

159 3004

UBCHEA ARCHIVES  
COLLEGE FILES  
RG 11

Ginting  
Publicity / reports  
News letters 1948

Mr. Corbett  
Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
January 10, 1948

Dear Friends in America and Other Places:

Some weeks ago, a newspaper reporter, who found a box addressed to me floating in San Francisco Bay, was disappointed to find that I, unlike the box, was alive and thriving - not at all material for a gruesome feature page story. Now if such enthusiasm for my decease had been expressed by my friends, I would have to say they were justified in it, because my long neglect of them deserves nothing better. It is now nearly sixteen months since I left San Francisco. The many letters all of you have written have been received and thoroughly enjoyed, and should have been answered long ago. I can only ask you to forgive my failure to do so, and tell you that the mail from home means a great deal to us here and is much appreciated.

The past fifteen months at Ginling College have been full of interesting changes. Since I was not here in prewar days, I do not feel as acutely as some of the old-timers do the great contrasts - the advances in all phases of education in the college, and the setbacks resulting from the material losses to the College during the occupation of the campus by the Japanese, losses in personnel, equipment, routine organization and morale during the years Ginling was a refugee college in West China. By the time I had arrived in October, 1946, much of the worst debris had been cleared away, the essential rehabilitation had been accomplished, and the College was already under way. During the past year, the rehabilitation has been continued gradually, as time, materials, and funds became available.

The grounds are in fair shape, though by no means up to their past reputation of beauty. Yesterday some visitors remarked about the beautiful poinsettias and roses that Ginling once had. Lotus and fish formerly made the College ponds artistic places. Chrysanthemums were once as much a part of autumn at Ginling as college registration. Now all that beauty is legendary. But a start has been made on restoring the chrysanthemums. And nature herself makes voluntary seasonal contributions - pink spider lilies in the fall, candle berry and Chinese lantern (physalis) trees in winter, purple wild radish in spring, and albizzia trees in summer. All these give color to our campus at various seasons and supply us with decorations for our homes and the Chapel.

The buildings were, fortunately, left structurally intact. During the past summer the woodwork was painted to protect it against weathering. Window panes were replaced, plastic screening (received through UNRRA) was restored to doors and windows in the dormitories. Some of the miscellaneous furniture, which had been collected and repaired with missing parts made of rough wood, was painted. Holes in walls were plastered over to keep out rats. But the big job of refinishing the walls and floors remains to be done.

Books and equipment are being replaced very gradually. Adequate text books, library material, and laboratory equipment are still far from realities. With funds, transportation, and supplies so unpredictable, the continually amazing thing is the ingenuity and resourcefulness on the part of both faculty and students to accomplish all they do with so little to work with. The largest enrollment in the College history - 440 students - has filled the dormitories to capacity and more - four students in rooms that were planned for two, and the overflow, on the dormitory porches. The teacher load has been increased, and some classes are larger than they should be for effective teaching. There are still many part-time teachers.

At present, there are ten foreigners on the staff. Five of them are heads of departments, working in close cooperation with members of the Chinese staff who help to bridge any language difficulties. Nine of them teach in the English language; 3 in the English Department, 2 in Biology, one each in Chemistry, Physical Education, Music, and Home Economics. My own job as secretary to President Wu Yi-fang is interesting and time-consuming. I feel that I would be more useful in it if I had adequate

January 10, 1948

Chinese language, but there seems to be no time for regular study to acquire any more. The language I have gets occasional results and continual smiles from the servants. Their wonderful capacity to imagine what a person might be wanting to say is surprisingly accurate, and usually helpful. But that method of getting by does not satisfy in any way my yen to learn more of this fascinating language. All ten of us foreigners live in one faculty dormitory with eight of the Chinese faculty members. It is a three-story building. Each of us has a private bedroom. There is a common living room on the first floor, a dining room where we all have Chinese lunch together, and another dining room where the foreign group has foreign food for breakfast and dinner. Dr. Wu always has breakfast with us and we enjoy very much the privilege of this association with her. We have a cook and a boy to serve our meals. Our campus garden supplies us with wonderful vegetables the year round. Just now we are having crisp lettuce, cabbage, and carrots. The cauliflower froze in the snowstorm we had just before Christmas. Through the help of our garden and some surplus supplies that came to us through UNRRA, we have been able to survive the exorbitant food prices. Occasionally someone ventures a query as to what we will do when these supplies are exhausted; but, since none of us has an answer, we do not dwell on the question long. Just before Christmas Dr. Chester received the kerosene stove which she brought from America. It has three burners and an oven, and is a real addition to our household. The oven was given a real initiation baking many Christmas cookies. The favorite recipe was the one Olive Chubb gave me for persimmon cookies. We have several trees on the campus which give us our winter supply of persimmons. They are ripening fast now, and this is a splendid way to use them. They have also been substituted for applesauce in an applesauce cake recipe with delicious results.

As some of you know, Christmas is my very favorite season of the year. If I had time, I must admit I would have missed the Christmas crowds shopping for gifts, the lovely musical programs, the Christmas Eve service at St. Paul's, Bakersfield, and, most of all, the fellowship of my family and friends at home. As it was, being busy was a very healthy and happy circumstance. The College had two days' vacation, December 24th and 25th. All of us were put into a good Christmas mood by the production of "The Messiah" given by a chorus of 120 students from Ginling College, the University of Nanking, National Central University, and the National Music Conservatory. The chorus was accompanied by the National Symphony Orchestra. I got a real thrill out of the determination of these young people to carry through their plan. They did not propose it until the end of October. Everyone discouraged them because they did not have copies of the music and the time was too short, both for securing the music and for adequate rehearsals. But they went right on, mimeographed the music, proceeded with the rehearsals, and gave a very creditable performance. It was given three times, at a nominal fee to cover the expenses. Most of the students who took part in the intensive practices at the end were weary when it was over; but we hope that when they are rested and their examinations are over, they will begin rehearsals for Easter music. At the foot of the Sun Yat Sen Memorial, there is a wonderful amphitheatre, with excellent acoustical qualities. It is a perfect place for an Easter sunrise service with good music.

Our own annual Christmas program was held on Tuesday evening, December 23rd. Several scenes showed Christmas customs in other lands, and all were woven together around the general theme of the significance of the birthday of Jesus and the spirit of love and giving. An advance announcement was made that the general offering would be for the refugees in Nanking and envelopes were provided for the gifts of faculty and students. About \$8,000,000 was given at this program. A little later, I will tell you how it was distributed. But first I want to finish the story of other Christmas activities.

Our foreign group had our family Christmas dinner on Christmas eve. A member of the American Embassy, whose husband was temporarily in America, brought her turkey to share it with us. It was a beautiful one, done to a turn in our new oven.

January 10, 1948

We had all the usual fixin's, including cranberry (dehydrated) sauce, and mince and pumpkin pie.

The students had a party in the gymnasium on Christmas Eve, with simple refreshments and all kinds of games. Late in the evening, students from other universities came to sing carols. Our students joined them as they went caroling in this neighborhood. A group in the faculty house prepared hot chocolate and cookies for the several groups of carolers that came during the evening. The last ones arrived around one o'clock.

Christmas morning, three of us went off to St. Paul's Church to the 8 o'clock Communion Service. This English service was well attended by foreigners and Chinese. Breakfast was served after the service in the Parish House. About forty were present. The foreigners in charge of the work of the Episcopal Church - Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hwei - in Nanking are The Reverend and Mrs. Ernest Forster, The Reverend and Mrs. Charles Long, Jr., and Miss Bessie Sims. They and Bishop and Mrs. Y. Y. Tsu were hosts and hostesses at the breakfast.

Most of our foreign faculty group were invited to different homes for Christmas dinners. Dr. Wu, Edith Haight and I were the guests of the Reverend and Mrs. Francis Jones of the Nanking Theological Seminary. We had a delicious dinner and a friendly visit.

On Christmas night, the foreign faculty entertained all the single Chinese faculty members at a buffet supper. There were 33 present. After supper, we played games and thoroughly enjoyed an evening of hilarity and good humor.

Saturday was the most fun of all - a party for the children of the faculty and servants on the campus. Thirty youngsters, five-to-twelve-years-old, arrived half an hour before the announced time, eager to begin. We had stated the time originally at two-thirty, but were astonished at the response that the children did not get out of school until four o'clock on Saturdays. So we set the time at four-thirty. I think some of them must have bribed their teachers to let them out early, because at four o'clock a number arrived, and the others did not lose much time in arriving after that final bell. Stella Graves brought up her portable organ, from the Music Building, and they sang a few songs together before they sat down to the refreshments: cookies, hot chocolate, and tangerines. Then they had a period of games, directed by one of the teachers from the Nursery School at our Child Welfare Center across the street. They had a wonderful time. Mrs. Tsen, one of the most beloved women at Ginling, who has been away for several months, arrived in the middle of the party, with bags of candy for the children. Everyone was delighted to see her. The children left happily, each clutching a package of cookies (cut with my animal cookie cutters from Bee and Merle), a bag of candy, a tangerine, and a can of salted peanuts (contributed by the American Army Group).

With the exception of the distribution of the Christmas fund, that ended our Christmas festivities for another year. On New Year's Eve, the students had a party and a watch night service in the Chapel that was well-attended by students and faculty. The Reverend Tracy Jones gave the address.

There is nothing like the inflation in China to convince one of the utter futility of discussing those hypothetical questions which have appeared in conversation and fiction: "What would you do with a million dollars if you had them?" or "How long would it take you to dispose of a billion dollars under this or that circumstance?" On Christmas Eve, we found ourselves with eight million dollars to give away. The sum seemed so pitifully small in the face of the needs around us. The Sociology Department investigated various places where refugees are "housed" in straw shelters. Several faculty members and students of the department visited agencies and areas to check on the circumstances. It was finally decided to distribute the money through the Child

January 10, 1948

Welfare Center of the Women's Advisory Committee of the New Life Movement, located at Hsiakwan. First our representatives got the cooperation of several Ginling graduates who are working at this Center. These friends went through their community a day in advance and distributed slips of paper to 166 families whom they considered most deserving. These slips served as identification tags the next day when these people appeared at the appointed place. Miss Phoebe Hoh, Mrs. Chang Wu Yu-chen, and Mrs. Tai Li Gi-mou of the Sociology Department, and six students went to distribute the money to the people. They had prepared small packages, each containing \$50,000, wrapped in white paper and stamped with the Ginling seal. Those of you who know Phoebe Hoh will appreciate the thoughtfulness of her remarks to the people before the distribution of the money, and will be able to carry in your memories as I shall the kindness of her expression when she told me about it. She told me she talked to the people about our understanding of their needs. (Many of them are there because of war, flood, or drouth.) Then she explained to them that we did not come because we are rich, for we are not; but that, because of our faith, we sympathized with their needs and gave what we could at this time in honor of the birthday of our Lord. She said we knew it was of little value, and not as much as we would like to give, and that when we have more, we shall give more. She pointed out the uselessness of their begging, and the need for all of us to work at whatever we were able to do to rebuild a better society. She asked them not to open the parcels until they got home, and not to mention where they had received the money, for there was no more at this time. Then each person was called by name and checked off against a list made previously. All but six on the list came to receive their gift. Today I asked a Chinese friend to tell me what they could buy with their gift of \$50,000. She told me it would buy one of the following items: enough rice for one week at two meals a day; 8 pieces of steamed bread (manto); 2 cattles of peanuts; 25 shao ping (buns with sesame seed); enough cotton padding for a Chinese gown; 3 feet of cotton cloth about 2 feet wide (enough for a child's dress); a pair of plain cloth shoes (not padded); 2 pairs of socks, or a cotton machine-knitted cap. Surely no one of these items was too much to give to needy people, many of whom are old, and some of whom are blind and crippled.

While the Sociology Department was investigating places where the money might be given, Phoebe made one trip across the Yangtze River where it was reported that many refugees are living. She found a group of people, housed in an old temple. They are mostly women, children, and old men. She was impressed with their appreciation of her interest. Many of them explained that they were not professional beggars and would like to have some work to do. They have been provided with rice for two meals a day by the Ministry of Social Affairs. But Phoebe appreciated their need for something to do to occupy their minds and hands. So she determined to provide what she could. The Union Church had given us their offering taken for refugees, at a Sunday Service \$1,800,000. This was used to purchase heavy thread and needles, and black cloth, which Phoebe and some of the students divided into lengths large enough for pairs of shoes. A few days ago they went to distribute these packages, which the people were very grateful to get. Incidentally, they learned that a baby in this group had just died of small pox.

There is so much to be done in China that any one item seems trivial. In individuals and groups that have any social concern, there is a constant conflict between a feeling of utter frustration in the face of all that needs to be done and a feeling of real satisfaction in any single triumph over numerous trials and handicaps. If this letter were not already too long, I would tell you about the thrilling work that is being done at our Rural Service Station where a new building has recently been built to house many projects being carried on for the women and children of the neighboring communities; or of the work of our Child Welfare Center across the street from the campus. I would also like to tell you about the play that our student self-government group produced last night called " ", a commentary on the practice of employing relatives of relatives in government positions; or about the re-organization of the Christian Fellowship groups on the campus into a Y.W.C.A.; or

January 10, 1948

about the Winter Conference that is being planned by the Nanking Christian Students' Union; or about the three oratorical contests that were held about a month ago in which Ginling students took all the first places; or about the Nanking athletic meeting in which Ginling girls won nine out of eleven first places.

Of course, I know you expect me to make some comment on the political situation. Frankly, I wish I could tell you something factual about it that might have some significance; something that would help you make accurate distinctions between the real and the fictitious reports you are getting. Actually, I sometimes feel that I know less about the real state of affairs here than I would if I were at home. Probably the best that one can say is that there are many who are doing their best in a bad situation to supply those around them with physical and spiritual needs, to create better attitudes of social consciousness and responsibility, and to set up within their own environment possibilities for a better standard of living. Whether one walks down the streets of a Chinese city or goes through the countryside, he cannot avoid being impressed with the tremendous task of rehabilitation that faces China. Illiteracy, poverty, disease, superstition and out-moded traditions frustrate the efforts of the best public officials and private citizens who have the best of intentions to bring about improvements. At the same time, the sheer size of the country and its population, the number of centuries through which this land has nourished its countless generations, the physical endurance and the persistent hope and patience of the people - all these make one feel humble and naive when easy and speedy solutions are proposed or expected.

In all this, the activities of Christian groups and individuals give hope and encouragement. There are many. One is Dr. Ting Mei-Ing, who visited Ginling in November and spoke at Chapel one day on her experiences as a prisoner of the Japanese. In honor of her professors in America, she has donated scholarships to two Ginling students. Recently she wrote to me from Tientsin: "1948 does not look too bright for China, for there is continuation of war and destruction of both lives and materials. But for those who have faith in God we must go forward in our actions. The one saving feature of our national life is that everywhere Christians are going forward in spite of difficulties. After my return from the Hangchow Conference in November, I started a soup kitchen for refugees. I had nothing very much, but I started in faith. 'Faith in Action' was our theme at the Y.W.C.A. Conference. I carried this spirit back. Everyone in the city calls this soup kitchen 'Dr. Ting's Kitchen for Refugees'. We are actually feeding almost 1000 refugees daily. All was done in faith and the whole thing is going smoothly. I would even have a small balance at the end of three months. If conditions do not improve, we may be able to carry on to the end of March. I am thankful for the Christian education I had, and I want others to share the same fruit and joy; that is why I am doing my little bit."

I have another good piece of news for you. Last spring I wrote the story of the life of one of our Christian students - Yü Hai-hsing - as she told it to me. That story was sent to some of you at my request. I told you how she had lost her left hand as the result of a wound she got in a bombing raid, and that we hoped she would be able to use an artificial hand if we could manage to get one for her. An American Army doctor investigated for us and got all the necessary information. Two days before Christmas, Yü Hai-hsing went to have the necessary measurements taken and casts made. We are now waiting patiently for the arm to arrive. The cost of the arm will be in the neighborhood of \$250. Yü Hai-hsing will graduate in June, and we are hoping we may be able to provide for her not only the arm, but also a scholarship fund that will make it possible for her to have some advanced training that will enable her to be better prepared to provide for herself and also to learn to use her new hand as skillfully as possible. I have already told some of you that the Christmas gift checks which you sent me have gone into that fund. If others of you would like to have a share in this project, your contributions will be most welcome. They may be sent to me in care of the Ginling College Office, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y., or

From Miss Plaum

-6-

January 10, 1948

directly to Nanking, if you prefer. Please indicate that they are for Yu Hai-hsing.

Two other pieces of good news came with the New Year. One, Dr. Wu's satisfactory recovery from an appendectomy which was performed on December 20th. She is still in the hospital, but will probably be home within another week. The other - much less important, but very welcome - improvement in the lighting system that makes it possible for us to see well enough to work after dinner. Perhaps I can now do a better job of keeping up on my correspondence. Thank you all for your Christmas greetings.

We are off to another year, with high hopes that it may bring new evidences of cooperation and peace among people and nations.

Sincerely,

Helen M. Plaum

January 1948

Mr. Corbett

G I N L I N G   N E W S

FROM A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT WU YI-FANG TO ALUMNAE ABROAD

"Almost four weeks of the autumn term have passed. The College opened, as scheduled, on September 15th. Those things which, in normal times, were routine matters went off much more smoothly this year than last, and are gradually coming under control. Problems arising from rehabilitation and inflation are more unpredictable, and we must work our way through them step by step. In spite of our many limitations in living accommodations, teaching equipment, personnel, and salaries, our faculty and students are making the necessary adjustments in a good spirit, and Ginling is on the way to another successful year."

"On the morning of October 3rd, a large group gathered to say goodbye to Mrs. Tsen when she left for her home in Hankow. Although we all know that she needs and deserves a rest, we find it difficult to accept her decision to retire. She has served Ginling so well and so long that we feel at a loss to know how to go on without her. During her 24 years at Ginling, her wise counsel, sympathetic understanding, and unselfish devotion have endeared her to the hearts of all who have had the privilege of knowing her. We hope that, after she has had some rest and vacation, she will be willing to return to Ginling to fill that place which, because of her capable and faithful service, will always be peculiarly hers." (According to a more recent letter, Mrs. S. F. Tsen has returned to take charge of equipping the new dormitory and supervising whatever needs to be done. Ed.)

"1092 students took our entrance examination this year. We expected a total of 400, but our estimate was too low. Our enrollment is now 440, the largest in our history. Part of this unexpectedly large enrollment is due to the large number - 28 - who enrolled for the first year Special Physical Education Course and the return of 100 percent of the class of 10 that we had last year in this Course. We are encouraged by the increasing interest in this work because we have never been able to give a favorable response to the large number of requests we have each summer to supply directors of physical education in middle schools. Next summer we shall have 10 finishing the short course and two the regular college course in physical education."

THE NEW BUILDING

Ginling has a very serious housing problem as the following paragraph from Dr. Wu's letter of December 4, 1947, will show:

"The Faculty Executive Committee has given very thorough consideration to the urgent building needs of the College. We first considered the need of faculty residences. There are quite a number of families crowded into one wooden house left by the Japanese. Furthermore, other families have been put into the apartments which were originally planned for the senior women who are now living in the faculty dormitories. But also there is the need for a student dormitory. Not only are all the rooms in the student dormitories crowded with four students in each room, but about twenty students are still living on the porches. When we look ahead to September 1948, we know there will surely be more than 440, the enrollment we have now. Considering all the factors, the Executive Committee decided to recommend to the Board the building of a simple but substantial student dormitory. It is being built back of the quadrangle of dormitories. It took some time to decide upon the most satisfactory site. We finally decided to locate it toward the western boundary, back of the infirmary. It will face south, and the rooms are so arranged that there will be only a few students' rooms with only north windows. Because of the rapid change in money values, builders move rapidly these days, and the building is well under way."



On this subject, Miss Kirk says: "To complete our campus plan we need a big tenth building, a student dormitory in the colorful style of our other buildings. We can't afford this now, so we are building a new dormitory in grey brick, putting it back of the main plant, so that the original design will not be spoiled. The building site is a busy spot. The huge logs are being sawn into lumber in the old primitive way - the log propped up securely, and two men laboriously sawing the boards. An out-of-doors kitchen supplies food to the workmen."

#### HIGH COST OF LIVING

Miss Kirk makes vivid the exchange and price situation when she says:

"The shifting exchange and rising prices leave us breathless. We lose all sense of proportion about what is a reasonable or what is an exorbitant price. My salary is now several millions a month. Eggs cost \$2,000 each, rubber-soled shoes \$400,000, a second-class ticket to Shanghai (about 200 miles) \$112,000, bamboo paper \$60 a sheet. The College gets the 'open market' rate, about \$58,000 Chinese dollars to U.S.\$1; so, in gold, the prices are not high. The tragedy comes when the white-collar job people have a more or less stable income, and prices go sky-rocketing."

#### THE JOINT CAMPAIGN IN CHINA

The thirteen Christian Colleges in China are having a joint campaign to raise CN\$15,500,000,000. Dr. Wu writes: "I am glad now to be able to tell you that the Campaign Committee for the Nanking-Shanghai area has been active to raise the goal of CN\$6,000,000,000 - the amount assigned to this area. I attended the recent meeting held November 25th in Shanghai, and we are hoping to reach the goal. The big disadvantage is the fast depreciation of the Chinese currency. By the time the money is raised, it will not have the value that we had planned."

#### ATHLETIC EVENTS

The 23rd Annual Field Day was held on November 1st, on the rehabilitated athletic field, not the front quadrangle as last year. The event was planned with whole-hearted enthusiasm and in the best Ginling tradition. Dr. Chang Siao-sung, representing Dr. Wu, who had to be in Shanghai to attend a meeting of the China Christian Education Association, spoke on the significance of the day in Ginling tradition, emphasizing the spirit of sportsmanship and recreation, and each class entered eagerly into the program of the afternoon.

On November 12th, a national holiday celebrating the birthday of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, a city-wide athletic meet was held in Nanking. Students from Ginling College, Central University and Chang Yin Normal College, and individual entries competed. Ginling College broke the city record in the 80-meter hurdle race, and took first place in nine out of eleven events. In addition, Ginling took 7 second places, 3 third places, 5 fourth places, and 4 fifth places.

#### FOUNDERS' DAY

Dr. Wu writes as follows of Founders' Day:

"We were fortunate this year in having beautiful weather for our celebration. Everyone enjoyed the various activities. The alumnae had a good meeting in the afternoon, and there was a fine representation of alumnae and their husbands, Board members, and faculty at the dinner that was served in the gymnasium. All but four classes had

representatives to answer the class roll call. The program in the auditorium was amusing and everyone enjoyed it. It depicted the College in the years 1917, 1927, 1937, and 1947, and reminded us that our growth has certainly not been uneventful. Some alumnae of the Classes of 1927 and 1937 did the scenes for those years, giving them an air of authenticity.

"The Founders' Day service on Sunday morning was well attended. As usual, the seniors were proud to be wearing their caps and gowns for the first time, and the procession of the whole student body was dignified and impressive. Bishop Fred P. Corson gave a splendid address on the qualities which Christian education must provide if it is to be effective in the world today."

#### PRACTICE SCHOOL

Ginling's Practice School flourishes. Serving, as it does, the twofold purpose of providing experience in directed teaching for the college students and preparing girls for entrance into college, it has increasingly heavy demands made upon it year by year. The enrollment this year is 358, of whom 198 are living on the campus. All facilities are taxed to the utmost, and the need for additional space is keenly felt. At present the School is using buildings sorely needed by the College and is therefore hoping to raise sufficient funds for a Vautrin Memorial Hall to help solve the housing problem.

#### RURAL SERVICE STATION

The most exciting news from Ginling's Rural Service Station at Shwen Hwa Cheng is the erection of a new building. In her report to the Ginling Board of Directors, Miss Tsü Yu-dji, Director of the rural work, says:

"The Station opened in the home of the Li family, who generously offered housing for the staff and the work of the Station. This situation was especially fortunate, as it enabled the staff to become acquainted easily and naturally with the local people, who accepted them as neighbors and not as officials of an institution. However, as the work progressed, it required more space than their buildings provided and we began to plan for a new building. Through a grant from the Ministry of Social Affairs and contributions from the Social Welfare Committee of U.S.C. and from the women of the Universalist Church in America, we were able to start building in August, and the building is now almost finished.

"The construction of this building has been a real educational demonstration to the local people. They have observed carefully and learned much. Most of their buildings face east and west, and get very little sunlight. Our building faces south and demonstrates the value of that exposure for warmth and light. They are impressed with the large windows that admit air and light, and by the idea of a second floor, because most of their buildings are one-story buildings with tiny windows and earthen floors that are cold and damp. They were also interested in the use of brick pillars to support the roof instead of wooden pillars which can easily be destroyed by white ants."

Miss Tsü also reports that the feeding station has supplied milk daily to between 250 and 300 children, and adds, "It has been gratifying to watch the babies, previously undernourished, grow strong and happy after they have received milk at the Station for two or three months."

During the past year there were five staff members at the Station - three Ginling graduates and two with normal school training. The group was strengthened in

the fall by the return of Miss Hsiung Ya-na, who had been in charge of the nursery school and children's work at Ginling's Rural Service Station in West China. She spent last year in the United States where she studied on a Child Welfare Scholarship from U.S.C. and received her Master's Degree from Cornell University. She will contribute greatly to the work carried on in the new building.

#### CHRISTMAS

Parties for children and grown-ups, music and a special Christmas program marked the holidays on the Ginling campus. The Christmas program was a presentation of Christmas in other lands. The offering was for refugees in Nanking and amounted to approximately six million dollars.

#### DR. WU YI-FANG

Word has just been received that Dr. Wu Yi-fang is recovering from an appendectomy performed on December 29th. There were no complications and her progress has been most satisfactory.

Dr. Wu has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the United States Education Foundation in China, the organization which will administer funds provided under the Fulbright Bill. She has also been elected the first president of the Chinese Association of Universalist Women and Chairman of the China Christian Education Association.

January 1948

*Mr. Corbett*

PARAGRAPHS FROM LETTERS FROM DR. LIU EN-LAN

Ginling College

"At last after ten years of 'exile' I am now in Nanking again. The city wall is just as picturesque as ten years ago in spite of the poundings by people who love to destroy. Purple Mountain stands outside the east wall and is just as solid, steady, beautiful and friendly as ever. Though it cannot be compared with the grandeur and majesty of the mountains of West China or the Rockies of America, yet it makes me feel at home."

"The walls of my office are disfigured by the filling of two large holes which the Japanese dug. There were already doors to the adjoining rooms, but they still disfigured the walls by digging two extra holes right by the original door. The love of using holes instead of doors from room to room is more than I can comprehend. The desk I am using now is also a museum piece. It has a glass cover. The glass is glued on the desk so it cannot be removed without breaking it. Under the glass is a photograph of a 2nd Lieutenant with his name card and his official title, a calendar sheet and a Japanese landscape scene. I think it is a pity to destroy that nice glass cover; that means this 2nd Lieutenant stays too."

"I noticed four things new to Nanking: (1) There are more old cars and jeeps on the streets, all running in a wild fashion. (2) There are also more public buses and regular stations which did not exist before. (3) There are crowds of pedicabs, which Nanking did not have before the war. (4) The composition of the population is different. There seems to be a smaller percentage of original Nankingites now and a larger percentage of people from other cities and provinces."

"Family is the essential unit in the foundation of a nation and the mother is the center of the home. Women have a unique place in the constructive program of a nation everywhere. The women of China have suffered long and did not have a chance to make their full effort felt in the building of the nation. Since the war, the situation is different. Women are now not only released from traditional bondage as dependents, but they are becoming as essential as men in the earning of livelihood for the family. Thus with their economic power comes the right not only to express their minds, but also to be heard. Therefore, at present in China, the thoughts and ideas of women are forces to be reckoned with, though they still need time for fuller manifestation and to become stronger."

"Another change is the political attitude of the people. Formerly they simply managed their own affairs, cultivating the land to feed the nation and doing business for the economic life of the nation and they left the political problems and policies to their leaders. Today they themselves are concerned with the political problems and policies of the nation. Though their voices may not be heard, still they are beginning to organize themselves and often elect delegates to call on responsible government officials, expressing their opinions and making themselves felt. Even though the results are still insignificant, yet when the yeast is in, it will work. It is a matter of time."

"Furthermore, the political philosophy of the people has also departed from the traditional pattern. They are not only feeling concerned with political issues, but are also feeling concerned enough to enter into political activities. Women too are interested and are working to get seats on national and city political councils."

"The summarized impression of the 'returned native' is that social, economic, political and educational trends in China are all turning and changing. Day in and

day out, waves and waves of changes are modifying the ways of life. In the present world no nation can live alone anymore. I feel more strongly than ever that human relations are not problems to be solved once for all. New understandings are essential and new adjustments are necessary for constructive and peaceful progress."

"The student body is more than double the prewar enrollment. They appear to be much younger than the students of former years. Social conditions in China have been revolutionized by the war. Even though people have financial difficulties, still they are struggling to send their children, even their daughters, to school and college. The families also seem to have adopted an open-door policy for the social life of their girls. They do not seem to mind girls having men friends or going to the movies. As a result, the present generation of girls seem to have a lot of outside activities which are no less interesting than college life. The resulting college spirit is different from what it used to be, even during refugee years in Chengtu. Naturally the postwar girls, in their social environment, have more social graces and other qualities which girls of former years did not have, but they also miss development in many other lines."

"Recently I have had many students coming to visit me from both Ginling and the University of Nanking. They all seem to express the feeling of being lost. They say that they have friends who are feeling so desperate that sometimes they wish to die. Some, of course, are troubled by financial problems, others are upset by the uncertainties of the future, while still others are full of the anxiety of a man standing at a crossroad, not knowing which way to turn. What they need is a solid religious faith, to live in trust and hope, to make up their minds to do the best they can and feel assured that God will take care of the rest."

"One may read of student strikes in the newspapers or meet students who appear superficial and troublesome, but when one really comes to know the youth, one sees a totally different picture. Youth today is struggling for a vision in the dark. They struggle, they kick around and they bump into hard places and get hurt, then they get more excited and struggle and scream. What they need is a vision and a loving and strong guiding hand that will give them confidence, and show them the right way to achievement."

"Some of them complain of exceeding loneliness. 'When I have a problem, I have no one to go to for consultation or comfort because everyone seems to be deeply involved in his own troubles.' One University student told me: 'When in Chengtu, we went to the tea house (right outside the University gate). A group of us would drink tea and discuss our problems. Then we felt better. But now there is no tea house around and no social room where we can gather. Life is difficult.' Obviously the students miss the student centers they used to have in Chengtu and the tea houses which are really social centers. As I talk with those students from time to time, I realize the need of such a place as a 'Union' where they can get suitable kinds of recreation and the chance to meet friends and discuss problems, and have debates and lectures on all kinds of intellectual, social, national and international problems."

"I took one Saturday afternoon to explore Fu-sze Miao, Confucian temple, in the southern part of the city. It used to be a public recreation ground and commercial center for the rank and file of ordinary citizens. It was a lively and busy place. It is still crowded, but the nature of the activities in progress is different. There are still rows and rows of food stands - I mean the moving kitchens where the cooking stove and frying pans are carried on the ends of a pole and the cook carries his kitchen around to suit the convenience of the customers. The food is just as good, but there are not as many varieties as before, and it is terribly expensive. Yet every stand is crowded with insatiable customers."

"The big building for Confucius is gone and its place is taken by modern gambling stands, by which I mean western table games in modified form used for gambling purposes. Long huts in rows are full of second-hand goods for sale."

"If Confucius should come back to see his own house now, he would weep his eyes out with sadness, if it were not for one little broken hut in the midst of the noise and rush. Here a book-seller has put around on rows of racks stories of various kinds, cheaply printed on cheap paper but illustrated with drawings. To be sure, they are not all good books, but the majority of them are stories on filial piety, loyalty and good friendship from the great philosophers. Crowds of children gather inside, reading without lifting their heads to look at the crowd. They simply are deeply buried in their reading. Someone should help the poor book-seller to get more good and interesting books. He is doing it for the sake of trade, but he is at the same time doing a piece of splendid educational work. He certainly should get cooperation and help from all those who love children and mankind."

"There is another new phenomenon which I must mention before I stop. On October 14, 1947, a Lolo chief whom I had met before came to call on me. I learned that he is here with a few others, petitioning the government for seats on the Sikang Provincial Legislature, and also securing places for Lolo delegates on the Peoples Political Council. Considering the fact that many people still have the notion that the Lolo are wild people, one should meet these Lolo and talk with them. It is not that they have suddenly become highly cultured according to modern standards, but the amount they have developed in the last few years is astounding. The chief came to visit the College three times and each time with a different Lolo. They have written Lolo characters to show us their culture. Their philosophy of life is surprisingly deep-rooted."

GINLING COLLEGE  
Nanking, China  
April 29, 1948

Mr. Corbett

Miss Sallie Lou MacKinnon  
Chairman, Ginling College Committee of  
United Board for Christian Colleges in China  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.

Dear Miss MacKinnon:

As the annual meeting of the United Board will be held soon, I want to tell you a little about the present conditions and problems of the College. At the close of the first year back on our home campus, we had the largest graduating class in our history - sixty-eight. We started our second year under much better conditions, both as to the physical plant and the faculty. Actually, the campus gives a false impression because with the repaired roofs and the fresh paint on the wooden eaves and pillars and on the window and door frames, and the trees and shrubbery in healthy condition, we appear to be in very good condition. It is only when visitors step inside the buildings that the effects of the occupation period become evident. For instance, when Miss Chakko spent a week on the campus, she expressed her sympathy for all that remains to be done before our buildings are restored to a semblance of prewar condition. The students were taking their final examinations last winter during a very cold wave, and it was really pitiful to see them sitting in bitterly cold rooms from two to four hours trying to concentrate on their examinations. Yet, the problem of restoring the heating system is such a tremendous one that we do not even know how to plan for it.

Faculty. The rehabilitation problem does not apply to the physical plant alone. We have also tried to give attention to personnel. In the summers of both 1946 and 1947, eight or nine faculty members went abroad, either on regular sabbatical leaves or for graduate study. With such changes in personnel, it is difficult to find substitutes and to maintain the general morale. We were therefore particularly happy when Dr. Ruth Chester, Dr. Liu En-lan, and Miss Hsiung Ya-na returned last fall after having spent a year in America. We are grateful to the London Missionary Society for sending as their representative, with salary, Miss Marjorie Causer. We are also grateful to the Methodist Board for transferring Dr. Helen Ferris to Ginling. I have been wanting to have a mission member on the staff of the Sociology Department ever since Miss Mossman returned to America, and Miss Ferris is a real addition to that Department. It is the largest department in the College, and many of our graduates go into social work and will benefit from her influence and instruction. You will be happy to know that Miss Rosa May Butler will be coming from McTyeire to Ginling to take charge of the Music Department.

We are glad to have Dr. Chang Hwei-lan on the campus now giving her full time to the Chairmanship of the Physical Education Department. Since Ettie Chin returned to America, we have not had a full-time person of experience to take charge of this work, and Dr. Chang is filling a real need. We are looking forward to the return of Miss Eva Spicer and Dr. C. F. Lung in the fall.

Counseling and Guidance Project. Last fall, we were fortunate in receiving a special contribution from the Eva and Lucius Eastman Fund of US\$2400. We were also fortunate to have Mrs. W. S. New as the visiting guidance consultant to help us start the counseling and guidance program. As Mrs. New frequently reminds me, we have made only a modest beginning because the staff which we were able to provide to help Mrs. New has not had professional training for this type of work. Mrs. Beulah Kwok has given half-time to extracurricular activities, and four other young women, also on half-time basis, served as residence counselors in the dormitories. During the early

April 29, 1948

fall, Mrs. New spent 30 hours in seminars with these counselors to introduce the fundamental principles of counseling; and, this term, she has spent a full month on the campus and given many more hours for seminars and conferences with the counselors and has also had personal interviews with students referred to her by the counselors.

From the experience of the past eight months, we have been more convinced than ever of the urgent need of such counseling service for the students. They have plenty of personal problems - academic, health, financial, emotional, etc. At a faculty meeting in April, the counselors presented a very interesting and revealing program, telling of their work and of a number of cases which have come to their attention. In addition to typical student problems that exist anywhere, there is the effect of the general situation that confronts any thinking people nowadays in China. The widespread and sporadic student strikes and the general unrest in the country cannot but effect the attitude and mood of our students and they need the guidance of able and interested counselors.

In an effort to get some help for the Christian Colleges from the funds provided by the Fulbright Act, the United States Educational Foundation in China has asked the Christian institutions to present projects. This is the most recent plan for securing help in addition to the program of visiting professors and scholarships for students. The Board of Foreign Scholars has suggested that such projects be worked out for a period of one year and designed to help the college budget. After considering very carefully all the possible projects that might be presented by the college, the Faculty Executive Committee decided to present our project on counseling and guidance. We are anxious to carry on the preliminary work started this year. In addition to the work we have already done, we hope to be able to build up a body of knowledge necessary to the full understanding of the students and their needs; and, at the same time, we hope to be able to work out means of determining objectively their aptitudes and abilities. Our project has been presented with two parts: the extending of the service program which we have started this year, and a research program for working out objective tests and measurements for both college and high school students. We hope that our project will be accepted by the Board of Foreign Scholars and that a specialist can be secured to come out next fall to direct this research work. As the work develops, we hope that it will be of use to other institutions as well.

Needs of the College. Rehabilitation. As you know, there is still a great deal of rehabilitation to do before the College will be restored to its prewar condition. We have a long way to go. The most urgent items are the repair of the fence, painting the walls, and the reconditioning of the athletic field and replacing tennis courts. The gas plant is still not working and is badly needed for the science laboratories. I have already mentioned the heating plant. We have placed requests with the China Relief Mission to secure grants to pay for the labor for some of these needs.

2. Equipment. In addition to the major needs previously mentioned, we need to secure more science equipment and books. In the Music Department, we have only half as many pianos as we had in prewar days, but the number of majors in that Department has doubled, and this creates a real problem. The practice pianos are in constant use from early morning until ten o'clock, and still the practice conditions are far from satisfactory for these students.

3. Faculty Housing. This is another real problem at Ginling. Since the war, it has become necessary to house every member of the faculty, whether single or married, technician or stencil-cutter. Even for married women whose husbands are fully employed, we have to provide housing if we wish to get full-time service from these women and not merely a few lectures.



4. A Chapel. This is another need that was brought out in our faculty retreat and in other discussion groups. The students have expressed a need for some place with a quiet worshipful atmosphere for morning watches, or for meditation and reading and prayer. The present auditorium is too big for this purpose, and, being surrounded by music practice rooms, there is no real quiet time there except at the stated time for daily chapel.

5. Home Economics Practice House and Laboratory. The Home Economics Department now has its laboratory in a room formerly used by the Biology Department and which is really needed by them now. The house that is being used as the Practice House was Dr. Reeves' home, and it is not actually suitable at all for a Practice House. Furthermore, it is badly needed for faculty housing. In response to a letter from Dean Milam, the College presented a request for a grant from the Business and Professional Women's Clubs for the current budget of the department and also for a grant for building a Home Economics Practice House and Laboratory. Dean Milam is coming to visit Ginling toward the end of May and we shall have an opportunity to discuss this problem with her and find out what the possibilities are for funds from that source.

Problems. The first one is, naturally, the financial problem. It is not news to the United Board, in view of the continued difficult conditions after victory. But in spite of the problem of meeting the shortage in the budget, we are gratified by the success of the United Board Emergency Campaign and the response in China to the Joint Campaign by the Christian Colleges. We just had the final meeting of the Campaign Committee when I was in Shanghai last week. The total goal of 15 billion dollars was exceeded. All the alumni bodies worked hard for their alma maters, and the government organizations responded sympathetically. President Chen and I contributed our share by approaching General Chang Chun, the Premier, for a grant of six billion last fall, and by approaching the Vice-Minister of Finance Hsu for the contribution of two billion from the government banks. Although we are sorry that the fast depreciation of the Chinese currency has reduced the real value of the proceeds, the fact that large sections of the contributions were distributed as soon as possible has enabled the colleges to get full value from the funds as they came. At its meeting last November, our Board of Directors approved using our share of these funds to build a badly needed student dormitory. That building has been finished. Now, with the final allotment from this campaign, we shall proceed with the furnishing, installing bathroom facilities, etc. Even when this building is in use, we shall still have to house 4 girls in the rooms which Mrs. Thurston had originally planned for two. We have paid about CN\$850,000,000 thus far for the construction of the building. You will be interested to know that, if it were being built today, the estimated cost would be about CN\$4,600,000,000.

There is a rather large shortage in the tentative budget for this term, but if I understand correctly, the Methodist Board is again making an additional grant of \$5,000 and the Presbyterian Board is making an additional grant of \$1,000. If so, these amounts will be almost enough to cover the shortage.

Uncertainties. The other problem affecting both the faculty and students, unconsciously, is an emotional and spiritual one, resulting from the continued state of uncertainty in China and in the world in general. How we can come out of the present critical condition and what the future may hold is a question constantly with us. Yet, as an educational institution, we have to make plans, not only to carry on but gradually to build up the work of the College. In spite of our certainty that there are further difficult days ahead, we still have faith that a better China will emerge out of this serious period of tribulation which confronts not only China but the whole world. In educational work, we feel the impact upon our young people of

Dr. Wu to Miss MacKinnon

-4-

April 29, 1948

all kinds of confusion and efforts made to attract them to lesser ways of life. These only sharpen the challenge to direct them in the right way. In dealing with our own students, I have become increasingly aware that we must put more conscious effort into helping them as individuals instead of depending upon the traditional procedures to produce effective results. As Beulah Kwoh put it, it is a slow process, but it is the only way to build "real persons". It is Jesus' way, and that is the only hope for a new China.

I wish I could be with you at the annual meeting to express in person for myself and for the College our deep gratitude to all the Board and the staff for their continued confidence in the Christian Colleges in China and for their sustained efforts in helping us to carry on during these perplexing and challenging days. My very best wishes for a successful meeting.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Wu Yi-fang

Wu Yi-fang

WYF:hp

*Amelia D. J.*

STUDENT LIFE AT GINLING COLLEGE

The life of a student is the "golden age". In middle age or in old age, we will fall into a beautiful dream whenever memories of our student life rise before us. We, who are living as students, should consider ourselves the most fortunate people in the world. Our group life is filled with a vivid and happy atmosphere. We are now a group of pure young students, who have not yet been stained by the evil, false standards of society. We gather together from day to day in happiness and animation.

Although we are all students at Ginling, we have differences in our backgrounds and personal qualities. I have been a boarding student here since I first started to college. Next year I will be a junior. I have had a happy life here in Ginling and find it much more interesting than my former school life.

Our surroundings are most fortunate. In this large, noisy city, our college is a tranquil place. On the college campus, the solemn and beautiful palace-like buildings form an impressive picture. Broad, green lawns and beautiful trees are everywhere. Among singing birds in the spring dawn I leaned against a tree beside the pond with a book in my hands. I felt as if I were in Paradise. Suddenly the meaning of what was in my book was clear and easy. In the summer sunsets strolling along the tree-shaded paths with several friends brings peace to my weary heart. To whom are we indebted for this happy life? To our alma mater, Ginling!

The standard of living in our college is higher than in some other schools, and we enjoy and appreciate our environment.

Besides our regular college work, we have outside activities. There are different kinds of groups and organizations. Those who like literature and art work together to publish various wall-papers, which are placed on bulletin boards since we cannot afford to have them printed. Those who like science hold discussion meetings. In order to develop our friendship with others, we have Christian Fellowship groups and also some folk-dancing groups. We also have concerts and gymnastic performances. All these are part of Ginling College life. The thing we are most proud of is the family spirit in our college. Our schoolmates are just our sisters, and our teachers, our parents. We are proud of our peaceful life here, since other universities often have much trouble because of the inadequacies in their atmosphere. In some respects our college life may not be broad enough, but I think our good environment will enable us to improve our lives if we continue our efforts tirelessly.

All of this is to give you a general conception and a rough sketch of student life at Ginling. To sum up, Ginling girls live happily together under a comparably good atmosphere. The beautiful and quiet environment, the family spirit in our college, and the various activities within certain limitations provide us with a happy college life. I believe firmly that every one of us enjoys the present life with full happiness and that this feeling will last also into the future. Whenever we recall our college days, we will do so with praise for Ginling.

By Fu Wu-i (Sophomore)  
Spring, 1948

Mr. Corbett

GINLING COLLEGE  
Nanking, China  
June 16, 1948

Dr. Robert J. McMullen  
Executive Secretary  
United Board for Christian Colleges in China  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.

Dear Dr. McMullen:

I am glad that I can send you more encouraging news than that I reported in my last letter.

Because of the various protests against the American policy of strengthening Japan, Dr. Stuart issued a statement to the students through a press conference. Unfortunately, that brought many responses criticizing most of the points he mentioned. Here in the college, the chairman of the student self-government association brought a draft reply upon which the seals of the student self-government associations of Central University and the University of Nanking had been placed. After she had passed around this statement, she called a cabinet meeting for the cabinet members to glance over it. At that meeting, without much discussion, they adopted the statement and decided to present it to the student body with recommendation that it be adopted. As it happened, class meetings were scheduled that afternoon for the purpose of electing class officers for the coming fall term. Dr. Chang, our Dean of Students, had read over the draft statement and found that it attacked Dr. Stuart himself as well as the American policy. It showed purposeful discrediting of Dr. Stuart's prestige, the American aid to the government, and the American policy of industrial rehabilitation of Japan.

Dr. Chang and I called in the chairman of the student self-government association and had a long talk with her. We pointed out the responsibility involved in issuing such statements and the importance of not railroading through such matters without having given the students an opportunity to read the statement carefully before taking a vote. The usual method used in other universities is merely to post such notices on a bulletin board with an announcement by the student self-government association asking students who do not approve to sign their names by a certain time, and, if a majority do not oppose the statement, it is considered as being approved. This time, our chairman intended to ask the class presidents to tell the various classes about the main points in the statement and ask for their vote upon them. The Dean and I pointed out to her frankly that that was not the proper procedure for responsible voting, and she then agreed to mimeograph the draft statement and circulate it for each girl to study. Then I asked if she could be sure that the girls had read Dr. Stuart's statement carefully. She, of course, could not be sure, so I said the college would help by mimeographing that statement so the girls could study the two statements side by side. This agreement was made on Wednesday evening.

These statements were distributed early Thursday afternoon. Very soon, several seniors independently posted signed requests that the statement from the students be revised and the reasons for these requests. Promptly those who were in favor of adopting the original draft posted replies to the points brought out by these seniors. On Friday morning, the student cabinet met to discuss how to proceed. They had a very intelligent discussion of the problem and the cabinet was just split evenly, so they decided to call another student meeting right after lunch. There was again a very fine debate with the opinions on both sides freely and intelligently presented. The final vote was in favor of revising the statement, and a committee of five was elected to do this revision.

June 16, 1948

The revised draft was presented to the student body at a meeting on Saturday noon, and was adopted. Before this meeting adjourned, the chairman announced that the student self-government associations of Central University and the University of Nanking had accepted this revised statement on Friday evening. The revised statement referred only to the United States Government's policy toward Japan and to the fact that the citizens of China had suffered from Japanese aggression and are strongly opposed to the strengthening of Japan and thus enabling her to become another threat to China in the near future.

This experience has given much encouragement to our Dean, the Counselor of Extra-curricular Activities, and myself because, after the three-day strike, we have been working separately to help the students, especially the seniors, to be courageous in speaking out their own opinions. We have emphasized that the essential principle of democracy is for all the constituent units to take responsibility for any action for the whole, so each must make her own judgment and be responsible for it. All of this time, the majority of the students were not in favor of the extreme actions by students in general, but very often a small number of very active students, well organized, got in touch with similarly active student groups in other universities and put through actions before the unorganized majority could take any action. While we do not want to see opposing camps formed in the college, we do want to have each student feel her responsibility in group actions so that she will have the courage to express her opinions. In view of the happenings in the student body since the end of April, this action on the revision of the statement is a real victory for the sensible and responsible students, and we shall continue in our effort to help individually in the building up of sound student opinion.

The annual programs by the physical education and the music departments were very successful and brought enthusiastic comments from the large audiences in attendance. Last night we had a new type of program for Ginling - a debate. Mr. Pardee Lowe, the administrative secretary of USEFC, gave generously of his time to coach the speakers. The subject was: Resolved that Ginling College should be co-educational. The speakers did very well, considering the fact that this was their first experience; and I was happily surprised at their use of English. There was a good spirit between the speakers and in the audience. The judges were Miss Hilda Anderson, Miss Lucille Gould, and Mr. Robert Moddy, all from the American Embassy; Miss Beryl Power, of the International Labor Office in London (now an adviser to the Ministry of Social Affairs), and Dr. Walter S. Root, of Columbia University (now with ABMAC). They were asked to base their decision on 60% for content and 40% for delivery. They cast their decision for the negative side. After the debate, they went to the South Hill House for an informal tea, and the speakers had an opportunity to talk with them about their comments and about various types of debate.

Today the campus has a quiet air. Tomorrow, Friday and Saturday, the seniors will be having their examinations. The Senior Banquet will be held on Saturday evening. And, in another week, another school year will be over. Fifty-seven graduates (winter and summer classes) and seven special physical education students will be going out from Ginling. Among them are some fine students and we hope to hear good things from them in the future. In many ways it has been a strenuous year; nevertheless, in many things we have made progress, and we are proceeding with our plans for next year with faith and courage.

Best wishes to you and the Staff in New York.

Very sincerely yours,

Wu Yi-fang

WYF:hp

GINLING COLLEGE

Nanking, China

July 12, 1948

Dear Friends of Ginling:

The second year after our return from Chengtu is over. It might be called a year of continued rehabilitation - of the physical plant, educational equipment, and personnel. With the repair of the roofs and the painting of the door and window frames, the buildings present a fine appearance. The plentiful rains have made the grass and shrubbery luxuriant, and our campus is greatly admired by all visitors.

Inside the buildings, however, there is still much that needs to be done. The walls need to be painted, the odds and ends of furniture need to be replaced, proper laboratory furniture is still lacking, and the big problem of restoring the heating plant is still untouched. Our most pressing need at present is additional housing for the faculty.

The last orders for educational equipment, which were placed in January, 1946, are arriving, and a small number of additional pieces have been added; but there is still much to be secured before we shall again be up to our prewar condition.

Faculty. Last fall, we were glad to welcome back to Ginling Dr. Ruth Chester, Dr. Liu En-lan, and Miss Hsiung Ya-na, all of whom had spent the previous year in America. We were also glad to secure again Dr. Chang Hwei-lan to fill the important position of Head of the Physical Education Department. Fourteen members of the faculty have spent the past year abroad on sabbatical leaves or in graduate study.

Now, a number of faculty members are again completing their preparations to go abroad. Mrs. Hsueh Tan Ming-sin and Miss Sun Tseng-min, both of whom have been active in our Child Welfare Training Program, have just received from the United Nations fellowship awards for observation of social work, and they will be flying to New York within a few days. Miss Loh Zung-nyi, professor of mathematics and physics, has received an appointment to teach mathematics at Wellesley College next year. Miss Chen Fu-ho, instructor in the Chemistry Department, will be studying on a scholarship from Michigan State College. Miss Wu Shui-hsia, a counselor in charge of one of the dormitories, has received a scholarship from the English Presbyterian Mission and will study at Selly Oakes College in Birmingham, England. Dr. Djang Hsiang-lan, who has been at Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, Virginia, during the past year, also has a fellowship at Selly Oakes next year. Mrs. Wei Wang Ren-tze, secretary at our Child Welfare Center, will accompany her husband to England where he will be studying on a fellowship from the British Council.

We greatly appreciate all of the opportunities given our faculty for study and refreshment abroad, and we are also glad when it is time for them to return to bring to Ginling the benefit of their experience. This year, Miss Eva D. Spicer will be returning from her furlough in England to head the History Department. Dr. C. F. Lung, who has been studying in America on a fellowship from United Service to China, will resume his position as head of the Sociology Department. Miss Pan Yao-tsien, a recipient of one of the UBCCC refresher fellowships, will return from Columbia University to our English Department. Miss Hu Shih-tsang, who has been studying at Juilliard School of Music on a scholarship from the UBCCC, will return to the Music Department. All four of them will be more than welcome at Ginling in the fall.

We are very glad to have secured Dr. Chang Wu Suen-i, an alumna and a graduate of Oregon State College of Home Economics, to be the Director of the Child Welfare Training Program and to supervise the Child Welfare Center.

Baccalaureate and Commencement. Mr. Luther Shao, General Secretary of the Disciples' Church, gave a fine address at our baccalaureate service, and Miss Lynda

Grier, Representative of the British Council in Nanking, gave the commencement address. She spoke on university tradition, pointing out that academic independence and intellectual discipline are important elements in the tradition of British colleges, and that tradition is not a static dead weight but a growing thing upon which students of all generations can build. Miss Grier is the first woman ever to give our commencement address.

The total number of college graduates was 52, and 7 students completed the Special Physical Education Course. This year's class was smaller than that of last year - 68, and the class of 1949 will be still smaller - approximately 48. These reduced numbers reflect the effect of our return from Chengtu.

Student Body. This year's student body was the largest in the history of the college - 440, including 38 in the Special Physical Education course. We are renewing contacts with the mission middle schools in the lower Yangtze Valley and South China, and we hope that we shall be able to have more of their graduates than we could have in Chengtu. The number of students in the more distant areas who have already taken our entrance examinations is more than twice the number who had taken them at this time last year.

Counseling Program. When Mrs. W. S. New returned to China last year, we invited her as a consultant to help the Dean's office initiate a pilot project in counseling and guidance. A generous gift from the Lucius and Eva Eastman Fund enabled us to invite counselors to take charge of extra-curricular activities and carry on the program in the four student dormitories. Mrs. New made seven trips to the college during the year and held training seminars with these young counselors. From this year's experience, we have found that they have given valuable help to individual students and to the student organizations. All of the present student body have had their high school and college education under wartime conditions and the unsettled period following the war, and they are keenly in need of this type of guidance and advice. We shall continue to develop this line of service during the coming year, and, if it is at all possible, we hope to work out a series of diagnostic and measurement tests which will enable us to improve our methods of selecting and advising students according to their abilities and aptitudes. We have presented our plan to the Board of Foreign Scholarships in Washington, D.C., and, through the provisions of the Fulbright Act, we hope we may have an experienced psychologist on the campus next year to direct this phase of our counseling program. This is a pioneer project in China, and we hope it will be possible to make it of service not only to Ginling but also to other colleges and middle schools in the future.

Health Program. Part of the counseling program is the health program to which Dr. Chang Hwei-lan has given much attention this year. Through gifts received from British United Aid to China, we have been able to provide additional nutrition for those students showing an acute need for it in their medical examinations. All of these girls have shown increases in weight and improvement in general health. Eggs, milk, liver, iron phosphate, and vitamin tablets were provided as needed for 80 students.

All of the students and most of the faculty and their families and the servants were taken to the Municipal Hospital for mass chest X-ray tests. Questionable cases had fluoroscope tests and large X-ray pictures. Five students and two staff members were found to have minimal cases of tuberculosis; four servants, moderate cases; and one servant, an advanced case. The five students spent the remainder of the term in the infirmary on full- or part-time rest. All were showing considerable improvement by the end of the year, due to the care of our nurse, Miss Wang Pei-yuan, and Dr. Margaret Smythe, who has given volunteer service for one afternoon each week during the year.

July 12, 1948

Gifts. We are indebted to the United Board for Christian Colleges in China for the Emergency Campaign they conducted during the winter. The grant allocated to Ginling from this campaign fund replaced the usual grant from United Service to China and enabled us to close the year without a deficit.

We are grateful that the Smith Contributions for the year are more than double the amount pledged by the Smith Alumnae Committee for Ginling. The surplus will help to meet the current budget. In the past two years, the amount contributed over and above the pledge to the current budget has been used for rehabilitating the Smith Building on the Ginling campus. We are most grateful to Smith women for their generosity, especially in making it possible to do some of the necessary rehabilitation work, since the United Board has not been able to allocate further funds for this purpose.

The British United Aid to China and the China Christian Universities Association in England have both increased their contributions to Ginling this year, and have thereby enabled us to buy some very-much-needed books and equipment in England and a piano in China.

Our thanks are due to the Women of the Universalist Church for renewing their contribution for the support of our Rural Service Station. The work there is much appreciated by the rural people and it is growing steadily. This summer, five nurseries are being operated in the villages for children whose parents are busy in the fields. A handicraft program has been started and will be developed during the winter when the women and girls are free from farm work. The work of the Station is now happily housed in the two-story brick building which was dedicated last December. Its construction was made possible by grants last summer from the Ministry of Social Affairs and by United Service to China, and by contributions from the Chinese Women's Club in Washington, D.C., and from the Women of the Universalist Church. The excellent work of this Station is recognized by everyone who visits it and, if it becomes possible to increase the staff, it has unlimited opportunities to become a training station for rural service workers.

The Christian Colleges in China started a Joint Campaign last fall which was successfully concluded this spring. Over half of the goal of CN\$15,000,000,000 came from grants from the Government and contributions from the Government Banks, and all of the quotas assigned to the different areas were exceeded. At Ginling, we used part of our share for the current budget, and the greater part was used to build a much-needed student dormitory. We are grateful to Mrs. S. F. Tsen for returning to the campus last December to give her incomparably capable service to the furnishing of this dormitory so that it will be ready for use in the fall term and relieve, to some extent, the crowded conditions in the other four dormitories.

Practice School Building. Our crowded classroom situation will also be improved in the fall because the Practice School has succeeded in putting up a two-story building and will be able to release the rooms they have been using in our Arts Building. This new building is a twin building to the Soong Memorial Building and is built to the south of this building. It is the second of a group of three which we hope to establish as the Practice School unit. The third and main building, which we hope to be able to put up within a few years will be known as the Vautrin Memorial Building. This second unit has been financed by contributions from the parents of middle school students and a loan from the Vautrin Memorial. Fund raised by the alumnae, this loan to be gradually returned by the Practice School.

Visitors. We have greatly enjoyed and appreciated the visits from representatives of our supporting mission boards in America and England and from alumnae and friends in various parts of China. We are happy to have them come to see the



July 12, 1948

work of the College, to learn of our plans and our needs, and to establish contacts between the college and friends at home. Fortunately, some were able to stay for longer periods of time. Miss Edith Haight, a former faculty member, spent four months of her sabbatical leave on the campus last winter, teaching in the Physical Education Department. Miss Mary Sweeny, a consultant for U.S.C., spent 5 weeks in the spring reviewing child welfare projects in Nanking. She held seminars with our students and faculty and gave valuable counsel in the development of our child welfare training program. Dean Ava B. Milan, of Oregon State College of Home Economics, spent some busy days at Ginling. In addition to investigating the possibilities for extension work under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, she held conferences with our Home Economics Staff to consider the curriculum and the future development of the department.

Four Ginling alumnae were elected to the National Assembly: Dr. Liu En-lan, Head of our Geography Department; Mrs. Hsiung Mao Yen-wen, Director of the Hsiang Shan Children's Home in Peiping; Miss Li Chi, Professor of English at Chekiang University; and Miss Liu Bao-yin, Dean of Studies at Changchow Girls' Middle School. Miss Li and Miss Liu were guests on the campus when the Assembly was in session in April.

General Conditions in China. Both the faculty and students are deeply concerned over conditions in the country and worried by financial hardships. Unconsciously, these things effect the general morale. Many of the students have real ability and show a good spirit in college functions, such as Founders' Day activities, the annual programs of the Physical Education Department and the Music Department. They are alert to developments in the country and respond to some of the general student movements and strikes. We were especially pleased by the independent and intelligent stand they took on the reply to Ambassador Stuart's statement. A prepared draft of a reply, which was supposed to have been approved by the student self-government groups of Central University and the University of Nanking, was sent to our students for their approval. They took action to revise the statement so that it would express only their opinions on the American policy toward Japan and eliminated other parts, including those referring to Dr. Stuart himself. This revised draft was also accepted by the student self-government groups of the other two universities and was the one finally published.

In our discussions at the meeting of the Council of Higher Education, we all recognized that we are facing a very critical period and that our Christian institutions must give more vigorous and creative leadership. Because the issues we face today are so vital and so complicated, we felt the need for coming together to talk over our common problems, to clarify our stand on big issues, and to make plans for the future. We are, therefore, planning to have a conference in Taiwan in August for the presidents of the Christian Colleges and other Christian leaders, including Dr. Frank Price and Dr. M. Searle Bates.

Friends of China must be very concerned over the present situation in our country. The economic, political, and military conditions are becoming more serious. The people, in general, have lost confidence in the Government because they are disappointed after their high hopes for improved conditions after the victory and because the continued inflation is causing even more intense hardships than people experienced during the war. Such economic and emotional stress furnishes fertile field for the skillful propaganda of the Communists, whose goal is the collapse of the Kuomintang regime. In this situation, it is easy to stir up protests against the United States policy in Japan. There is a genuine emotional fear of a restored Japan which is similar to the French fear of a restored Germany. Industrial people also fear the economic effects that will result when Japanese goods will be dumped on the market

July 12, 1948

after Japan is industrially restored. In fact, a large amount of Japanese goods are already coming in through Hong Kong to the cities in China. Miss Sweeny told me about her experience of going to buy some Chinese dishes and finding the shops full of china made in Japan.

This intricate and interrelated economic problem of the world today is certainly beyond me. I can merely see the problem; I cannot suggest its solution. On the one hand, the United States cannot forever be pouring money into Japan, and therefore Japan should gradually become self-supporting. On the other hand, Japan has to depend upon foreign trade to secure the foreign currency for food and other essentials she needs. Yet, when the Japanese goods flood the markets of China and Southeast Asia, it means the ruin of the infant industries in these areas and the increasingly unfavorable balance of trade.

A few words about my own activities. I have fully recovered from the appendectomy I had last winter, and I appreciate very much all the good wishes that came to me at that time from friends at home and abroad. Through work on various committees, I have been able to keep in touch with different types of agencies, such as United Service to China, Executive Yuan Committee on American Relief Supplies, United States Educational Foundation in China (Fulbright Act), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, and the China Commission of UNESCO. In June, I was asked to speak at the baccalaureate services of the Ming Deh Girls' School and our own Practice School. I had the special honor of being invited to speak at the Commencement program of Nanking Theological Seminary, and was one of the two speakers at the Commencement of National Central University on July 4th.

Last spring, I received an invitation to attend the World Council of Churches in Amsterdam, as a consultant from China. At first, I declined the invitation because I felt I would not know enough of the church organizations to be able to make any worth-while contribution. But recently, at an informal meeting here on the campus with Dr. T. C. Chao, Mr. George Wu, Dr. M. Searle Bates, Dr. Frank Price, and myself present, I was helped to see that there are more general aspects of such a gathering where I may be able to represent Chinese viewpoints. Naturally, I feel keenly that it is a privilege to attend such a gathering of Christian leaders and it will be a great help to me and, indirectly, to the College if I can be away from China for a little while and get into the fellowship of Christians from other countries which are also faced with serious problems. I admit that this hope of receiving a fresh and enlarged viewpoint from associations at the Council meeting has overcome my hesitation, and I have finally decided to accept the invitation, and am busy making preparations for my absence at the College.

This brings to all of you our grateful thanks for your continued confidence and interest in Ginling, and our very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Wu Yi-fang

Mr. Corbett

Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
(for a month on Kuling, Kiangsi,  
at 92-A)

July 29, 1948

Dear Friends at Home:

As you see by this heading, I am one of the supremely fortunate people who are able to get away from the heat to this bit of Paradise on this mountain-top, and I am staying again, lucky me, in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Logan Roots. And just like last summer he is still in the heat but will come up later to join his family, I hope, before I need to leave. The three children have each of them, Eleanor, Loretta and Logan, grown three inches since last summer! It is a great joy and privilege, and lots of fun to be here in a home with children. They all gave me a wonderful welcome, including a well-drawn and colored picture that young Logan had traced for my room. On the way up to Kuling by river boat, we saw much of the flood, were rarely out of sight of flooded houses, at times the river seemed to stretch almost as far as one could see, with here and there a row of trees whose branches and the roofs of houses were still showing above the flood. Many poor people, as they have for centuries, had taken a chance, building their homes inside the dykes. Some of the dykes were still holding and all seemed well. At one point we saw men and women with any old tool, or a board, running from both directions along a dyke to try to patch a place that had just broken. When we reached Kiukiang where we had to leave the steamer, instead of going about two miles by land in and thru the city, we went by boat all that distance till we reached a higher bit of land not far from the foothills, where we left the boat for a bus. Everywhere, like ourselves, people were going up and down the streets in small boats. --- Also on our big boat we estimated there were some five hundred wounded soldiers.

Floods and civil war are chiefly responsible for the fantastic inflation; the black market is now between 8 to 10,000,000 to U.S. one dollar. Our mission rate allowed by the government, the last I heard, - it may be higher now, - was under four million to one. One member of the Chinese cabinet said his salary in Chinese currency amounted to about twenty U.S. a month ago. Of course he gets more than a salary. All of our faculty members, and all government employees get a basic salary as of a certain date (before the war, I think), plus a rice subsidy, plus a certain percent as related to the rising index of living. But what can people do when currency may depreciate fifty percent in two days' time? So people, some of them, buy or try to buy gold bars, or the silver hoarded by peasants through the war. The bank in which I deposit each month my salary check has an office here on Kuling. A year ago it was easy to cash a check here with only a reasonable discount. Now this same bank, all banks are doing the same, charged thirty percent to cash a check here. Therefore, I tried to carry all the money I would need and some for others stuck up here without enough money! ----- In the midst of all these things, discouragement and cynicism are very easy and too common at times among even the best of people, both Chinese and westerners. And here it is that I find I need constantly to remind myself of two things, the first that "This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget, That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet", and the second equally important fact of my own responsibility to pray and to listen for my full share in His plan and to obey promptly and fully all the thoughts He gives, of correction, vision, and ways of building peace, cooperation, and friendship where I am. I find it difficult to "rest me in the thought" unless I am giving full obedience. I wonder if you all have read Hermann Hagedorn's "The Bomb that Fell on America". It is great poetry, partly because, rather largely because, of the power of the ideas in it. I feel it is also great poetry. The lines I remember best are where "the Lord said, 'There is only one power greater than the power of the atom when it is released, and that is the power of a human soul'" when God is permitted to shoot past the electrons of self to release the power of the soul. I imagine you are finding the same problems, and I trust,

July 29, 1948

the solution of them that God wants to give you, - for on the moral and spiritual leadership of the U.S.A., and that means everyone, may depend the fate of civilization: a new world "wherein dwelleth righteousness" or else, chaos and lights out for how long no one can guess. I heard a wonderful story the other day, of a great meeting in the Hollywood Bowl at night when the speaker asked to have all the lights turned out, and then asked one man to light one match. "Can everyone see the match?" he said. Everyone could see it. "That", he said, "is like a right, good deed in a naughty world." Then he asked everyone to strike a match, with the effect you can easily imagine, and moral of the story.

And the College has been going on quite as usual. The opening date is set for the 13th of September when classes begin. Two of my own major students (music education) wrote theses to try to help meet the need of Chinese folk songs in the primary and middle schools. They each wrote accompaniments, with quite a bit of help from me, for some fifteen songs each. So each also gave these songs with the aid of their classmates, in a recital at the end of the term, one last February, when she graduated, the other in early June. I was pleased when one vocal senior chose a song out of the first thesis to sing on her senior recital in May. The girls gathered tunes from many different provinces. Some songs came from near Thibet. The border tunes show Russian, Persian and Hindu influences. During the spring, a group of dancers from this distant province of Sinkiang came to Nanking, and gave a fascinating program of their dances.

There were two other seniors in music this term, one in piano and the other in voice. I do wish I could transport all of my friends to China long enough to hear one of our senior recitals or the Annual Student Recital! The two girls gave a joint program which gave us much satisfaction. Last year's freshman and sophomore music major students were really exceptional. In the sophomore class, there are five out of seven girls with each one, a really beautiful voice! The French head of cultural relations, said of one of these girls that he had never heard a voice with better possibilities as a lyric soprano than that girl. And I had not considered her better than any of the other four girls! She is the daughter of a very notorious general with many wives and some thirty or forty children. She is a shy, sensitive, and vivacious youngster, very musical, plays very well also, but, as you might imagine, not too industrious. That is rare in our music students, most of them work very hard and faithfully, much more so than the average American student!

Our Annual Recital (Students) has always been our chief event. Those who take part are chosen after the examination recitals, in early June, when every student taking music for credit, must take part. Naturally only the best are chosen and from any class. One of the best pianists on the Annual, was a freshman, who played the Mendelssohn "Variations Seriuses" all from memory, of course, with brilliance, though perhaps not the interpretation we might expect from a senior. I think most of our Chinese friends are "hand-minded", most of them, if musical at all, usually develop finger dexterity very easily, and seem to really enjoy the technical side of piano study. They are very clever with their hands in doing many things. Not all have equally the gift of musical understanding, that needs to be learned, and can be taught only in its superficial outer forms. But some do go much deeper than others, and some have "it", to a very high degree. This year I was the only westerner on our music staff. I would like to introduce you to our teachers! Meet Mrs. Paul Feng! In her thirties, I guess, the charming wife of the top newspaper reporter for English news of the Central News Agency. They have three very lively children. She studied three years in New York in the Institute of Musical Art of the Juilliard School, has her diploma from that school. She teaches a full schedule, is the best loved of all our teachers, is a real mother, not only to her own children, but also to her students when they need it, and she gave a brilliant piano recital in late April this year, despite an attack of malaria, just before the recital. We will surely hold onto her as long as we can keep her. Two of our teachers are leaving and we shall

July 29, 1948

miss them very much. One, Mr. Harvey Chen, graduate of the Shanghai Conservatory, is a very brilliant young pianist, excellent technic, and plays Chopin with a great deal of interpretative power and color, is more interested in his work as a pianist than in teaching, but he has been a definite inspiration to our students. Mrs. Chen Wen Yuin-kwen is one of our most musical graduates, majored in piano and practically completed a voice major also. Since graduation she has studied with Mrs. Yeh of our staff, and has become an excellent teacher, especially of beginning vocal students; she knows how to give them the right foundation vocally and also musically. She also is a young mother, with two young children, the youngest born this last winter. Unfortunately for us, her husband now has a job in Shanghai, and she is following him to live in Shanghai. Mrs. Yeh and her husband will still be in America one more semester, so we are in real difficulty to find vocal teachers. We were able to borrow one day's teaching time of Mrs. Eva Hwang Chen of the National Conservatory this last year; I have not heard yet who will take our Mrs. Chen's place. Then last, but not least, of our full-time teachers is our last year's graduate, Lin Chung-yin, who has been doing a very good job in teaching less advanced piano students, the freshman chorus, and some work in the middle school. Do you know that the Ginling Girls Middle School, once a practice school of about eighty students, now has over three hundred students? There have been two additional part-time piano teachers, one Mrs. Chancellor Livingston, whose husband is a U.S. Army captain. They are from California. The other is a Mrs. Hwang, from Australia, with piano certificates from London.

Despite financial problems, the College has built one extra dormitory, for we never have enough space for all who want and whom we want to study in Ginling. The middle school has also built a good-sized classroom building, greatly needed, for they have been using College equipment too long.

Students these days are very restless and dissatisfied with conditions in their nation and this is also true of faculty members. This is one reason for the great numbers of Chinese students, alumni of all colleges, who want only one thing, to go chiefly to the U.S. to study. Some choose England. It is a veritable epidemic, and of course many who want to go are not at all fitted, nor do they really need study abroad, at least not until they have tried themselves out here, to find out what they really want to do. Of course study abroad is very good and necessary for those who do have the ability.

Nanking, and Ginling also, are more and more international centers. We meet people constantly from many nations, and there are many American Army trucks, jeeps, and cars to be seen whenever we go out. I must confess I often wonder just how long, how much longer the Central Government can hold out, - how much longer we will all be here! If China is captured by the Communists and that ideology, the U.S.A. and western democracies will find the battle on their own doorsteps in no time. You can be sure China is no side issue. The present government is far from ideal, and yet not all freedom is gone; people with initiative still may be able to find a chance. And never has the door been so wide open to the Christian faith and way of living.

I hope all of you will have some time for rest and change during this summer. My very best wishes to you all, and I sure would appreciate letters from everyone to whom this letter goes. My pre-Christmas letter to you was lost in the mails.

Your friend,

Stella Marie Graves

*Promotion Dept*

Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
July 31, 1948

Dear Friends,

As a Chinese student, I am going to tell you some news about our Chinese student fellowships which I hope will interest you.

At the beginning of this summer vacation, we had opportunities to enter many different conferences. Some of us are not able to return to our homes for the vacation period are staying on at the college over the summer. Sixteen of us entered six different conferences. One conference was sponsored by the Student Christian Movement Committee, another by the I.V.F., another by the Methodist Church, and another by the Church of Christ in China and the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hwei (Episcopal Church) combined.

I attended the latter conference, so I can tell you about it better than about the others. Three hundred attended this conference--students of middle schools and colleges and some workers with young children. This conference was held in the Middle School of the University of Nanking from July 7th to 12th. Most of the members came from the Eastern provinces in China.

When we came to the conference, we felt we were meeting many new faces, but by the time we parted, we had become good friends and did not want to leave. Every day in the early morning, we had morning prayer, morning worship and exercises. Then there were many study groups which we could choose. Those I attended, were: "Christ and Industry", "The History of the Church", "Our Faith," and "How to Teach Children in the Sunday School." After these study groups, we had a short speech and hymn singing.

In the afternoons, we divided into many groups to discuss "How to improve our fellowships."

We had a fine recreational program. There were many gymnastic contests. Our Nanking representative won a prize in basketball.

In the evenings, after the sunset services, we sang songs, saw movies, and shared our religious experiences.

The thing I liked most in the entire program was the study group on "How to Teach Children in Sunday School". The beautiful pictures and stories were interesting to us as well as to the children.

One evening, the entire group went to Lotus Lake, one of the famous beauty spots of Nanking, where we rowed boats and had a good time. On Saturday afternoon, we climbed Purple Mountain to see the monument to Dr. Sun Yat-sen. On Sunday afternoon, those who had come from other places went to visit the colleges and universities and government buildings in Nanking.

During this entire conference, I made many new friends and learned many new things. But the phrase which moved me very deeply was "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few." We Christians are very lucky, for we can follow God, our Lord, and find the road which leads us to the everlasting life. But we also have a great responsibility to help those who do not know God. We recognize that without God's love, we cannot make peace in this world, so we should have a great concern for God's work.

Since all these conferences have ended and we have returned to Ginling, we have had meetings together to share our different experiences at the conferences.

We have had daily prayer meetings in the morning, a study group for religious books in the evenings, and hymn singing in the campus in the evening. We hope that, through these meetings, we can help some of our schoolmates to become Christians. At the same time, we ourselves hope to improve our own daily lives to honor God's holy Name.

May God bless you and us.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Chen Shang-chiu

Miss Chen Shang-chiu is a junior at Ginling College, majoring in history. She has been elected religious chairman of the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hwei Student's Club for next year. She takes an active interest in campus activities in as far as she is able. One foot is crippled as a result of a tuberculis of the ankle joint during her childhood. She is the eldest child in a large family and taught middle school several years in order to earn enough to come to college. She is the grateful recipient of a \$500 scholarship from the Tri Delta Sorority and appreciates very much the additional nutrition which it enables her to have, as well as allowing her to devote her full time to her studies.

*Promotion Dept*

SHANGHAI AMERICAN SCHOOL  
10 Hengshan Road  
Shanghai, China  
August 23, 1948

Mrs. W. P. Mills  
Room 903  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, New York

Dear Mrs. Mills:

Entrance Examinations - July was a busy month for those involved in giving entrance tests. Perhaps Miss Chester has sent you the statistics on the number taking the tests. It must have been well over a thousand, so there should be a large class admitted in the fall. It will be interesting to see how the new currency effects prices, and how that, in turn, will effect the ability of the students to pay their tuition. Although the tuition rate seems very low as compared with some other institutions and with our own rates at home, it is still very difficult for some to pay it--often those whom the college needs and who need and want Christian education. For example, one of my advisees came in one day to tell me that her sister had come to Nanking to take examinations for one of the government schools. She said the sister had already passed the Ginling examinations, but that their father could not afford to send two daughters to a private college because the financial burden was too great. I do hope that the new currency regulations will bring some improvement in the general economic situation and better conditions for the mass of people.

Student Papers - I am enclosing the account which Chen Shang-chiu wrote of her impressions of the Summer Conference she attended. It may be of interest to the Tri Delta friends who contributed the scholarship for her. I hope they will want to make a similar contribution this year for another Ginling student. The other two papers were written by Fu Wu-i, a sophomore, and Liu I-wen, a very fine girl who just graduated with a major in P.E. and who will be teaching next year in the Ziemer Middle School, Yoyang, Hunan.

Rural Service Station - Dr. Wu and the Rural Service Staff were happy to know that the Universalist Women were continuing their contribution to this excellent work. There is a real field for expansion of their service to the rural people. I was fortunate enough to be able to make a trip out there again this summer with Mr. Robert Moody of the American Embassy and Mrs. Gladys Tahlor Yang, who is now an inspector for CRM. Both of them were impressed, as are all visitors, with the work being done there. They did not see a great deal of the regular work of the station because many of the participants are now busy in the fields, but we all walked across the fields about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles to see one of the five nursery schools which the Station is operating to care for the little children of these farm workers. I wish we could find a sponsor for the Child Welfare Center. A letter has recently come from Mr. Dwight Edwards warning that USC may not be able to continue its contributions to the various projects it has been supporting, and that circumstance would include our Child Welfare Training Program.



Rehabilitation - A number of jobs have been progressing that cannot be undertaken while the college is in session. The walls in the 300 building were washed and now look several shades lighter. This helps, but a real re-finishing job is still badly needed. As soon as the entrance examinations were over, work was started on the walls of the Central Building--gymnasium, social hall, and hallways. The old finish was roughened, preparatory to putting on a new surfacing. The worst parts of the oak flooring were being repaired. The tables and chairs have been made and are being painted. I wish I could see it when it is finished. It has been such a sad place for the past two years.

In the South Hill House, the bathrooms were whitewashed and some shelves and towel racks painted. In the Terrace House, two apartments are being made out of what was formerly one.

The road up to the South Hill is being repaired, and some of the worst spots in the wooden fence are being replaced by a bamboo fence.

The new dormitory was being put in condition for occupation in the fall, and the Home Economics Practice House was being reconditioned for a faculty residence for two teachers.

Also I saw a large heap of wood being prepared for kitchen fuel. So Dr. Kwoh and the Business Office have had a very busy summer with all these details to look after.

I wonder if Dr. Kwoh ever told you that the box of materials to repair the beds did arrive and the beds are now all in useable condition.

Just before I left, I went over to see the new Practice School Building. The main structure is completed, doors and windows were being put in, and the interior work was going ahead in good shape, so it may be ready for use in the fall.

Yu Hai-hsing will be teaching at St. Hilda's School, Wuchang, next year. She went at the task of learning to use her new arm with determination and a healthy enthusiasm. I think she found it quite uncomfortable when the hot weather started, but she was very happy to have it and will gradually learn to use it in more ways.

Helen Ferris left for Peiping on August 4th, expecting to go right into P.U.M.C. I hope that her operation is successfully over by this time and that she will be back to her work at Ginling before many more months. Miss Walmsley has spent most of August at Mokanshan. The rest of the foreign faculty is now at Kuling.

Dr. Wu spent three busy days--August 8, 9, and 10--on the campus, making final preparations to be away for a month. She left Shanghai on August 13th and expects to return from Amsterdam about September 19. It is unfortunate that she does not feel that this is a time when she can be away from the college for long, for a few weeks of rest in Europe before her return would be a good thing for her. However, she will find refreshment and stimulation in the discussions and the associations with others at the Conference.

Sincerely yours,

s/ Helen Plaum

THE OPENING OF THE FALL TERM  
GINLING COLLEGE  
1948

When I returned from Amsterdam, September 18th, the college was already in full swing, classes having started Monday of that week. The administrative staff had done a difficult job because of the late arrival of several faculty members. The Freshman training program was carried out in much better spirit and with a better attendance than the year before. The total enrollment is 480, including about 37 in a special short course in Physical Education. There are 158 in the Freshman class. It seems to be a very fine class and we are glad to have quite a large number who are graduates from Mission Girls' Schools.

We made a special effort last spring to establish contacts with the Mission Girls' Schools in east and south China. We are offering several scholarships to outstanding graduates from such schools who are unable themselves to pay expenses at the college. You likely know that in recent years many Christian families have had to send their children to government schools because of the high fees at the Church schools and colleges. It has therefore become necessary for us to revise our former regulation of not granting scholarship until after the first year of college when the student had proved her ability. It seems to me it is an important policy for Ginling to give more attention to securing potential Christian leaders from among the best graduates from Christian Middle Schools.

As for our faculty we are glad to welcome back Miss Spicer from furlough, and Dr. C.F. Lung, Miss Hu Shih-tsang and Miss Pan Yao-hsuen from study in America. I wish to take this chance to express deep appreciation for the scholarships from the United Board for Miss Hu and Miss Pan. We are happy to welcome as new faculty members Miss Butler, head of the Music Department, Mrs. McCurdy for the Counseling Program and as acting English Secretary, and Miss Watson, Librarian. Dr. Wu Hsuen-i, Director of the Child Welfare Program and supervisor of the Child Welfare Demonstration Center, also comes as a new faculty member. In regard to faculty on leave there are several younger members who have gone to America for graduate study and there are two professors who received the United Nations fellowships from the Social Welfare division of that organization. They are Mrs. Hsueh Tang Ming-sin from the Sociology Department whose specialty is Child Guidance, and Miss Sun Tsong-min whose field is Child Psychology and Child Care and Development. Both are now in the States for observation and consultation. They are expected back in January.

I have written you how the college used its share from the United Campaign for the thirteen Christian Universities and Colleges in China. We received the first allotment last November and we put the money into use right away by starting the construction of a much-needed dormitory. The money was, of course, not enough for the whole building but it was a time of rapid depreciation of the C. N. Currency and we wanted to get the most out of the contribution so we began at once to put up the shell of the building. Last May we received the rest of the assignment from the Joint Campaign and the building was completely finished for use this fall. It is a simple building but we placed it to face south as an experiment to see if such fronting might be better for the girls than that of the regular dormitories which face east and west. Anyway, this building is taking care of eighty new students this fall and will solve the problem of student housing for several years to come.

From the standpoint of rehabilitation we find it a happy relief to see the Social Hall in the Smith building completely repaired and refurnished. All who had been in the beautiful Social Hall before the War were much depressed by the delapidated, bare condition these last two years. The Board of Founders made a special grant for repairs a year ago last spring but because of the big question of re-flooring the hall the work was delayed. The good oak floor was in a bad condition partly due to rough use as a store room by the Japanese and partly because of slow rotting from dampness. There was, therefore, not only the question of how to secure new flooring of expensive oak but also the big engineering question of how to improve the construction so that there would be ventilation under the floor. After much consideration we decided to do only minor repairing of the floor, but to go ahead with the painting of the walls and the replacing of the furniture. Of course, what we have now is different from what we had before. Instead of screen partitions inlaid with mother-of-pearl we have ply wood painted cream color. And instead of furniture made of genuine teakwood we have furniture of ordinary wood painted to resemble teakwood. However, the hall does give an atmosphere reminiscent of the original. Both faculty and students enjoy having at least one spacious and beautiful room on the campus. I am writing to Florence Snow to tell her of the use of this added gift from Smith.

In regard to student activities, Miss Spicer, as Chairman of the Religious Committee, is planning for a Religious Emphasis Week. Miss Spicer is also on the city committee which is planning meetings for Dr. Sherwood Eddy and other well known visitors to Nanking. On the staff of the Dean of Students we have invited Mrs. Kao Yang Bao-yu (Ginling 1925, M.A. Peabody, 1931, M.A. Scarritt, 1932) to act as Dean of Freshmen giving them help and counsel in both academic matters and extra-curricular activities. In each dormitory we continue to have a dormitory counselor who gives personal counsel where it is needed. Under the present situation of unrest we want to do all we can to help students to develop not merely intellectually but we wish to help them in the cultivation of all-around and well balanced personalities.

We often forget that their formative, teen-age years have been the difficult war years. For instance when I was talking to the Freshman class the other night I found there were quite a number who had attended as many as five different schools before they completed their middle school education. And, as I saw in some of the refugee schools, some of our own freshmen had been at schools where there had been no benches in the dining room and they had to stand to eat their meals. Such unsettled physical conditions are indicative of the emotional and mental strain they have been under. This knowledge increases our understanding and sympathy for this student generation and challenges us, as a faculty, to give our best help to them.

I mentioned in my letter last July that I had finally decided to go to Amsterdam. However, it was not until a week before I had to start that the trip was really definite. It certainly was a special privilege that I could be at this important gathering of Church leaders and representatives from all over the world. It was very different from the I.M.C. conference at Madras. It was the first time I had come into contact with continental theologians and I began to learn the difference between them and the theological leaders in America. I was impressed by the Christian fellowship and the search for unity through coming closer to Christ. I was also impressed by the honest facing up to the actual world situation and the part the Christian Church has unknowingly played in producing the present crisis in the history of mankind. As you know we in China are deeply concerned with our

our own problems so it was a great help to me to find that other peoples are facing fundamentally the same problems though expressed differently. I found strength and hope in the united and conscious effort in searching for God's guidance out of this disorder.

/s/ Wu Yi-fang

Oct. 7, 1948

(We regret that this letter from Dr. Wu Yi-fang was received too late to be incorporated in Miss Owens' interesting newsletter to you. However, it is so timely that we are enclosing it exactly as received.)

October 6, 1948

Dear Ginling Representatives;

This summer was a busy one at Ginling, for the faculty, students, and the college itself.

Entrance examinations were held in July, and more than 1,000 girls took the tests. It is still too early to tell how big the entering class will be, but the group will certainly be large - in spite of the currency changes which may make it harder for many to meet the tuition fee. It is hoped, though, that this stabilization of the currency will bring many improvements for everyone.

Those students who were at Ginling last year spent the summer in many ways. Some could not go home for the holidays and spent the time attending conferences in Nanking. Six different conference groups met, sponsored by various church organizations; among them the Methodist Church, the Church of Christ in China, the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hwei (Episcopal Church), and the Student Christian Movement Committee.

These conferences were attended by representatives from many parts of the country, but particularly from the eastern provinces. The description of the conference held by the Church of Christ in China in conjunction with the Episcopal Church written by Chen Shang-chiu, a junior at Ginling, showed how well-planned these meetings were. There were study groups, morning worship, and then group discussions, followed by recreational hours filled with sports, movies, singing, and trips about Nanking.

This well-rounded type of program is continued throughout the whole year at Ginling and we can see the effect it has on the students as described by Liu Iwen, a sophomore, when she says: "I will never forget Ginling, our great family. She has left a permanent trace on my life. I grew up in Ginling, she has influenced me, and my thought and my will."

The Rural Service Station continued its work this summer, and five nursery schools are caring for the children of the farm workers. The Child Welfare Training Program is in need of a sponsor. The U. S. C. may not be able to continue supporting all its various projects, and help will be needed.

Dr. Wu attended the Conference at Amsterdam, being away from Ginling from August 13 to September 19. Most of the foreign faculty spent the summer at Kuling while the college itself was being prepared for fall.

Walls have been washed and re-surfaced, floors repaired, and furniture made and painted. Roads and fences are being improved. The Home Economics Practice House has been transformed into a faculty residence, and the new Practice School Building is nearly finished. The main structure has been completed and the inside work will be ready with the rest of the college to welcome the new fall term.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Katharine G. Owens ('46)

Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
October 14th, 1948

Dear Sisters Abroad:-

I can hardly realize that I have been back from Amsterdam almost four weeks and yet have not done half the things I intended to do. There is so much I wish to write about that I scarcely know where to begin. I'll try to mention only those points which will be of interest to you.

First of all the enrollment in the college has grown to 480 and the new dormitory is practically full. The west end of the first floor has been reserved for the Home Economics Department to use as a Practice House next spring. A year ago when the enrollment was 440 we had a very difficult time taking care of the 40 students after one hundred were lodged in each of the old dormitories. You will have heard of the Joint Campaign for the thirteen Christian Colleges in China. We put our share into the construction of this new dormitory back of "700". It is a much simpler building but it faces south and by placing all service rooms on the north side there are actually only three bedrooms which have only north windows. After the winter the girls will consider this the best dormitory in spite of it being the farthest from the academic buildings. I must take this chance to record my deep gratitude for the efforts of the Alumnae Association in Shanghai, and especially to Mrs. New, in raising 402 million C. N. toward the Joint Campaign.

On the faculty we are very glad to welcome new members and the return of Miss Spicer, Dr. C. F. Lung, Miss Hu Shih-tsang, and Miss Pan Yao-tsien. The first faculty meeting of the year was held in the Social Hall in Central Building, and we were all very happily surprised to see the Hall restored to almost its original beauty. Throughout the last two years many people, and especially Alumnae, have lamented the bare, and the dilapidated conditions of the Social Hall. So during the summer Mrs. Tsen directed the repairing of the Hall and the making of new furniture. Of course, we could not secure the pearl shell for lattice work in the new screens. However, we used plywood as a substitute, painting it a creamy white and it gives much the effect of the original. As to the chairs, we kept the Chinese style but modified it making them more comfortable. All this rehabilitation was made possible by the Smith College Alumnae and we are very grateful that at last we have one beautiful hall on the campus.

Those of you who were on campus during the last two years will be glad to hear that the Practice School children are finally out of the recitation Building. With contributions and loans from the College they have constructed a building opposite their dormitory and similar in style. You will be surprised to hear that there are 480 children in the school. The next problem is how to assign athletic and play grounds to the Practice School so the children will not compete with the College girls in the use of the athletic grounds.

A few words about my trip to Amsterdam. It was the first Assembly of the World Council of Churches and a wonderful experience to meet the outstanding Christian leaders from all over the world and to join the deliberations on serious problems concerning the Church and others facing mankind today. I was inspired by the earnest effort to search for Church Unity through the ecumenical movement, and to help overcome the present crisis by the fundamental process of applying Christ's way in the building up of a responsible community. After the Assembly I also attended the International Missionary Council meeting at Oostzeest and the whole trip took only thirth-four days.

Enough news from the College and I wish you to know that we are all eager to hear from you and about you. We all are interested in your work, your studies or in your family life. We think of you all often and especially now as we are making preparation for Founders' Day.

Both the New York Office and Miss Hwang Shuh-lan, Alumnae Secretary, would like to have a complete and correct list of your addresses. I am asking the office to send this letter to you with a return form for your present address. If you should know of changes in the addresses of your friends or of the arrival of new Alumnae in the States would you please send their names and addresses to the office. We shall be grateful to you for your help in bringing the Alumnae Directory up to date.

With best wishes to every one.

Very sincerely

/s/ Wu Yi-fang



Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
October 14th, 1948

Dear Friends of Ginling College:

The committee in charge of Publicity for Founder's Day asks me to send you this letter telling you about our plans for the celebration this year on November 6th and 7th. Most of you have been here to enjoy Founder's Day in the past but this year is different. It is twenty years since Dr. Wu Yi-fang was made president of the College and she will be especially honored in observance of this anniversary. She will be shown esteem and honor such as her long term of loving service to the College merits. All the faculty and staff members who have served Ginling College twenty years or more are also to be honored.

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in the morning, Saturday, the 6th. In the afternoon there will be a service dedicating the site and breaking the ground for the new Alumnae Hall. The campaign for this project is only just begun. When it is finished it will be the Alumnae gift to the College in honor of Dr. Wu. An Alumnae Tea will follow and there will be meetings of the classes of 1928 and 1938.

Saturday evening there will be a Banquet which Campus Guests, Directors, Alumnae, Faculty and Students will be invited to attend. It is expected that about 700 will attend and the spirit of "oneness" which characterizes Ginling will be emphasized. A play entitled "Twenty Years", in four acts, will be given in the auditorium later in the evening. It includes songs and dances and has been written by local talent. Between acts special messages and cables will be read, class songs sung, and gifts announced.

The Sunday morning service will mark the official observance of the 33rd anniversary of the founding of the College. Dr. T. C. Chao, of Yenching University, will be the guest speaker. The Ginling Glee Club will sing.

This, in brief, is the program and we shall be happy to feel that you are with us in thought. An account of everything will come to you after it is over. Meanwhile the committee hopes that friends all over the world will be thinking of us as events slip by. Of course messages will add to the festivities.

Very sincerely,

/s/ Eleanor W. McCurdy  
College English Secretary  
for Publicity Com. for  
Founders' Day

Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
November 10, 1948

Dear Friends at Home,

This will bring you my Christmas greetings from a very troubled land. I wonder if you are all seeing as I am, more clearly than ever, that a Christmas experience of Christ born in our hearts, and living and reigning in our hearts, our thinking and our living, is truly the supreme and only hope of our world. So I do wish you a Christmas filled with the joy of His Spirit every day of this and the New Year. With that a reality we can create a new world, or rather, God can create a new world thru us.

Now for news. Just as the crisis was breaking, but before we knew so much of what was to happen, Ginling celebrated its Founders' Day and Dr. Wu's twentieth anniversary as its president. Great preparations were made. The Smith College Building, our Central Building, which had been so stripped of all its inside beauty, was completely redone inside. The floor was repaired and remade in parts, lovely new Chinese lanterns were brought from Peiping, and the lovely shell and wood screen partitions were remade, no longer shell but wood so painted that at night it fooled me until I touched it and found that it was only painted wood. All this was done with funds given by Smith College. The Chapel also was greatly improved by indirect lighting shades given by the class of '28. There was a good supply of chrysanthemums as usual, and also congratulatory scrolls and red silk hangings with their gay gold Chinese lettering, and the purple and white banners of Ginling. Best of all more than 100 alumnae returned from different places for the celebration, as well as the college board members. We all had supper together, half up-stairs in the gym, and half down stairs in the lovely social hall. Everyone seemed gay, very happy to be back, and it was fun having so many, the whole faculty too. The night before we were shown the College movie and that of all the China Christian Colleges, making clear that we have been and still are on the front line of defense for the democratic way of living.

On Sunday there was a very fine religious service with Dr. T. C. Chao speaking, as well as Dr. Wu. The Glee Club under Miss Butler sang very well. But my knowledge of Chinese is not enough to tell you much about that. Saturday night after the dinner there was a happy family feeling. The chapel was packed with alumnae, students and faculty. No one seemed to mind the endless telegrams, or waiting when the lights went off once, or for changing the scenery in the dramatized version of Dr. Wu's life and work in and for Ginling. Incidentally we were celebrating Dr. Ruth Chester's thirtieth anniversary at the same time.

I wish you could have seen the joy and relief on the faces of one of my classes, when they asked, "Miss Graves, what are you going to do? Are you going to leave?" and I answered that I could see no reason for leaving yet at least, and that we all hoped we would not need to go. Probably the press is giving you pretty lurid accounts of Central China's difficulties and dangers, as well as of the fall of Mukden. There is no question but that the situation is very serious. Many feel that the food question may be the worst problem. Some feel things may turn over very quickly, and some students are leaving or trying to leave. Please do not worry about us Americans here for Uncle Sam has ways of getting us out, if and when necessary. Personally I feel that those of us who stay here no matter what happens may find things all right for a time, but the aims of the other ideology are perfectly clear and are diametrically opposed to our Christian faith, so that in time we shall surely be a cause of suspicion and of danger to our friends whom we came to help. I do want to stay as long as it seems possible to be of help to them; beyond that,-- well, that period may not be long, or it may be. The College will not move a second time, that seems to be certain. I have no desire to run away

from anything, but I do want to work where I can most effectively be used by our Lord for the building of His Kingdom; it may be here, or perhaps it may not be here, or perhaps not here for very long. Only God knows, and all we can do is to trust in His power to guide us, to listen constantly for His directions, and to be completely obedient to Him, praying and trusting Him joyfully. And please will you do the same for us, and for all Christian leaders and those in responsibility for the relations between nations. I feel very, very grateful for all of my friends. "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of,"- by prayer and obedience.

Loyally your friend,

Stella Marie Graves

P.S. A letter dated November 15th from Shanghai indicates that Miss Graves is there, awaiting final decision about departure for the United States.

C.A.Evans

Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
November 30, 1948

Dear Friend, as the Christmas season nears:

In these days of mounting tension I am anxious to establish contact with you again, while there are available the ordinary communication services of train and plane. All good wishes to you for a Christmas season full of joy and serenity. The world is making progress, I know, for there are more vocal protests against wrong than ever before. The world is suffering to preserve peace in a way not matched before.

Here in Nanking we have had a disturbed semester. First came the economic crisis a few weeks ago when five pounds of milk cost as much as U.S.\$250, and it was next to impossible to buy rice, flour, eggs or meat. In those dreadful days a number of people in Nanking committed suicide; others broke into rice shops, and looted, even clubbing to death merchants who refused to sell. That crisis is past, price controls are lifted, and food once more available, at rather high prices. On the heels of this distress came the worsening political situation. Tonight in Nanking there is a steady stream of horse carriages, cars, pedicabs and rickshaws laden with baggage and people, making for the railway station at the north of the city. Trains - both directions, towards Shanghai, and in this direction - are crowded beyond capacity. Packing, and planning for travelling are common things here tonight. We are grateful that the winter cold has not yet set in. These travelers go to discomfort and further anxiety, but it seems that Nanking right now is in for trouble of some sort.

What is happening at Ginling? A week ago, about one-third of our students were away "on leave" <sup>of</sup> Today, because of the bad war news, <sup>De Winters</sup> ~~since Saturday~~, groups of others are getting off, in the <sup>charge</sup> of older brothers, friends of the family, or groups of girls together. It is sad for us to see them go off; and many of them would not go if not for the repeated telegrams, express letters and personal visits from families and friends. There are not many happy-looking faces here these days, for students are feeling the weight of decisions to be made at once. They come to classes, in smaller and smaller groups, but there is a lack of enthusiasm on their faces for such subjects as the history of the novel or sentence structure! One of my classes had originally thirty-two students, this morning it had fourteen. Another class of eight students got as low as two but crept up again to six when the news was better and students returned from Shanghai.

There are two recurrent questions, "Are you going away?" and "When are you going?" When we see small knots of students and faculty deep in serious talk, we know they are talking of the problems of individuals or groups, or of the problems of China. In this big faculty dormitory, two families are packing today, making for the south. We are going to miss the four little boys in one family, and the three children in another.

There are nine westerners now of the former twelve, and this group plans to stay on. We think we can be of some service to those who have no hope of getting out of the community. The college attitude from the first has been, "Each individual must decide." When faculty felt they should go, we have doubled up classes, made different schedules so other teachers could take more classes. The Seniors were most eager to stay, to get their work finished, but a good many of them have gone, leaving credits and such technical problems to the future. Those students who were to finish in January have been arranging for papers to be done at home, an effort to help them complete their work so they will not have to return later on. A questionnaire filled in by students recently showed about seventy

interested in staying on definitely, and about thirty who were undecided. So that is less than one-quarter of the ordinary student body.

This coming to grips with the world and its problems has matured many minds in a week or two. Chapel service are heartening, for the daily services are full of profound significance. The last jinko leaves, pure golden, have just dropped. The grass is brown, but there are still the vivid fall colorings, and the rich greens of willows and the beautiful deodar on the main campus. We are in the midst here of great beauty. Purple Mountain in the morning mists is a delight, and the paths criss-crossing the hills near at hand show more clearly every day.

Friends leaving for Shanghai and America have left us many gifts, - furniture, electrical equipment, books. From American personnel we have been able to purchase some food supplies so that for the present we are having greater variety than perhaps ever before in China. I had the offer of a bicycle today, to use for as long as I wanted it, and no responsibility "in case of accident."

It's very easy to fill our days with talk, and "Have you heard....?" tomorrow's classes don't seem of prime importance. How can we prepare for what's ahead is a nice question, seeing the future is altogether dark and incomprehensible. The air is full of the drone of planes most of the day and night; there is curfew at 11 o'clock. Magazines have begun again to come through, after the interval of silence due to the shipping strike.

Finances are a common problem, one ever with us. In July Ginling revised the salary scale, fitting it more nearly to what was given in government universities. Then in August came the new economic phase of controlled prices and wages, and a new currency, and the salary scale had to be redone. When the new economic experiment failed, what was to be done? This month the scale has not been changed, but substantial bonuses were added for servants and faculty. We now consider just month by month, hoping to be able to revise in accordance with the prevailing condition. We are glad that the old Chinese national currency, calculated in millions, is no longer used, and we can count a month's salary in a minute or two!

This past week we've been on the edge of student strikes again, but Ginling was not intimately involved and voted to keep on with classes. We have decided to close the semester two weeks early, January 6th. It looks today as though we may have to close even earlier. One high school brings its semester to a close this week. Some institutions are considering moving south or to Formosa, but we do not even think of this. Here or nowhere seems the only possibility for us in these days of heavily over-taxed transportation and tenseness.

This autumn I moved into a tiny suite with a friend of mine. It has been a joy to get out of big dormitory organization and to have a quiet retired spot to call our own.

All good wishes to you for Christmas and 1949. Let us hope we can continue to learn something about how to get along with the rest of the world in peace and understanding.

Sincerely,

/s/ Florence A. Kirk

Ginling College  
Nanking, China  
December 14, 1948

Dear Friends:

I feel very much ashamed that I have been back at Ginling for well over a year without sending out any kind of letter to you all. I have been very busy since I came back, and in the summer when I really planned to write I started first on revising my address list, and never got to the writing of the letter itself! I was ill for the first part of my vacation, so didn't get as much done as I had hoped.

It was a joy to get back and begin work again on our own campus in the fall of 1947 and I found that great progress had been made in the year that I had been at home. Things seemed fairly normal and the refugee war years began to slip into the background and the present seemed to connect more closely with the pre-war past. We had a pretty good year on the whole, but not without its problems. We are tired of writing and talking about inflation, but it is an ever present problem that cannot be escaped. The new currency that was established in August held out for about two months, and it was such a relief to deal with single dollars and cents instead of in millions. But it took a big slide in October and early November, and prices now are from 10 to 20 times what they were in August. There has been a steadying this last week, however, and even a drop in a good many prices, so things look a little better than two weeks ago.

Another problem we had last year, was restlessness and agitation among students, in which some of our students also participated. It is very difficult in a brief space to give an adequate and fair picture of this problem. There has been for some time a very general dissatisfaction with the present government, and its repressive measures against agitations and demonstrations have of course, as they always do, tended to increase rather than decrease the feelings of frustration and antagonism. One has great sympathy with students who want to protest, but they are often used by political forces whose real purpose is simply to create confusion and disorder and thus embarrass the government. The methods they use are often underhanded and you never know what apparently innocent organization or activity is going to turn out to be something quite different from what it pretended to be. Every now and then, these demonstrations lead to violence and someone is hurt, so that it is all a constant source of anxiety. Altogether last spring was a very difficult time, and some institutions had really serious crises. We avoided that, though it seemed imminent for some time, and this fall things have on the whole been going rather better, as far as student activities are concerned. I do not think that either complete condemnation of these small groups of students as communist agitators, or unqualified sympathy with them as oppressed and frustrated idealists, is justifiable. It is too complicated and mixed a picture. There is truth in both of these points of view, which makes it all much harder to deal with.

On November 6th and 7th we had our annual Founders' Day celebrations and this year they included recognition of Dr. Wu's 20 years of service as president as the main theme. A few of us who have been on the faculty as long as that or longer also had a little special recognition. It was an unusually good program throughout. On Saturday evening the main program was a dramatization of some events in Dr. Wu's life and the history of the college, partly humorous and partly more serious. On Sunday morning the Founders' Day service was an excellent one, with just enough feeling of impending crisis to make everyone more serious and not enough to interfere with the atmosphere of the occasion. The University of Nanking had its 60th anniversary just a week later and found it very difficult to get into the spirit

"all of this," says a recent letter  
from Dean Ruth Chester,

- 2 -

of it because by then people were much more worried over the state of affairs we are in. We all felt that our two day celebration, with some preliminary events during the preceding week, did a great deal to develop a sense of loyalty to the college and group spirit.

Since then I am afraid our attention has been very largely on the political and military situation we find ourselves in. About four-fifths of our students have left, though a few have returned after a week or two of absence, and a very small number of faculty have left. All of this has made a good deal of extra work in readjusting of classes and schedules, writing letters of introduction for students who hope to study in some other university as guest students temporarily, etc. In the background all the time are the endless discussions as to the latest news and its probable significance, what is likely to happen and when, and all the other things that might happen in addition to what at the moment seems the most likely one. It is a very complex situation and therefore it is very difficult to see clearly what sort of policy is wisest. So far we are agreed that we should try to continue here even under a changed government, rather than attempt to move. There seems nowhere to move and no facilities to move adequately, and in any case most people feel that to move would be a very temporary solution and leave us then in a much poorer position to make any permanent arrangements than we will be if we stay here. How long we can continue to carry on with enough freedom, both academic and religious, to justify continuing as a Christian institution is impossible to tell. One can easily quote both stories of incidents in North China and pronouncements of communist leaders to support either the view that we can have a good chance to continue or the opposite one, that there is practically no hope of it. In any case if they do actually take over the capital and try to establish a national government, everyone knows that may modify their behavior considerably, so that no past experience anywhere is a reliable guide to what they will do here.

For the western members of our faculty there is the added question as to whether we should stay or not. There are people, both Chinese and western, who feel we are likely to be more of a problem than a help and that we should get out before the communists come. That view is more common in connection with church work than among people in medical or educational institutions I think. In the latter two types of work especially there are many, in fact I believe the vast majority, who think we are more likely to be a help than a liability and who therefore would like us to stay. Five out of twelve of our Finling group of westerners have gone, for different reasons, and the rest of us I think are hoping to stay. Up to date the best advice we can get is in favor of our staying, and we are planning to do so. Of course if something should happen to make it seem that we would really make things more difficult for the college to carry on then we would go, but not otherwise. We are all aware that the future of free education and of all forms of Christian work is very uncertain indeed. But there does seem enough of a possibility of helping to direct things towards a more moderate and constructive program to make it well worth while to take the risks involved and stand by, at least for a trial period.

As to how serious our immediate situation is and what is most likely to happen one hesitates very much to put anything on paper to be read some weeks later. Things change even from one day to the next and there is a possibility of a sudden drastic change any day. I think most people expect a month or so of increasing threat and tensions before any actual turnover occurs. In line with this opinion we have decided to shorten this semester by two weeks and finish about the end of December or early January, in the hope that we shall have time in that way to round it off and have our final examinations, rather than leaving everything hanging unfinished. There is a possibility of things dragging along as they are now for a

Q Dean Chester

states that

for many  
one

much longer period - a much smaller possibility in the mind of most people, but not entirely ruled out. It is a very depressing situation in many ways, for although very few people look forward to a communist-dominated government with any enthusiasm or illusions at all, there are also very few who have any interest in seeing the present regime continue. Whether people in general will be better off or worse off if the change comes, is a somewhat debatable question, but there seems no hope in any direction of marked improvement in the near future. I have great faith in the fundamental soundness and good sense of the Chinese people and am not pessimistic about the long view, but it is very hard to see many elements of hope in the immediate situation. We need your prayers very much as we face such very difficult decisions and try in all the confusion to find what is really God's will for us as individuals and for the college program.

Whether or not we shall find ourselves on the inside of an "iron curtain" is hard to predict, but I think it is quite probable. It may not be as impenetrable as it has been in some places, but there is at least a possibility that we may be cut off from communication with friends and families for a time. There seems little reason to fear physical danger and we hope very much that Ginling will be able to weather this storm as it has many others in the past, and continue in some form its service to China and to the preparation of Christian leadership.

Except for a weekend in Wuhu in the spring, a month at Kuling in the summer is the only trip away from Nanking I have had since I got back some 15 months ago. Kuling seemed much as it used to in general, though there are a few changes which are rather noticeable. I had a quiet but very enjoyable holiday although I was not able to get in many of my favorite walks and trips. The quiet and coolness and beauty of Kuling are enough to make a good vacation and in addition I was with very good friends. I have been well all along except for one or two minor illnesses and feel I am in good form to take whatever may be coming in the next few months.

I am greatly enjoying this year a new experience in living arrangements. Florence Kirk and I have a small apartment and are keeping house. The relative quietness and independence and opportunity to entertain students and other friends is a real joy after years of dormitory life.

I hope this letter may reach you not too far from Christmas, though it has been unavoidably delayed more than I wish. No lighthearted Christmas cheer seems suitable, but one cannot look out on the world's problems today without realizing more deeply than ever how desperately we need to understand the real significance of Christmas and to bring that message of peace and goodwill to the world. If all of us who have partially understood it could only catch its full meaning and really practice it in our own lives and in all our public relationships, I believe it would be possible by such a demonstration to make others see it too. Let us earnestly seek and pray for such a vision and a renewed dedication at this Christmas season.

Personal greetings to you all. I wish that I had time to write more often and more personally than I do. I do greatly appreciate the occasional letters that some of you write and hope for more of them. The 10¢ "Air Letter" is the best, I think, if one considers both economy and time. Ordinary letters have been rather irregular because of the shipping strike which removed for a long time most of the boats that usually carry mail.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ruth M. Chester



*Our Ginling file*

1353-A Lemon Ave.  
Long Beach 13, Calif.  
December 15, 1948

Dear Friends:

It will seem as strange to you to receive a letter from me from the above address as it does to me to be here. As you know from the newspapers, people and institutions in China are meeting days of decision. Ginling College, like most of the institutions in Nanking, is planning to stay right there. However, individuals have to make their own decisions. Some feel that China is so large and that the Chinese people are such past masters at the art of evasion that they will be able to change policies of Russian Communism. Some even think that the Chinese Communists have no connection with Russian Communism. However, before I left China, Mao Tse-tung, Chinese Communist leader, made a perfectly clear statement, reported in newspapers in China, of Chinese Communism's loyalty to Moscow. There is no question but that Communist policies in China may be greatly varied in their application, but their central purpose will remain the same, I believe. So for this reason I decided to leave China, because I believe that as Americans and as Missionaries we represent Communism's number one enemy on two counts, nationally and ideologically; for Communists understand what Americans do not always see clearly, that the Christian religion, when practiced, is the real heart of democracy. And these two Communism wants to destroy. Without us I believe our Christian Chinese co-workers stand a chance, but with us present, they are almost certain to run into suspicion and danger.

On November 12th Ambassador Stuart called a meeting of representative missionaries at the Embassy in Nanking. He wanted all of the information they had about conditions of mission work in Communist-controlled territory. Word had come from several mission hospitals. One had been completely destroyed; another was permitted to continue but no fees could be charged and the personnel was changed as rapidly as the Communists could put in their own medical people. In another case after a time the Communists permitted the mission hospital to charge small fees and they had not changed the personnel up to that date. On the boat, a friend from inland China told of a friend of hers, a woman missionary, who had decided to stay. This woman remained hidden during the fighting, then decided to come out when things seemed peaceful. The first soldier she met threw a hand grenade--and that was that!

I do hope with all my heart that the institutions in Nanking, and the Westerners who remain there, will be permitted to carry on in far better shape than I anticipate. A "coalition" seems very much a question-mark to me. If they want American aid to help China to recover so they can get more out of her later to fight the U. S., then they may be quite cooperative in the beginning, maybe! But there is no question about Communism's aim to destroy the western democracies, and the faith that made them great. We must find a united plan and a passion and a truly Christian philosophy adequate to out-revolutionize Communism. And there I have to ask myself, "Is my daily experience of Christ adequate for my full share in this task? If not, why not?"

The night of November 14th Dr. Wu, our President, admitted at last that fourteen Westerners would be too many on Ginling's staff, in case of a turnover of the Government. Already the American Consulate had sent out the second warning and said that this was THE evacuation. Trains were already dangerously crowded. There had been rice riots that week in which people were killed. That same Friday night when I expressed my opinion to a few of our staff, our dean, Dr. Ruth Chester, said, "In that case, Stella, I think you ought to leave right now." That night the

conviction grew that I should leave at once. The U. S. had gotten permission to send a destroyer up the Yangtse to Nanking to take out Americans. In the morning I checked my decision with two friends and by nine o'clock was packing with the help of students and faculty. Sunday afternoon at three o'clock I boarded the destroyer, bag and baggage. Tuesday morning we arrived in Shanghai, and on the 22nd of November with hundreds more I boarded the U.S.S. Butner, a Navy transport for the U.S.A. We went via Tsingtao and Yokosuka (Tokyo Bay) where I had a glimpse of Dr. and Mrs. Darley Downs of the Japan Mission of the American Board, and then no stop till San Francisco on December 11th. On the 12th I reached home and my niece and her son Kenneth, his wife Marie, and their baby boy whom I had not seen before, met me in their car.

What lies ahead for me, I do not know yet, but there will be plenty to do, and I have surprised myself by the complete confidence God has given me that He will show the way very clearly to the right work for me, my full share in His plan, wherever that may be. At the present and until I send you other word, this will be my address; and indeed it will reach me always -- unless we, or my niece, should move to some better place.

Already I have sent you from China my Christmas greetings, but once more my very best wishes to you all for a blessed Christmas and the very best God has for all of us in the New Year. Now I am nearer, I do look forward to more letters from you all!

Your friend,

/s/ Stella Marie Graves

In this time of chaos and uncertainty, the people in Shwen Hwa Cheng have lived as peacefully as usual, and have had a very happy X'mas. The Christmas program this year was different. No big celebration meeting was held. In order to help the people understand the meaning of X'mas more thoroughly and know more about Jesus Christ, small meetings were held for different age groups: the nursery children and their parents; the local helpers in the nursery school; the students in the women's classes; the neighborhood children; the young men and our colleagues. Therefore the X'mas week from Dec. 20 to Dec. 26 was full of activities and brought happiness and joy to approximately 500 people in Shwen Hwa Cheng.

First of all, a room was decorated for the meetings. A student of the women's class cut a pine tree from a hill belonging to her own family and brought it to the station. The local girls helping in the nursery school decorated the tree with stars, paper chains of various colors, bells, corns, candles, etc. All these articles were cut and made by the girls themselves after they heard the story of the X'mas Tree. Pictures of X'mas stories such as the shepherds, the wisemen, etc. were hung on walls. The girls sang X'mas carols as they worked along. The songs springing out of their happy hearts accompanying the beautiful decoration made the room full of X'mas atmosphere.

On Monday afternoon of the X'mas week, mothers of the nursery children gathered together and each made a little apron for her child to wear for X'mas. There was a pocket on the front of each apron. The mothers made many beautiful designs such as rabbits, flowers, buds, cats, etc. with fine handwork on the pockets. In the afternoon of Thursday, children all with their new apron on, brought their parents to the nursery school for a X'mas celebration. The children jumped and bounced with joy and each proudly showed to the others his new apron. X'mas stories and the meaning of X'mas were told to the parents. Children gave a X'mas pageant and a little play "The Birthday of Mother Cat." Then Santa Clause came out and gave to each child a package of candies and a used X'mas card. The parents and children had a very happy time indeed. They learned that this usually happy time was brought about by the birth of the Christ, our Lord.

The meetings for the students of the women's classes, the young, <sup>men</sup> and the neighborhood children were held on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25. This year we were very grateful to some of our Ginling friends who gave us many used X'mas cards. We classified those and exhibited them on different tables. The girls, men, women and children came to look at them before their meetings. Explanations of those pictures were also given to the audience. Those cards were beautifully made and they told the most beautiful story in the world. For most of the audience, this was the first time they saw those wonderful pictures. They kept on looking and looking. No doubt, those pictures made on the audience a very deep impression. In each meeting, X'mas carols were taught to the people. After the games and little refreshments, the meetings adjourned happily.

On Sunday afternoon (Dec. 26), the local church had a meeting, for the Sunday School children and the nursery children were invited to give their X'mas pageant and other program. It happened to snow very heavily. Shwen Hwa Cheng in a short time became a silver world. We didn't know how those little children could get to church. Since neither are there transportation facilities like rickshas or wheelbarrows in this town, nor do the children have goshas or rubbers. Suddenly a church member volunteered to carry the children in bamboo baskets hanging to either end of a bamboo pole. So children in the program were carried to the church in this way. Each time a pair of baskets could take four children. The children enjoyed sitting in them and being carried in the beautiful show. The Sunday school children recited Bible verses; the nursery children gave various themes; the audience enjoyed. After the meeting, the nursery children happily jumped into the baskets and were carried back to their own homes.

Indeed, the Shwen Hwa Cheng people had a very happy X'mas this year. May the peace and joy from our Lord always with us. We have a vision that when the Shwen Hwa Cheng people are christianized, we shall have a new community with new citizens. They not only will celebrate X'mas in our Station, but also will celebrate it spontaneously in their own homes.

Shwen Hwa Cheng Girls learned a New Art  
• Paper Cut-out X'mas Cards

When Ginling College Rural Service Station moved back to Nanking after the war, we wanted very much to revive the paper-cut-out work which we had in Jenshow, Szechuen. The trouble was to find a teacher to train the local girls, for paper cutting is a special art. Very few people know how to do it. Fortunately, last February, one day during the Chinese New Year, Miss Tsu and I went shopping and found on the street, among many goods made specially for the New Year, a kind of door decoration - made of paper-cut-outs. We were very glad to find this and were eager to know who had made them. A merchant told us that Mr. Chang, a man in Shwen Hwa Cheng, made the paper-cut-out door decorations. Immediately we went to visit him.

Mr. Chang lived in the rear part of a pawn-shop which was terribly bombed during the war. He was an old man around seventy. His voice and manner showed that he was gentle and courteous. His wife was in the house when we visited them. Both invited us in cordially.

"When I was a young man, I was a school-master in a private school of the old Chinese type," said Mr. Chang.

"We have no children. We live on several acres of land. Each year before the Chinese New Year time, I also make these paper-cut-outs for sale," he continued, and soon he showed us some of his work which seemed rather coarse to us.

"You know, my eyes are rather poor now. I cannot do fine work but I know the methods of cutting and of making the tools - little sharp knives and wax boards." He then showed us his tools.

We asked him from whom he learned this art. He replied, "I didn't have any teacher. I just watched the others who did the work. Then I came home and practiced it myself." He was quite proud of himself at this point. Since he knew the method of cutting and of making tools, we asked him to be the teacher for this craft. He generously promised.

In April 1948, when the days got warmer, Mr. Chang started his class with six girls and a member of our rural staff. They meet twice a week, each time for an hour. Since paper was rather expensive, the pupils practiced with used papers until they had good skill in cutting. Many Ginling faculty members contributed and collected used papers such as envelopes, letterpaper, etc. for this purpose. Along with learning how to do the cutting, the girls learned to sharpen the knives and to make the wax boards. To sharpen the knives is one of the very important skills.

The staff member who joined the class was Mrs. Young who is talented in handcrafts. She learned very quickly and was able to improve the skills of the girls. Then we made designs for X'mas cards. For this year, we had 14 different designs; seven were new, original ones; two, our old Jenshow patterns, and the remaining five were collections from old X'mas cards.

The girls were very interested in this craft. They met more often in a week and worked much a longer time. In September, they began to use the good Chinese red paper to make X'mas cards for sale. In an afternoon, on the average one could make ten cards. In two months, they made 3,500 cards. Had it not been for the shortage of paper, they would have made many more.

Most of the cards were sold in Nanking. Miss Tsu and I took several hundred cards with us each time when we went back to Ginling. Our room was often full of customers, and each time within an hour or two, the cards were all sold out. Orders from some outsiders were also filled. Unfortunately because of the economic crisis we could not get paper supplies in October, and so we disappointed many of our friends who liked those cards. We hope to develop this work and make X'mas cards in large quantity next year so that everybody who likes this work can get beautiful paper-cut-out cards at the most reasonable prices.



*Our Greeting file*  
(17)CHRISTMAS AT GINLING

A mantle of snow flung over Purple Mountain makes it very distant and haughty this afternoon as I write. With the coming of the Christmas Season, winter descended on Nanking. Icy rain was followed by wet snow that bowed the campus trees in Christmas adoration.

As Dr Kirk said in her news letter, a week ago, we are a lonely and silent Ginling these days" but nevertheless Christmas was a very happy time for the small group left here. There was a family spirit and a feeling of unity which is possible only in small groups. A series of Chapel talks given at noon each day of Christmas Week helped all to realize anew the meaning of the Season. At a time when strength and faith are so necessary for daily living, the messages brought were most helpful. Miss Spiver, Dr Kirk and Dr Andy Roy were speakers, and one service was devoted to lovely Christmas music.

In spite of much shifting of parts because of girls leaving unexpectedly when transportation was suddenly available, a fine dramatization of a Christmas story was put on at Assembly Wednesday night. A translation had been made of a little play called "Home for Christmas" into which the familiar, traditional Christmas scenes are woven. So at five-fifteen the entire campus family hurried through the chilly rain to the Chapel. The great Christmas Tree growing in front of the Administration Building glowed with lights that even in the mist and rain were festive. Most of us were clothed in every warm garment we possessed, our breath made puffs of white smoke ahead of us and the slosh of water could be heard often as hot-water bottles were shifted from one hand to another. Just as the play was about to start and the narrator was taking her place behind the desk, the lights went off! Some brave soul who had lots of faith had counted ahead for weeks and determined that this was the night when the lights WOULD BE ON. But our Nanking lights are temperamental, off they went and stayed off. After a little hurried shuffling about in the dark, lanterns and candles appeared and one gasoline light was ably hoisted into place by the combined efforts of six or more campus coolies - and the show went on. I think it was really more effective by the uncertain and wavering lights of the make-shift arrangement than it could ever have been with the electric lights on. It was very fine and very well done. The Wise Men were a tall Chinese girl, and two professors from Nanking University one of whom was a negro. The high colorful beams of the Chapel echoed only faintly to the Christmas music as it was sung valiantly by an amateur choir. The whole music department, students and teachers as well, having left campus. Doubtless a great many parts in the program were taken by people who would have had little or no chance for participation in the program had conditions been normal.

Friday evening came an amusing program in the Assembly Hall and, wonder of wonders, the lights stayed on! The faculty put on one play and the students did one. The faculty quite outdid themselves in "Sophu the Wise" Following the plays the crowd moved into North Studio for refreshments and Santa came with a huge pack. A faculty member from the P.E. Department was Santa and she surely had fun in the part. The faculty children adored her line. Since the crowd was so small there were gifts for everyone. After a hilarious hour the crowd adjourned to South Studio for a worship service. It was beautiful and dignified, making a perfect ending for the day. The room was festive with tall candles, poinsettias and wreaths beautifully made from holly and evergreen. The program was arranged by students under the direction of Mrs Kao, Counselor for Extra-curricular Activities. We left the building after the service with thoughts that transcended chilled bones. About midnight students sang carols at all the dormitories. They were dressed in white with silver crowns, their lanterns making a picturesque procession in the dark misty night. Their spirit was not at all dampened by the rain.

Saturday morning there were faculty breakfast parties. That evening all who remained on campus, eighty in all, came to South Hill House, a faculty dormitory, for a party. It was a gay party with one large room given over to folk dancing and many table games set up in the other rooms. Again, the lights were flickering candles and little gladd lamps which would fit nicely into some antique collections in the States. Refreshments were bountiful. The good eats served both on Friday night and Saturday

Sight were made possible by the gift of Dr Reeves. Exchange being what it is, or was - last Friday, the 24th of December, 1948 - enabled us to buy nuts, candies, small cakes, oranges and bananas. The western faculty furnished the hot cocoa.

Sunday afternoon the Ginling girls showed the true Christmas spirit by helping others make merry. They helped with the Children's Party sponsored by Nanking University and Ginling for neighborhood children. It was snowing heavily and the girls went first to our Child Welfare Center where they picked up the children from this community and took them to Sage Chapel at the University. Eight hundred children listened to the program and received gifts. The girls loved having a part and their efforts really made the party a success.

There were many other unscheduled gatherings. The Chinese faculty at South Hill House gave a lovely dinner to the western group followed by a treasure hunt which brought forth very nice gifts for everybody. On Sunday evening the western faculty entertained the missionary group of the community and thirty-six sat down to a very comfortable dinner. Ambassador Stuart was among the guests and just before the party broke up he spoke very informally about conditions at present. He feels that we must emphasize all positive factors in the situation which confronts us. At the present time the general situation in Nanking is fairly quiet. Many feel that it may remain so for some weeks especially since unexpected steps have been taken by the Communists in the north in the taking of the area around Peiping. Therefore it is felt that Nanking's crisis may be put off for a time.

So Christmas is over for 1948 and none of us will ever forget the happy comradeship enjoyed nor the beauty, made a fairyland by a blanket of soft snow.

*of the campus*

12.31.48

EWM M

P.S. Miss Kirk and I feel that it is only a very vague sort of an idea we can give you of the way things are moving along here. The campus is so awfully quiet in comparison to normal times. And deep in our hearts we wonder if so-called normal times will ever come back again. Are we sort of finishing a chapter - we'll go on to the next chapter with many of the same characters but the setting is likely to be different, the atmosphere anyway. Its a time, too, of very great contrasts, as Florence has mentioned, blue skies and soft autumnal air, hearts torn and baffled by difficult decisions. EWM

For four years, I have lived at Ginling, our great college. It is true that Ginling life is just as abundant, joyful, lovable, and valuable as our home life. I will mention some points as a proof of what I have said, and, at the same time, as a recollection about my life during the last four years at Ginling.

1. On the Aspect of Knowledge. Among many other things, I wish to say something about my major course, physical education. Formerly, I despised those who majored in physical education as being a people who selected their major only because they were conscious of their low ability and unable to select other courses. I regarded physical education as merely ball-playing, running, and jumping in the athletic field. That did not need much intelligence, I supposed. But, after I came to Ginling, I learned gradually what physical education really is from the teachers in the physical education department. I became aware of the mistaken idea I had in my conception of physical education. I know now that it is not for mere pleasure, although it is really pleasant. The real purpose is to reach the aim of education through the body activities. It has its own educational principle as have other sciences like biology, chemistry, anatomy, and physiology, and has its basis in all of these. Now I have learned the fundamental knowledge of my future career.

2. On the Aspect of Living. The first thing that is explained to a new student who enters Ginling is the motto of the college: The abundant life. A Ginling student should, at least, know what the abundant life is even though she may not be able fully to attain it. The first step in pursuing the abundant life is to live abundantly. Ginling provides everything within its possibilities to make us comfortable and satisfied. The college has done its best to raise the physical equipment to a good standard and has given attention to the spiritual activities of students which is usually neglected in other universities and colleges. Each day we have to contemplate and improve our spiritual inclinations. We take time to think of the truth that a human being lives not only for his personal satisfaction but that a more important point is to understand the needs of others and try our best to help them. It is the same idea as Dr. Sun Yat-sen expresses; that one must aim to contribute his service to others. Although it is not easy to get rid of our private desires and obtain the abundant life, we must not forget to try to direct our living this way.

3. On the Aspect of Moral Character. The purpose of Ginling College is not merely to give students knowledge from books, but also to develop and cultivate a sound character in each individual. It aims to help each individual seek the abundant life. Confucius said, "People always respect those who respect others." Such a high standard of personal character is the goal of Ginling. It is not a college where the student read books only. I do not understand why some government leaders who have been scholars with much knowledge and experience have a moral character so bad that they are blamed by all people in the country. In Ginling, I have learned to know what a sound moral character is and that one has to treat others in the way one desires to be treated by others. The balance of receiving and giving is the standard of good moral character as I have learned it in Ginling.

I will never forget Ginling, our great family. She has left a permanent trace on my life. I grew up in Ginling; she has influenced me and my thought and my will. I hope every student who has studied at Ginling will have the same experience as I.

By Liu I-wen  
Ginling, 1948