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Shantung / Cheeloo
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Council of Higher Education 1928
Curtis, Dorothy 1945
Danner, Ruth 1941

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Rec'd CB - 9/25/28
see letter from
St. Maurice - 9/26/28

MEMO OF A CONFERENCE WITH DR. W. T. TAO WITH REFERENCE TO THE
PROPOSALS OF THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE
FUTURE OF CHEELOO UNIVERSITY, July 26, 1928.

TRANSFER

Dr. Tao gave his hearty approval in general of the proposal to make Cheeloc an experimental and training center for Christian workers in the country, towns and some cities. The following are notes of his suggestions.

1. Such a higher training center, or college, should have a secondary center attached to it, and that should have attached to it a primary center.
2. He suggested dropping the term "School of Arts" and calling the institution "School of Rural (or Village) Life". If this is done the number of students at first would be less, but more would come later on. For the coming year Mr. King Chu is sending five or six graduates of Kwang Hwa University to study for a half year at Shiao Chwang School, where Dr. Tao will give them such subjects as farm life and child life as will bring what they have studied at college to apply to meeting the needs of the country life. At the end of that time they will be appointed to teach in village normal schools.

Dr. Tao could place 40 college men now in teaching positions in village normal schools. So far he has had only four college graduates who have been placed in Cheeloc. He hopes to take in 30 to 40 college men (junior and senior college graduates) next year.

3. His ideal is to have three kinds of rural schools, a primary school, a normal school, and a "village college", situated in the country. Such a college could be called "Shiang tseng chiao yu hsi (or k'o), or even better "Shiang tseng seng ho k'o".
4. Some Definite suggestions with reference to Cheeloc.

One great advantage is the presence of a medical school which would train doctors, nurses, and health experts for country life.

A department of agriculture would be needed but not a full agricultural school. The important things are rural survey and extension work. They could be carried on through an experimental station related to the Nanking College of Agriculture. Such subjects would be needed as rural sociology and economics, cooperative societies, village government, animal husbandry, clubs, gardening, entomology, canning.

Relative Merits of Nanking and Cheeloc for this Work.

It would be easier to run at Nanking with the staff of the College of Agriculture. On the other hand men trained in

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Nanking would not be likely to go to villages to work after completion of their training. Shantung life is a hard life. Any one who can bear it can stand anything.

The college should have three purposes:

- (1) A research institution of village life for graduate students.
- (2) A village college with a department of village life.
- (3) Rural middle school.

When asked what subjects of strictly college grade should be provided, Dr. Tao suggested: Biology, physics and general and farm mechanics, Chinese, village government and economics, introduction to law, music, drawing, manual training (could be connected with physics), history, educational subjects, a foreign language (for those going on for research). In addition there would be educational subjects. In Shiao Chwang agriculture occupies only about 1/10 of the time of the students at normal school. In the college it need not occupy over 1/5 of the time. Students should departmentalize.

Graduates in agriculture might also be given one year in teacher training and rural sociology if they have not had that in their agricultural course.

5. Future demands for Students of Such Colleges.

All graduates that the college is likely to have in this department could be absorbed in the rural normal schools. Universal education in China requires a minimum of 1,000,000 teachers. If 1/10 of the number drop out each year, 100,000 new teachers would be required every year, which means at least 1,000 normal schools, with 10,000 teachers. Again if 1/10 of these drop out each year probably 1,000 new teachers for normal schools would be required every year. The greater proportion of these would be for rural normal schools.

Senior college graduates in this type of work will staff the provincial rural normal schools; junior college graduates the county rural normal schools. At the present time the only province that has normal schools of this type is Kiangsu, which has five, and ^{may} add two more.

The movement is still in the experimental stage.

CONCLUSION.

Dr. Tao is deeply interested in the proposal. He stated definitely that what is needed to get it going is to find the right man to head it up. He expressed his willingness to give what help he could in seeking for a man and in helping develop plans.

E. W. W.

E. Dr. Draball

Cy. Mr. H.F. Smith
Mr. E.H. Cressy
Mr. B.A. Garside
Dr. Harold Balme
Mr. J.H. Reisner

TRANSFER

COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

Fukien Christian University
Ginling College
Hangchow Christian College
Hwa Nan College

Lingnan University
University of Nanking
Peking University
Shantung Christian University

Soochow University
West China Union University
Yale-in-China
Yenching College

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September 24, 1928.

Mr. B. A. Garside,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Garside:

I greatly regret that another engagement prevents my attendance at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Shantung Christian University. I am glad to put in brief form my conviction with regard to the bearing of the recommendations of the Council of Higher Education in China for the future development of Shantung Christian University.

The purpose of the recent study of the Council of Higher Education has been to carry forward another step the investigation initiated by the China Educational Commission in 1921-1922; in particular to consider Christian higher education as a whole, how best it can serve the needs of the Christian church for trained leadership, and the needs of the nation as a whole for dependable leadership with the type of character that a Christian institution develops, which is the supreme need of China today. We are in a better position to move forward today than we were in 1922, largely because of the recent development of Chinese administration of our colleges and universities. At recent conferences in China the new Chinese administrators expressed their conviction that what is done in our colleges must be done superlatively well if they are to realize their opportunity for service to the Church and to the nation. Each institution should be given a definite part of the common task, rather than that all should attempt to do similar work.

To none of the Christian colleges has been assigned a more significant task than Shantung Christian University. In the past this college has graduated large numbers of men drawn chiefly from the towns and the countryside of Shantung and has sent them out into the churches in these towns and villages for Christian service in medicine, preaching and teaching. While most of the other Christian colleges have served the city needs, Shantung Christian University has particularly served the country.

Recently there has been a decided pull or a tendency to imitate the other institutions with their high standards of English for

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entrance and with the atmosphere of the city largely dominating classroom and campus. The Council of Higher Education believes that this tendency should be resisted in order that the distinct contribution of the University may be maintained.

There is further a decided swing in the direction of vocationalizing the college curricula, especially in the third and fourth years. The subjects in these two years are being organized into courses in education, business, etc. which prepare men more directly for the life work they purpose to enter. The other large institutions in the Eastern part of China, such as Yenching, Nanking, St. John's and Shanghai are specializing on courses that prepare particularly for life in large cities. There is all the more need for at least one Christian institution in this part of the country which will study the needs of the countryside (including towns and small inland cities), draw students from those environs and prepare them to return to them.

Shantung Christian University is undoubtedly the place where such a distinct contribution should be made, and the program prepared by the Council makes the following recommendation:

"Shantung Christian University. Shantung should be a four year college with a student body of 200, having a vocationalized curriculum directed to meet the needs of the rural and town population, thus performing a service for the Christian and general community throughout northern and eastern China. This would include the training of teachers, preachers, doctors, nurses, and other social and religious workers, as well as experimentation in methods for solving rural and town problems. All agricultural work necessary to the carrying out of the proposals for Shantung would be affiliated with the College of Agriculture at Nanking. The professional school of theology should be continued, also the pre-medical work with a student enrollment of 100, and the professional school of medicine with an enrollment of 150."

To carry out this recommendation, the following would appear to be essential:

- (a) Whole hearted acceptance of this special purpose for Shantung by the churches and missions concerned.
- (b) The securing of a thoroughly first class man as president, who is devoted to this ideal.
- (c) A staff whole heartedly convinced of the value of this type of work, and capable of inspiring students with the same ideal of service.
- (d) Continuance of the policy of using the Chinese language as the chief medium of instruction, and also the policy of low costs to the students.

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To my mind the one essential to the successful realization of the recommendation is the securing of a President who has this vision of the unique service that is possible, one who can resist tendencies toward a city centered purpose, who has the experience necessary in order to build up a faculty and curricula to perform this service, and gifts of leadership that will carry faculty, students and supporting constituency of the University with him. I can think of no greater service that any man can perform in the field of Christian education in China today than this. The choice of the man must rest with the field. But your Board of Trustees I hope will be able to express its judgment as to the soundness of the proposal and assure the institution of its support in carrying it out.

Just before I left Shanghai I had a long interview with Dr. W. T. Tao of the China Foundation with reference to this proposal for Shantung Christian University. Dr. Tao expressed his very hearty approval in general of the proposal to make the University an experimental training center in the country towns and small cities of northern and eastern China. He made certain suggestions growing out of his own unrivalled experience, which have been passed on to the Field Board. In conclusion he stated definitely that what is needed to carry out the plan is to find the right man to head it up. He expressed his willingness to give what help he could in seeking for a man and in working out the necessary plans for the organization of course.

In conclusion I might quote a paragraph from a letter written some months ago by Dr. Paul Monroe, whose position on the Board of Shantung Christian University and also on the China Foundation, make his opinion of especial value:

"As I see conditions in China the great need and the great opportunity is that of village life. From my first contact with China I have never been able to understand why Mission leaders have not made a more determined and consistent effort to improve village life as a group life and to train leaders who can attract thus directly the type of life under which 85% of the Chinese live. This improvement needs to be made in hygienic habits, in sanitary conditions, in industrial, agricultural and commercial processes, in improved means of communication, in the schools, as well as in the spiritual life. Improvement in these conditions will go along with spiritual improvement. In fact, I believe that in any real vital sense they are inseparable. An institution that will take for its function the training of such leaders for the village life in any one of these will confer the greatest blessing upon the Chinese, will produce a definite leadership for the Christian Church, which it now lacks in this field, and will find for itself a unique place in Chinese life, and in mission work. To make a substantial, new China, a basis must be built from the bottom. In the past there has been too much building from the top. To continue this policy means a continuous draining off of the best materials from the village life to be steadily submerged in the city, sending nothing back to the country. The result is a continuous decline of quality in the source of supply."

Again with sincere regrets that I am not able to be present to listen to your discussion, I am,

Yours sincerely,

E. W. Wallace

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Cheeloo University
Chengtou, Sze.
July 25, 1945

Mrs. Plumer Mills
Women's Committee of Cheeloo University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mrs. Mills and Friends of the Women's Committee:

You will be glad to have this letter from the girls and to hear how much your gift has been appreciated. The writer is one of the students who evacuated from Hongkong here, and who is now in her fifth year of medicine. So far she does NOT have love letters to hide in her new locker -- she is far too busy with study for such things!

Before Mrs. Yui left for her Chungking holiday, she superintended the transforming of what used to be the hall and the small porch outside it into a nice public room, where the girls can either play ping-pong, or sit around the big ping-pong table and read. We were able to have glass in the windows and curtains of local flowered linen, to give a touch of prettiness. We debated about getting really comfortable wicker chairs, but there would have been room for so few that Mrs. Yui and Miss Hickson and I decided that long benches would be better.

Because of the narrowness of the rooms we had to plan space-saving cupboards and decided on tall, thin ones containing four lockers, one above the other. When the first ten cupboards arrived and were put in position, one of the graduating girls gave a great sigh and said: "Too late for me". The cupboards will be a great blessing, for there are constant petty thefts, sometimes due to carelessness, as when small garments fall from the lines and get carried off in play by the school pup, sometimes really due to a low standard of honesty among a few of the girls. To have even a small place that can be locked will be a big advantage.

We have done a prosaic but very useful piece of reform in making a covered drain to carry the water from the wash basins out to the road, instead of leaving it to wander through an open channel where mosquitoes held high revel; and a very popular change has been the replacement of seven bathrooms, each containing an unhygienic wooden tub, with ten smaller rooms where the girls can wash Indian-fashion. Each of the new rooms has a bench for the basin, a wooden mat, a bucket and a ladle, while a great new copper in the corner of the bathroom block will give them hot water on the spot. We expect each girl to use her own basin to wash herself all over and then ladle the hot rinsing water over herself from the bucket provided. There are now ten bathrooms and twelve inside wash-basins, so we hope the open-air basins, which we are keeping still, need only be used when the girls prefer the coolness of the yard to the comfort of the room.

It has been a real interest to get this work done, and I think you would be pleased with the result. The girls have sent you their own thanks. At the last student meeting of the term they elected the scribe, and several have signed it, as you will see.

I do not know how many more weeks I myself shall still be in Cheeloo. When we thought the Japs were coming into Shensi, which is my missionary home, several of us came to Chengtu to await events, and it seemed as if I was needed in Cheeloo right then. Now that we have no further fear of the loss of Shensi, I feel I should return, but I must wait until there is someone here to take my place. It has been a privilege to have this taste of Chinese University life, with all its problems and challenge and opportunity. Miss Hickson thinks you would be interested to know what some of the problems actually are, and as knowledge means prayer, I will gratefully share some of them with you.

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July 25, 1945

Since the resignation of the President this spring, discipline has been difficult to maintain, for the Board undertook the punishment of the strikers, which meant that full disciplinary power, in that particular instance, was taken out of the hands of the faculty. Mrs. Yui felt it very difficult to be as firm as before. The ordinary rules for the dormitory are few, but even so some of the girls are slack in obeying them. The main difficulty was over late passes. All girls should be back by ten o'clock unless they have special permission to stay out later. Most students are very busy and law-abiding, but a few would come in much later than ten, while others would ask for permission to be out late at the theatre or at concerts far more often than I liked. Mrs. Yui knew the girls and whom she could trust; but I, coming in fresh to 107 new faces, felt this business of granting late leaves a very real burden.

Another difficulty has been the relationship of girls to American soldiers. There is an inter-university rule against girls dancing with the Americans, which is difficult to enforce, though Mrs. Yui knew which girls were likely to break it! Some girls wanted to befriend these men who were helping their country, and were glad to go out shopping with them and talking with them; but the old-fashioned Chinese did not like this, and for a Chinese girl to be seen much with the soldiers often led to her being criticized. To steer a right course in this matter was therefore not easy. Girls who had been out with soldiers and brought home in jeeps did not want to admit that they had been with army hosts!

Before Mrs. Yui left, but after I had taken charge, four girls came asking for permission to go up to Shensi on an entertainment tour for the American and Chinese Air Forces. I refused, on the grounds that I had just been turned out of that part of the world because of the danger of invasion, and also because they could not afford so much time away from their work; but I had to call in Mrs. Yui to back me up before they really accepted my refusal. It was very tempting for them, of course. They were to be taken there and back by plane and would have had four exciting days of concerts and entertainment.

There are other difficulties I did not expect to meet among university students, such as petty thieving, and uncleanness - spitting, for instance. There has been no quarreling to speak of, and no serious sickness, though one day we thought a girl brought back from class had cholera, and dashed her off to the hospital to find, gratefully, that it was nothing more serious than a bad bout of "summer sickness". There is not the community feeling I should like to see; each bedroom gets a loyalty to its own group, and there is loyalty to the University as a whole; but there is not the sense that the dormitory is one big family that one would like to see, and that would be evident, I think, in most western universities. When I first came I asked if the girls would like an English Bible Class, thinking it would help to focus the religious life of the dormitory, but I was told that the students had joined Bible Classes elsewhere and had no time for another. There is no dormitory Quiet Room kept specially for religious activities, and no space to build one, but since news is good these days, maybe we shall not be here for very much longer!

In conclusion, let me add my tribute to the work and interest that Mrs. Yui and Miss Hickson have put into the dormitory. Cheeloo has been fortunate to have the help of two such women for so long.

Please convey my cordial greetings to your committee and believe me to be

Yours sincerely,

Dorothy J. Curtis

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Tsinan, Jan. 31, 1941

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MAR 4 1941

Dear Friends



Just a bit about what we are trying to do along health lines in Cheeloo. Last year we inaugurated a plan for ~~preparing~~ HODG roasted soy bean milk, not only for the patients in the hospital, but also we fitted up a semi-basement room in which we could serve it each morning to employees of the hospital at a nominal sum. With some pots of flowers and yellow curtains at the south windows, the room was made quite attractive, and this year some of the employees have themselves pasted bright pictures on the walls. The room is now also doing service each evening as a recreation place for employees, and is very popular with them. The morning bean milk hour is even a busier one than last year. Doctors, nurses, office workers, machine shop men, orderlies, and others, each comes and gets his bowl of bean milk at the desk, takes it to a little table to drink it, and brings the empty bowl back to the desk, depositing his five cents for a big bowl in the slot of the money box. This year we have also set up a place on the campus for dispensing the bean milk, and it has found a ready sale, among students and families alike. The formula - bean meal, bean starch, sugar, salt and bone meal - furnishes the best known substitute for real milk, insofar as a vegetable protein can take the place of an animal protein. We prepare both bean meal and bone meal on the place - a rather intricate process done by man power - and then mix ingredients for boiling.

The Sanitary Research Department has after many experiments set up sanitary toilets, and dust and garbage bins about the campus, and are doing follow-up work in teaching proper care of these places.

Recognizing the need of a health program for the entire campus, in the fall the Cheeloo University Public Health and Welfare Committee was formed, its members being representatives from the various departments. Provision for student health had been made in the past. The new plan is to take in the employees and their families as well. It is estimated that all told there are more than five hundred folks in this group, including household servants and their families. Just before China New Year, physical examinations for all of this group were begun, with special days set apart at the hospital O.P.D., and each doctor giving a half day a week for the project. We are still in the midst of this work, and are finding folks in general eager to cooperate. These examinations have already brought to light need for much followup work in correction of defects, and give us an opening for direct health teaching to individuals and families. Some little work has been done in home visiting.

While Miss Sun has the Mothers' Club together bi-weekly in home making classes, Miss Ts'in (the nurse) stays by with the children, busy in the sand pile and with building blocks and other plays. She there has opportunity to help with health needs. She also once a week has some time for teaching health to the mothers.

We have been asked to prepare short health talks to be given at Kwang Chih Yüan on market days. On these days great numbers of people in attendance at the market come to visit the Institute, and are ready to listen to teaching that may be given them at this time. The markets are held every five days, and this program will continue through the month of April. We can see many more opportunities ahead for this type of health teaching, as our work may be allowed to grow.

OUR NEEDS: A well-trained public health nurse (Chinese) to help with plans for making this a teaching project for students in the nursing school.

Materials for popular health education - slides, film strips, literature, posters, etc. We hope to get some of these ready on the field, but would welcome financial aid, and also homeside literature that might be adaptable here.

Your continued interest and prayer for the furtherance of this side of the work - development of sound bodies, minds and spirits among these who labor with and for us

Yours sincerely,

Ruth M. Lanner

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