charge.

In gymnastics class something is going to be changed. This used to be apparatus work, but now obstacle races will be introduced, as if such a question were asked, "If you had to climb that wall, jump that ditch, could you do it?"

Such problems come into classes, especially major work, as "How would you plan for recreational work in a soldiers' camp? How would you go about entertaining wounded soldiers in a hospital? How would you get refugee children to play? What materials would you need? How would you lead such activities?" It is hoped that some program can be worked out to help entertain men in the hospital.

Peggy speaks with shining eyes about her classes for dancing for young children, about sixty children of faculty of the five universities, ages from five to thirteen. The recital she would have ordinarily have thought of giving at the end of the semester she has given up altogether because of the expense involved. She has divided the large group into three classes: the oldest doing creative dancing; the middle group, character dancing; and the tiny tots, folk dancing. She hopes that some recreation for the hospitalized men can be gotten from these classes.

These changes in program are not so important in themselves as they are as an indication of how minds are reacting to a critical political and military situation. The students have been very much disturbed by the whole crisis and want to be given a share. We feel it is wise to give them some outlet for their enthusiasms until such time as they are called up for service; and besides there will be quite a group who will not go into active service, at least until more adequate organization is prepared to make use of them.

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November 30: Today I talked with Dr. Wu, and she urged me to write you something about the work of Hsiung Ya-na and Tsu Yu-dji at Chung Hs Chang, our Rural Center. I still have not gotten out, for when I was ready to go, their work was not such as made visitors feasible, and another time they intended to be away in Chungking helping with the refugee children rescue work; finally, they were told not to go, for they were not needed. However, I hope to get out. I think we are going to get some writing from them, too, about their program there.

At the Rural Service Station there was great excitement recently when the first sound movies came out to the community. Mr. John Foster, of the OWI said that the usual arrangement was for the OWI to send films and staff out free-of-charge, but the actual cart to take out the supplies should be chargeable to the Station. Our group thought they had not funds to cover even this, for transportation is a big affair in these days of high prices. So they came to an understanding: if five thousand people came to see the picture, the OWI would bear all expense!

On Monday, the two girls hurried back to the town, for they wanted to lay their plans for a huge crowd on Friday evening, and Wednesday was the day to see the people, the day they came to market. They went to see the Local Head of the town government, put up posters, talked to the people at market, advertising the pleasure on Friday night. On Friday, from four in the afternoon, the three Ginling graduates and their two assistants were on the scene, a public athletic ground. Their concern was to have a well-behaved crowd, for this was a test case.

And ten thousand people came! Some walked twenty li to see the new thing. Some could not understand the miracle of pictures that ^{came} ~~can~~ and went on a screen, so they came and touched the screen, as if there was some magic in the white cloth! The films given were "Battle of China" and "Landing in North Africa". The crowd was very well-behaved, and all went off admirably. Dr. Wu was greatly impressed: three college girls and two assistants in a year and a half could so win the confidence of a community that a crowd, well-behaved and interested, would gather for such an event!

The OWI was impressed, too, and stayed over, showing different pictures on Saturday. Our staff there entertained them. Town leaders came and said, "Such entertaining is too expensive for you each time they come. Next time let us be the hosts." The OWI men were so satisfied with their reception that they wanted to visit the Nursery School, and there they talked to the children.

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Hu Shih-tsang's concert - it was brilliantly done - is part of the program of the Music Department to give occasional recitals for the Community. When she and Catherine (Sutherland) were playing their two-piano number, the light that Catherine read by went out more than once - again one of the hazards of performances on the campus at the present time. The audience was most appreciative, and apparently Shih-tsang was

not fussed by it. You should have seen the array of flowers.....baskets by the dozen, as well as less elaborate arrangements. Someone said a large basket would certainly cost at least a thousand when bought on the street. Afterwards, Shih-tsang's friends gave an informal reception to her friends at the Canadian School; it turned out to be chiefly Ginling folks.

The Music Department has been doing its share at entertainment of the men quartered here. On the Double Tenth, Mrs. Yeh took a group of her Glee Club out into the country to one of the "fields" to give a program; the roads and transportation were inadequate, and they spent their whole day going and coming, but felt that in spite of the inconvenience, they had given a good deal of pleasure.

On Hallowe'en, a group went to the hospital to sing. One of the first requests was for jazz, but when the girls couldn't do that, the boys began to ask for old American folk-song favorites, and Chinese songs. They were there two hours or more, going the rounds of the wards, and a Sunday sometime later they went again. The Red Cross worker's plea is always, "We want entertainment."

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December 14: In recent weeks the finals of the oratorical contests - both English and Chinese - have been run off. (The Chinese contest was held on November 26th, and the English on December 10th). Much to our surprise, Ginling came first in both, that is, in both contests a Ginling girl got the individual first prize, and in addition, the two first institutional prizes went to the Ginling teams. We can hardly believe it yet. Nine universities took part, each one sending two representatives. I was eager to go to the finals in English, but this cold kept me in bed. However, I attended our Ginling preliminary contest, and found it most interesting. Here are their subjects (time limit 8½ minutes): "What I Learned at the Front in 1938", "The Voice of a Student", "Shavianism", "The Victory of Living", "O Women of China, Act", "Some Improvements in Education", "The Development of Science in Recent Years", "The New Birth of Freedom". The two best were "The Victory of Living" and "O Women of China, Act", and we chose these to represent Ginling in the general contest. On the great day, "O Women of China, Act" won first prize, and while our other contestant did not place in the first five, her score helped Ginling win the team first prize.

One of the most attractive from the point of view of material was "What I Learned at the Front in 1938". Here are parts from her speech. She is the president of the Sophomore Class, and she has quite a task to keep ninety girls pulling together. She's older than the average college girl, because she has been out doing practical work. She's eager and cooperative, and altogether fine. Now she is one of the girls out at the air-field, taking this call as a piece of real service, and not waiting for the government to call her among the other volunteers.

"WHAT I LEARNED AT THE FRONT IN 1938"

by Cheng Mei-lien

I'm very glad to have a chance here to tell you some things from my heart. I don't want you to think that my chief concern today is to win a prize for my class or to win honors for myself. I want you to listen to what I'm going to say.

First, I must make you sure that I'm not boasting of myself. I'm here like a soldier who has retreated from the Front, a soldier telling his old tales. I'm rather embarrassed to be standing here today when many of my friends have already gone

to India to be trained, or are ready to go to the Front; I am embarrassed because up to now I have not signed my name to the list of Volunteers. Since some of you are going to leave our College for the Front, I should like to tell something for your reference.

In the summer of 1938, when I was only eighteen, I graduated from a Baptist Middle School. I decided to work for my country, but my parents tried their best to prevent me from going to the Front. I had fierce discussions with them. My father protested that I was too young to go into army service, and if I went, he might disown me. I made up my mind that I had to do something for my country. Then I joined a scout group under the Y.W.C.A., and did not listen to any of the pleadings of my parents. I left Hongkong, left my mother weeping. I didn't cry, though my heart was aching. From that time I worked in the army until I got malaria in 1939.

The army which I joined was fighting against our enemy in Hunan. I followed where the army went, followed in rain, in times of hunger and poverty.

The first thing I learned in my work was independence. I had been brought up in a happy family, and had my education from kindergarten to middle school in so-called aristocratic schools. I had been taken care of by my parents, teachers and servants, and I didn't know what independence meant. In the army I not only had to take care of myself, but to take care of thousands of men. I was not sympathized with, but it was I who sympathized. I worked in the hospitals for wounded soldiers. It is impossible for you to imagine what the smell in the hospital was like. It was exactly like the smell of dead rats. I was not a nurse, but sometimes I did a nurse's work, because the nurses always needed help badly. When I was in middle school, I was not allowed to go alone from Canton to Hongkong by train. Now in the army, I dared go anywhere alone. I had learned to be independent.

Second, at the Front I learned about life. When I was in school I took it for granted that life was easy and beautiful. I didn't know what suffering was. In the army I have spent winter nights without enough covering, I have been hungry for days. I saw men crying from the pain of their wounds, mothers weeping for their lost children, old women crying for their burned homes. Then I realized that life was not so simple as I had taken it to be. I realized that I had been living in air castles.

Third, I learned how to love the helpless multitude of people, and became anxious to help them live a happier life. Before I left middle school, I was always dreaming of my own bright future. I did not think of helping others. Neither did I dream how lovable the great, innocent, simple-minded multitude was. In the army, I discovered that the soldiers in their poor ragged clothes had pure, simple, honest hearts. I felt insignificant before the multitude of men who were going to offer their lives for our Motherland.

You may find the conditions at the front very different from what I have painted them. However, if you go with a spirit ready to appreciate those you serve, you may have abundant life even there.

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All good wishes for 1945.

Florence Kirk

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Mr. Corbett
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Ginling College
Chengt'u, China
December 30, 1944

Dear Friends:

I don't know how many times I have thought of my many friends in America and I have made definite plans to write a Christmas letter this year. Actually, I have wasted my secretary's time, for I dictated at least three beginnings of a letter to my friends in America, and yet I never completed any one of them.

Eva Spicer got some letters from her sister yesterday which showed clearly that they were much worried over her early in December. It certainly is true that we had several anxious weeks. It was serious enough to the war situation in China when Kweilin and Luchow fell in succession, but when the enemy pushed so fast into Kweichow, it became quite critical for a few days. Here in Ginling I had several informal conferences with the senior members of the faculty. What we found the hardest was this: on one hand, we wanted to be calm and not add any oil to the fire of the numerous rumors. On the other hand, we had our responsibility toward three hundred girls, and had to take precautionary measures to prepare for any possible worst. By far the majority of our girls are non-Szechwan girls, and about one third of the total have not even relatives to go to in Free China. We could not help being reminded of the days of the fall of 1937, although the situation was entirely different. There was no use considering moving the College, not only because there was no place to move to, but because it is absolutely impossible to secure any means of transportation. The only definite measure we could take was to plan to secure plenty of cash on hand, and not be caught as Yenching was (in 1941).

The students could not help being worried, too. On the day with the worst war news they went to classes as usual, but quite a number of them begged the professors to take time and tell them something of the real situation. Several came to see me and said they felt there was no use for them to continue in the regular college work, and wanted very much to do something directly for the war. For instance, one chemistry student wondered why the College couldn't suspend the regular chemistry courses and, instead, give instruction in regard to poison gas, explosives, etc. While we saw clearly how these young people were stirred up too emotionally, yet we did not wish to kill their genuine desire to help the country by merely pouring cold water on their ideas. We thought, therefore, of activities whereby they could spend their spare time and get practical benefit. A short, two-week course in First Aid was offered by the P.U.M.C. Nurses' School. One hundred of our girls joined this huge class of several hundred. Ginling also arranged with the P.U.M.C. Nurses' School to offer a two-month training course for Nurses' Aides. Eighty of our girls are taking this one. Dr. Chester spent hours in finding the most convenient time for the lecture and laboratory periods, but with these girls coming from all the four years and different departments, she had to come to the last resort of having the lectures from 7 to 8 three mornings a week. It certainly requires courage and determination for the girls to get up in the cold, dark mornings, often below freezing. This winter is unusually cold for Szechwan, and it is said to be the coldest in thirty years.

The activities of one weekend may serve to illustrate the excitement we have had. Late one Friday afternoon a telegram was received from Mr. Lennig Sweet, asking for volunteers from faculty and students to do work for refugee children in the war area. When the notice was posted on Saturday morning, seventy girls signed it within two hours. Students in other universities responded to the call with as much enthusiasm as our girls. Seven of our faculty came to ask my permission for them to go. One of them was Dr. Liu En-lan, and she found that afternoon that there was the possibility of getting a "lift" on a bank truck going to Chungking very soon.

Early the next morning word came that the truck was leaving that morning, and that there was room enough for two people, so Dr. Liu and Miss Hu Ya-lan (Dr. Djang's assistant) picked up their baggage and left hurriedly. This is most unusual - that people actually started for Chungking within 48 hours of receiving the call, because people usually have to wait for days before securing a bus ticket from Chengtu to Chungking. That evening, through the long distance telephone, we were told not to send any more people to Chungking, because of the changed situation at the front. The most serious handicap is lack of transportation. Even if people could manage to get near the front, there was no way of finding transportation to move the children out of the danger zone. Dr. Liu and Miss Hu went toward Kweiyang in an F.A.U. (Friends' Ambulance Unit) truck, but had to turn round before they reached the city, because no civilians were permitted to proceed.

At about the same time several groups of enlisted men were flown from Chengtu to India for further training. Quite a number of the students from the universities on this campus found friends in these groups and through them found vacancies which they could fill at the last minute. Peggy Lin, of our Physical Education Department, told me her experience. Her younger brother, who was a pre-medical student in Cheeloo University, came to see her one morning just to say good-bye, after everything had been arranged. There was no time for her to let her father know in Chungking, and that afternoon she went to the camp to see him. The little brother proudly showed her his new outfit, the regular gray cotton, padded coat and trousers. She could not help laughing at him, because he seemed to be lost in a suit that was much too large for him. Dr. Liu En-lan's brother, and Miss Sie Hsien-gieh's brother (the youngest son of Mr. Sie Gia-seng) were also among the boys who joined the army in this way.

Christmas was celebrated in the traditional way, but with some modifications. Our faculty and students were asked not to present gifts, but to contribute instead toward one general fund for sending gifts to men at the front, and for the families in this neighborhood of soldiers at the front. The total amount of over \$130,000 N.C. was raised for this purpose, and the students worked hard in reaching this figure with contributions from friends outside the College. Mrs. Yeh again sang beautifully in Messiah, and the audiences admitted it was her well-trained choir who joined the Chorus two weeks earlier that made this year's Messiah such a success.

In our rural service station at Chung Ho Chang, Miss Tsü Yu-dji and Miss Hsiung Ya-na are doing splendid work. At the recent Child Welfare Conference in Chungking, the report and exhibit from their nursery school was most favorably received. Several organizations wanted to get the help of Miss Hsiung. Recently they had an interesting experience in helping the rural people to know more about the war. They secured the cooperation of the American O.W.I. which sent out a team of men with a machine to show moving pictures. The agreement was that if there were over 5,000 to see the pictures, the O.W.I. would pay the whole cost. Our rural staff did such a good publicity job that there were over 10,000 who turned out to see the pictures. The most encouraging thing is how the local leaders cooperated in entertaining these visitors and how well the huge crowd followed the management of our small staff. The operators expressed their admiration and said that it was the best-managed and most appreciative audience they had seen.

In the midst of the strain some of the scheduled events were carried out. It had been arranged some time ago to have two separate oratorical contests among the students of the nine universities and colleges in this region. Two students represented each institution. The contest in Chinese took place on November 26th and the one in English two weeks later. We are most happy in Ginling that our girls captured the first prizes in the two contests, both individually and as a team. (One first prize was given to the student who had the highest score among contestants; and

one first prize to the team of two who scored the highest among teams.)

I am sorry to admit that I have not been able to participate in all these events personally. It is because I have been kept in bed exactly eight weeks with a case of nephritis. I am happy now that my doctor let me get up for the first time yesterday, to attend the weekly meeting of the five university presidents, and I hope now that I can go back gradually to my ordinary work. My colleagues have been wonderful to me. We have had committee meetings, conferences, individual talks, all in my room. Even the meeting of the Board Executive Committee took place in my room. (The two men members, President Chen and Dr. Lewis Smythe, were absent from Chengtu.) Also, at the busy time of opening in September, our group had to attend to all the work without me. I was then in Chungking, attending the People's Political Council meetings, the Conference of the Child Welfare Workers, and the Executive Committee of the National Christian Council. You must have read reports of this session of the P.P.C. In many ways it was the best I have attended. Much favorable comment was given by the Chinese papers to the fact that the Council tackled more of the important questions, as better payment to the armed forces and the Civil Service, the severe punishment of corruption, the closer cooperation among the different political parties, etc. The most important achievement, it seems to me, was the fact that both the members and the government representatives spoke sincerely and frankly. I consider this a great step forward in the functioning of an effective parliament or congress. As you well know, the Chinese traditional emphasis on being polite left many things unsaid in public discussion, and yet the unavoidable result is whisperings and grumblings elsewhere. This time in the meetings, the members more effectively assumed the function as spokesman of the people, and the government gave more confidential reports and took the attacks more seriously. This was possible because of the fact that we were all concerned over the issue of how to carry through the last and difficult stages of our resistance. I must admit that the seven and a half long and weary years of war have left a telling effect on the strength and morale of our people. However, we are forever able to be bounced up by the slightest ray of hope and are fully confident of doing our bit in winning final victory.

Miss Walmsley has arrived in India, and I have applied for the permit for her to enter China, but can't be sure what kind of reply will come from the Embassy.

Very sincerely yours,

Yi-fang Wu