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American Board of Commissioners  
for Foreign Missions  
1938-1945

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ROCKWELL HARMON POTTER, D.D., PRESIDENT

FRED FIELD GOODSSELL, D.D., EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

HAROLD B. BELCHER, TREASURER

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

Foreign Department

SECRETARIES

ALDEN H. CLARK, D.D.  
MISS MABEL E. EMERSON  
WYNN C. FAIRFIELD, D.D.

MEDICAL SECRETARY  
MARK H. WARD, M. D.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
HERBERT E. S. CASE

February 10, 1938

*Ack 2/11/38*

Dr. B. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

Dear Garside:

I had a long talk with Mrs. Riggs yesterday regarding a number of points and promised that I would write you with the request that you send what answer you can make at the present time by return mail so that I can talk again with her on Saturday before she leaves again for her furlough home in Scotia, New York.

One of the questions which we talked about was the question of future relationship to Nanking University and to the American Board. I read to her the statement which I made last spring regarding probabilities from the American Board end and which you sent on to President Ch'en. I have heard nothing further from you regarding the attitude of the Trustees and so could not tell her any more, but we should both like to know where the matter stands at the present time and how decisions will be reached. Of course, we realize the extreme difficulties of the Trustees in making plans under present circumstances but we should appreciate all the light you can throw on the future.

The other main question which was discussed was the matter of the time for Charles' return to America. The contract which was made with him called for a six year term of service and of course that is up next summer. Charles had talked on the basis of trying to make an arrangement to stay an extra year or two, but that was before the separation at the time of the summer vacation. Will you let me know what the present thinking of the staff and Trustees is on the whole matter? Mrs. Riggs feels that it would be very wise to have him come on furlough at the regular time at the end of six years, since he has never fully regained his nervous reserve since the attack of meningitis in 1935 when I was out there. Valuable as his contribution to the relief work in Nanking has been and continues to be, I should think that it would be a very good idea to get all the men who have been through this terrific strain out of Nanking this spring or summer and replace them with fresh "shock troops".

Hastily yours,

*Wynn C. Fairfield*  
Wynn C. Fairfield

F:s

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February 11, 1938

Dear Fairfield:

Sorry to have to report that I have no direct information with reference to Hanking's wishes concerning Mr. and Mrs. Riggs, and that I can't do more than you and Mrs. Riggs - hazard the best guess I can.

As to the future of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs at Hanking, much would of course depend upon the possibilities of securing their support. The present scheme of getting special support for them from several places has not worked at all well. Aside from your American Board contribution of \$500 per year, the other sources have all been rather uncertain and - aside from the Menoka Fund - most of the remittances have been on a declining scale. As a result, the general university budget has had to stand a far larger expense at this point than was anticipated when he went out.

If the American Board could assume the support of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs, and could utilize to that end such special sources as are already available or could be developed, that certainly should be satisfactory and pleasing to the University. But in the absence of any concrete word from Hanking I certainly wouldn't be able to give any assurance that the field could continue for another term the financial arrangements we have had since the Riggs joined the staff.

As to the date of Mr. Riggs' coming, I am inclined to agree with you that it would be wise for him to come this summer at the regular time.

Shall I send Chen a cable asking for recommendations?

Cordially

MAH/g



**AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

**Foreign Department****SECRETARIES**ALDEN H. CLARK, D.D.  
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MARK H. WARD, M.D.**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**  
HERBERT E. B. CASE

February 15, 1938

*Feb 3/12*Dr. B. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

Dear Garside:

Thank you for your letter of February 11, 1938. I shared it with Mrs. Riggs and we talked the whole situation over afresh. Realizing the difficulties that you are having in keeping in touch with the administration of Nanking University and all the problems involved, we would suggest that probably the best thing to do would be for you to send a Clipper air mail letter to the authorities of the University and get their best light on the future, possibly by cable. We would suggest that the reply might be sent in the form of a radio by State Department facilities.

What does Nanking University want Riggs to do? The first question is as to their plans and desires for the year 1938-39. According to the original understanding, we believe that he would normally be coming home this summer and have a year of furlough based on his completing six years of service on the field. It is possible that under present conditions, the University administration may feel there is emergency need for him to stay on at Nanking instead of coming home as he would normally do. In that case and if it is primarily for relief work we would raise the question whether there is not some one else who could replace him in the relief work for the reasons mentioned in my last letter. If on the whole it seems imperative that he stay in China for another year on a continuation of the present basis of support, we would urge that definite plans be made for his taking an adequate vacation away from the strain and stress of the Nanking situation.

Of course, the answer to the question what the University wants him to do in 1938-39 may depend somewhat upon their long range plans. It is time to ask frankly whether the University really desires to have him continue on the staff. If so, what is the utmost that the University feels able to do in providing for it? It is conceivable that the American Board might be willing to take over responsibility for guaranteeing some part of the special income so far as that comes from churches with

0720



2-15-38

Dr. Garside --2

which we have direct relations. I have not been authorized to promise this, but it might be a possible solution. Another possibility might be that the University might set a definite figure which it would provide and the American Board set a definite figure which it would provide, sharing the responsibility for any loss of income from the uncertain sources. Again I have no authority to make a promise. I am simply indicating the sort of thing that might be thrashed out in conference.

Incidentally, may I ask you to bring your receipts from the four special sources of income up to date? In July 1936 you gave me a table which covered the four years from 1932-33 to 1935-36, but I have no figures for 1936-37 or for any payment so far on 1937-38.

If the University is not particularly anxious for Riggs to continue with them and would be rather relieved to have the financial problems solved for them by his withdrawal, he ought to know that immediately and be making plans for using his furlough in the light of that fact and also to be considering other possibilities for usefulness in China to which both he and Mrs. Riggs are deeply devoted.

If he is desired and if we can work out some satisfactory basis for the future, then the question of his use of the coming furlough will arise. From the strictly agricultural point of view, Charles would like to put in the year at Berkeley or some other agricultural school whose climate is more like that of the Yangtze Valley. There is also the possibility that he might most profitably put in the year in some small scale manufacturing plant where he could get still further practical experience in the manufacture of agricultural implements and machinery.

Presumably, there are not many openings of the latter sort on the Pacific coast. If he were to be on the Pacific coast, probably the whole family would plan to go there and college plans for the children would be based on that fact. If he is to be in the East, it would be desirable to have Charles, Jr. plan to start in in some eastern college with the expectation that Betty will follow him in the same college a year later.

You will see the whole matter is complicated and does need as early light as possible. Possibly you will want to quote sections of this letter in your letter to the University administration and I hope that you will do what you can to secure an early and definite reply. Mrs. Riggs tells me that she is to be in New York on March 20 and could plan to get in a conference before or after that date. It is possible that I may be going through New York either March 22 or 23 en route to a conference in Washington and if so, we might get all those involved together by that time if a reply had come from China. Would that be a good date

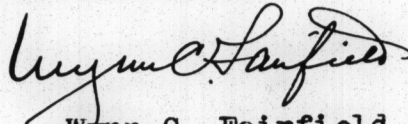
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2-15-38

Dr. Garside --3

on which to work? I will write about other matters in  
another letter.

Cordially yours,

  
Wynn C. Fairfield

WCF:s

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over

March 12, 1938

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Fairfield:

Sorry to learn that you have been kept at home lately with a case of the flu. We hope that ere this you are back on the job and going again at your usual rapid pace.

In one of your letters of February 15th you discuss the question of Mr. Riggs' future. In this connection we have this week received a China Clipper letter from Y. G. Chen in which he writes as follows:-

"You will find enclosed a copy of a letter concerning Mr. Riggs, the original having been sent by ordinary post from Hongkong. Please take this matter up immediately with the American Board and the Board of Founders and secure the required permission for the extension of Mr. Riggs' term until 1939. He is much needed."

As yet the letter coming by regular mail has not reached us. President Chen made a notation on his China Clipper letter that the communication was too heavy to be sent by air. Until President Chen's letter concerning Riggs reaches us we will not be able to answer in detail the questions you ask. But at least it is clear that the field is anxious to have him remain in China during 1938-39. Mrs. Riggs sent us yesterday a copy of the cable that had just come for her through the Department of State in which Mr. Riggs states, "Safe and well. Remaining another year on University request".

Mrs. Riggs has been anxious to have a conference with us with regard to the plans of the Riggs family for 1938-39, and has suggested that she come to New York sometime during the week of March 20th and March 26th since she understands that you have been planning to honor our fair city with your presence that week. Shall we try to get together with Mrs. Riggs at that time, or should we wait until after the letter from Y. G. Chen reaches us? Since Y. G. wrote us on February 21st, and dispatched his letter concerning Riggs at that same time, there is a fair chance that the Riggs letter will reach us by March 21st. But it would be safer to put off the conference for about a fortnight - else we might get together and find that we still did not have this important communication from the field. I have said to Mrs. Riggs that I will suggest your communicating with her direct on this question of the best date for a conference. So far as I know, I

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Dr. Fairfield

-2-

March 12, 1938

will be in New York City every day during the weeks just ahead, so one day would suit me as well as another so long as we aren't tied up in a board or committee meeting.

I sent you last night a copy of a notice of the meeting of our Associated Boards Committee on Allocation which is being called for the late afternoon of Wednesday, March 16th. It will be only a brief meeting and I certainly would not urge you to make a special trip to New York for it though we would like very much to have you present. We are at this time preparing to send out inquiries as to the most satisfactory date for a meeting or meetings of the Associated Boards Committee on Promotion and Executive Committee. Of course we would like to have you in New York City for those meetings, and perhaps we might have a conference with Mrs. Riggs at the same time.

You ask that we bring you up-to-date on receipts from the special sources of support for Mr. and Mrs. Riggs. Such a statement is attached hereto.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:MP  
Encl.

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Special Support of

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES H. RIGGS

University of Nanking

July 1, 1936 - March 12, 1938

(a) 1936-37

	Congregational Christian Church, Menoka Fund	
July 17, 1936	100.00	
Jan. 14, 1937	<u>100.00</u>	\$200.00
Oct. 8, 1936	Congregational Young Couples Club	120.00
May 14, 1937	People's Church, East Lansing, Michigan	302.00
June 30, 1937	Cornell-in-China Club	175.00
	American Bd. of Commissioners for For Miss.	
November 18, 1936	250.00	
March 21, 1937	<u>250.00</u>	500.00
June 30, 1937	Balance taken from Famine Funds	1,165.75
	Total receipts, 1936-37	<u>\$2,462.75</u>

(b) 1937-38

	Congregational Christian Church, Menoka Fund	
July 26, 1937	\$327.86	
January 13, 1938	<u>125.00</u>	\$ 452.86
Dec. 11, 1937	Miss Alice D. McKee	40.00
Feb. 9, 1938	Congregational Young Couples Club	97.00
Feb. 20, 1938	Cornell-in-China Club	50.00
Nov. 17, 1937	American Bd. of Commissioners for For. Miss.	250.00
March 12, 1938	Balance from Famine Funds to date	603.26
	Total receipts, 1937-3 to date	<u>\$1,498.12</u>

March 16, 1938

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Fairfield:

Your card of March 11th crossed in the mail the letter I wrote you on March 12th.

Glad to know that you are back in your office, and hope that you are now fully recovered from your bout with the flu. We recognize the difficulty in your getting away on the Washington trip this month and will look forward to seeing you and Mrs. Riggs here a little later.

From the information coming from China it seems obvious that the University of Nanking desires the continuation of the American Board arrangement with Mr. Riggs for the year 1938-39. Indeed the University hopes very much that the American Board may see its way clear to increase the portion of Mr. Riggs' support which it has been providing during the last few years. We would be grateful therefore if you will see that the matter is brought before the proper groups in your Board.

Cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MP

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**AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

**Foreign Department****SECRETARIES**ALDEN H. CLARK, D.D.  
MISS MABEL E. EMERSON  
WYNN C. FAIRFIELD, D.D.**MEDICAL SECRETARY**  
MARK H. WARD, M.D.**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**  
HERBERT E. B. CASEMarch 22, 1938  
*Rec 4/1*Dr. B. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

Dear Garside:

In accordance with my hope, I have now reached the point where I am able to answer some of the numerous letters from you which have been waiting for such attention.

Thank you for consulting me concerning the schedule of dates for the meetings of the Trustees in May. As a matter of fact it would be a matter of very great convenience to me if I were able to get back to Boston by Friday morning, as our Prudential Committee meeting comes the following Tuesday and the staff meeting preparatory to it comes on Friday afternoon. However, I do not feel that I have any special claims in the matter and am ready to take the breaks as they come. Thank you for consulting me.

I am sorry that the Committee on the Allocation of Funds was at such a time that I did not feel justified in going down for it, but glad that in view of the lack of a quorum, I did not get there for it. You have written regarding possibilities for another meeting and I hope that I shall be able to make it, although having just got on my feet as far as the office work is concerned I dread the idea of being away even for a day.

Thank you for the statement of income for the Riggs family brought down to date. I will hold this letter for a post script reporting whether or not our Cabinet acting for the Prudential Committee votes in favor of the extension for 1938-39. The motion which has been approved by the Foreign Department reads as follows:

// "That the appropriation of \$500 to the University of Nanking toward the support of Rev. and Mrs. Charles H. Riggs of the North China Mission which was voted for the six years 1932-33 to 1937-38 inclusive by Vote #17855

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Dr. Garside --2

(July 28, 1932) be continued for the year 1938-39; and that the American Board express its willingness to make a similar contribution for the year 1939-40 provided the University agrees to meet the remainder of the expense for the year of furlough."\* //

The reason for mentioning 1939-40 at the present time is that it is our feeling that it would be unfair due to all the circumstances just to bring the family home and then drop them without a chance to readjust themselves and to make plans for the future in case it is impossible for the University and the American Board to arrange to send them back for continued service in China. Thank you for the copy of Searle Bates' letter which came to hand this morning.

With regard to Dr. T. T. Lew's salary, the Prudential Committee on March 8 took the following additional action:

A // "Voted that since Yenching University has returned unused the amount appropriated from the Higher Education Endowment Fund for support of Dr. T. T. Lew for July 1 - Dec. 31, 1937, the sum of U.S. \$173.50 (being allowance at half the salary rate, \$1432 per annum plus \$25.00 a month rental, for the months of November and December 1937) be reappropriated to Dr. Lew; this arrangement to supplement that already determined for Dr. Lew, as from January 1, 1938 (Vote #22065 of February 8, 1938). //

I have already reported this to Mr. Ballou. It seems to cover the rest of the original suggestion that came jointly from Ballou and Dr. Lew, with the exception of an item for clerical assistance. I have indicated to Ballou that if there is anything in the arrangement which is unfair to Dr. Lew, the matter is not closed and is subject to reconsideration. Of course, the \$1111.50 which was returned from the Yenching appropriations covered three quarterly payments so that the situation as regards the grant to the University is that you have refunded \$741 for the period, July 1 to December 31, 1937 and the Board has so far reappropriated only \$173.50. While this is a surrender of a grant that might have been claimed by the University on the same basis that was advanced in our discussion last spring and summer, I think it is on the whole a wiser policy to do what the University has done and let some of this lapse to the income of the Higher Education Endowment Fund. It will save considerable argument and I think tend to strengthen the respect of the Committee on this fund for the University's handling of its grants.

May I answer in this letter to you an inquiry which reached me from Evans the day after your gist of letters. He raises the question about wives and children going back to the field. We are prepared to have wives and children return to



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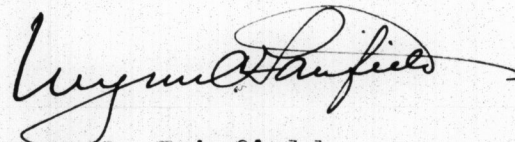
Dr. Garside --3

North China next summer in cases where this is advised by the husband and the Secretaries of the North China Council. At least three of our North China grass widows are hoping to return next summer to rejoin their husbands who are already there. We have only one family now on furlough which is returning. That is the Chandlers who have no children and who are planning to go back to Tientsin in the fall. We are sending all of our single women back as usual.

As far as Foochow is concerned, we are planning to send back the single women, but are inclined to discourage the one mother with children whose husband is on the field and who is not coming on furlough this summer. We have a feeling that the Foochow situation has still not cleared up and we find from correspondence that some of our people are feeling quite strongly the strain of waiting for something to happen. In this particular case there is a history of nervous strain which makes it seem to us unwise to encourage the return. I do not know, Mrs. Farley and should say that each case ought to be settled on its merits.

Trusting that this will be enough to hold you for a while,

Cordially yours,



Wynn C. Fairfield

\* The Cabinet as such approved, but final action is postponed until the regular Presidential Committee meeting on April 5.

WCF:s

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AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

HAROLD B. BELCHER, TREASURER  
FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
S. EMMA KEITH, ASSISTANT TREASURER

## Treasury Department

March 25, 1938.

HARVEY L. MEEKEN  
PUBLISHING AND PURCHASING AGENT  
EARLE E. SMITH  
DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT

*ack 3/31/38*

Mr. B. A. Garside, Exec. Sec'y.  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Garside:- Trustees Nanking University  
re support Charles Riggs

We have received our Account from the NorthChina Mission Treasurer for 1937, and can therefore make out the statement covering the amount due from the Trustees on account of the salary of Charles H. Riggs and family. The account is enclosed herewith.

There are several points that I wish to note in connection with this.

1. No statement was sent you in October covering the first six months, so this statement is for the full year. ✓
2. The statement includes actual expenses of Mrs. Riggs and the children for their return to this country, and of course her allowance here is on the furlough basis, while Mr. Riggs' allowance is on the basis of a single man's field salary.
3. We have not had a detailed figure of the exchange adjustment, but have estimated an amount of \$300. exchange saving, and when we receive such statement from the Mission Treasurer, we can make adjustment.
4. You will note that the estimate of the expenses for the first six months of 1938 is based on Mrs. Riggs and the children in this country and Mr. Riggs on the field.
5. You will note that the Board appropriation has been deducted from the total.

I trust you will find the statement clear and correct and can make arrangements for reimbursing us for the amount due.

Very truly yours,

*Harold B. Belcher*

Treasurer.

Enc.  
HBB/L

*Paid 3/31/38*  
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AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1912

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

Treasury Department

HAROLD B. BELCHER, TREASURER  
FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
EMMA KEITH, ASSISTANT TREASURER

HARVEY J. WALKER,  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND INVESTMENT  
FRANK L. SMITH,  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

NOTE: See letter from Chen, dated Dec. 20, 1938

over

RECEIVED

January 30, 1939

✓ Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
Mr. Robert E. Chandler  
American Board of Commissioners  
for Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Fairfield and Mr. Chandler:

I am addressing this letter to you jointly for I do not know which of you will be dealing more directly with the matter of the return of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs to the University of Nanking at the expiration of the brief furlough which Mr. Riggs is planning to begin early this spring.

The University authorities have requested that we transmit to the American Board an earnest request that Mr. and Mrs. Riggs be returned to the University of Nanking at the expiration of Mr. Riggs' furlough in the summer of 1939, and that from that point on they be supported by the American Board as its regular missionaries.

The makeshift arrangements under which Mr. and Mrs. Riggs' support has been provided during the current term of service have not been altogether satisfactory to anyone. The Nanking founders have been continuing to receive the special support from several groups of friends interested in Mr. and Mrs. Riggs who previously sent their contributions to the American Board. Since, however, our Nanking founders do not have such a close connection with these groups as does the American Board, and are not equipped to maintain and strengthen their interest in the same way as the Board could do, it is probable that we have received substantially less than would have been given if the American Board had continued its cultivation of their interest during the last six years.

The amount we have received from these sources may be summarized as follows:-

People's Church, East Lansing	\$2,072
Income on Menoka Fund	2,549
Congregational Couple's Club	367
TOTAL	\$5,488

0732



Dr. Fairfield  
Mr. Chandler

-2-

January 30, 1939

The University of Nanking has had to meet from its general funds a rather large part of the costs of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs' services during the last term but this has been partly due to the fact that illness has added greatly to their expenses. If the special sources of support tabulated above could be somewhat increased, the American Board should be able to assume the support of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs without having to draw from its general funds much more than the \$500 per year it is already contributing to their support.

Disturbed conditions in China have disrupted all normal divisions of missionary areas, so it would not be easy to give at this time a clear-cut answer to the question of the extent to which Mr. Riggs' services as a member of the University of Nanking staff would contribute directly to the work in the fields where the American Board has special interests and responsibilities. But it can be said with conviction that Mr. Riggs is making a contribution of China-wide importance, and that no matter what his geographical location, he would be helping forward the Christian enterprise in which the American Board has such an important part. We trust, therefore, that the American Board will be both able and willing to accede to this request from the University of Nanking that Mr. Riggs be given the status of a regular missionary of the American Board assigned to the Nanking staff.

Very sincerely yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MP

0733

INDEXED

April 12, 1939

*ack by Fairfield  
5/15/39*

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
105 East 22nd Street  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Fairfield:

I am enclosing herewith the figures you requested on the Riggs account.

You will find there is some duplication as compared with the last statement rendered, as we have gone back and included 1936-37 and 1937-38. The second year, 1937-38, includes the entire income for the twelve months. The third item, 1938-39, includes remittances received so far this year toward Mr. Riggs support.

Very truly yours,

*C. A. Evans*

CAE:RC  
Enc.

0734



July 1, 1936 - April 12, 1939

7/17/36	Congregational Christian Ch., Menoka Fund.....	100.00
1/14/37	" " " " .....	<u>100.00</u>
10/8/36	" Young Couples Club.....	120.00
5/14/37	People's Church, E. Lansing, Michigan.....	302.00
6/30/37	Cornell-in-China Club.....	175.00
12/18/36	American Board of Commissioners for For.Missions.....	250.00
3/21/37	" " " " " " " .....	250.00
6/30/37	Balance taken from Famine Funds.....	<u>1,165.75</u>
	Total Receipts, 1936-37....	2,462.75

7/26/37	Congregational Christian Ch., Menoka Fund.....	327.86
1/13/38	" " " " .....	<u>125.00</u>
12/11/37	Miss Alice D. McKee.....	452.86
2/9/38	Congregational Young Couples Club.....	40.00
2/20/38	Cornell-in-China Club.....	97.00
11/17/37	American Board of Commissioners for For.Missions.....	50.00
3/31/38	" " " " " " " " .....	250.00
6/1/38	The People's Church, E. Lansing, Michigan.....	250.00
6/30/38	Balance taken from Famine Funds.....	506.00
		<u>2,371.03</u>
		4,016.89

7/15/58	People's Church, E. Lansing, Michigan.....	25.00
10/10/58	Congregational Church, Menoka Fund.....	125.00
11/1/58	American Board of Commissioners for For.Missions.....	250.00
4/12/59	Balance to be taken from Famine Funds.....	<u>1,159.69</u>
		1,559.69

March 7, 1939

Mr. Harold B. Belcher, Treasurer  
American Board of Commissioners  
For Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Belcher:

Thank you for your letter of March 4th enclosing  
check for \$650.00 representing vacancy on the staff of Fokien  
Christian University in lieu of salary for Rev. F. P. Beach.

We are making this amount immediately available for  
the field.

With many thanks, I am

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAB/B

0736



*CAR*

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

SECRETARIES

ALDEN H. CLARK, D.D.  
MISS MABEL E. EMERSON  
WYNN C. FAIRFIELD, D.D.

MEDICAL SECRETARY

MARK H. WARD, M. D.

Foreign Department

May 15, 1939

ACTING SECRETARIES

ALICE E. CARY  
ROBERT E. CHANDLER

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

HERBERT E. B. CASE

Dr. B. A. Garside,  
Board of Trustees, Nanking University,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Garside:

In accordance with our telephone conversation the other day, I should like to report in writing the vote of the American Board Cabinet, which has since been confirmed by the China Committee, as a basis of negotiation. That vote reads as follows:

"VOTED, that Mr. Belcher and Dr. Fairfield be authorized to negotiate a new agreement with Nanking University for the support of Rev. and Mrs. Charles H. Riggs of the North China Mission, by which the University will pay a fixed amount per annum to the American Board and the Board will receive the income of the Menoka Fund and the Annual Easter offering from the East Lansing Church and will pay the usual North China salaries and allowances, but with the expectation that no greater net expense to the Board will be involved than the \$500 per annum which is now being appropriated to Nanking University."

You will see that this makes no particular change in the foreseeable items of income from the main parties involved, the University and the Board. Up to the present, the Board has been limited in its liability to the \$500 annual appropriation, and the University has received the income from four sources and been liable for all emergency contingent expenses. This proposal would reverse the situation, so that the University would have a fixed annual payment to make and the Board would receive the income from the two sources which have not dried up and be responsible for any unforeseen changes in the financial picture.

It is my understanding that this uncertainty as to what might be called for in any one year has been a large part of the difficulty which the University has had in planning for this item in its budget. The second factor in the University's uneasiness over the situation has been the approaching exhaustion of the 1921 Famine Prevention Fund, from which the supplementary appropriations necessary have been made. A third factor which has been largely personal has been the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Riggs have been fully on neither the American Board nor the University standard in matters of salary and special allowances. This has been hard on them rather than on the University.

In view of the correspondence between Dean Chang and Mr. Riggs, we understand that the College of Agriculture and Forestry wants Mr. Riggs to return and is prepared to finance his return upon the most favorable basis which he can secure from the

*① undoubtedly to include income*  
*② 533,096.15*  
*Apr 17*  
*6365 14*  
*Answer*

0737



5-15-39

American Board. I think I am quite honest in saying that that is not the real reason for the "expectation" in the vote as quoted! The American Board is still in a position where current income fails to meet current outgo, and in addition feels that the outstanding debt of several years should be gradually cleared off. Consequently, the Cabinet and the China Committee believe that the Appropriations Committee would not be prepared to accept an adjustment on the salary of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs which led to any foreseen budgeted expenditures. It is this unfortunate necessity combined with the reasonable attitude of Dean Chang which has led to the authorization to "negotiate" which the Cabinet has given.

When it comes to interpreting that vote in concrete terms, it is a little difficult to do so on the basis of our present information. I enclose a sheet showing our understanding of the way in which the Riggs' family finances have worked out over the past six years. 1938-39 is still incomplete. From this statement, you will see that the amount taken from famine funds during the past six years has varied from a minimum of \$658.49 in 1933-34 up to \$2,371.03 in 1937-38. It should be noted that the figures given under Total Expense are in each case those recorded in the American Board accounts as the total expense for that year. The figures taken from the famine funds include for the years 1932-33 to 1936-37 inclusive the difference between that figure and the income from the four sources as reported by Mr. Evans in his letters of July 12, 1936 and April 12, 1939, plus the \$500 appropriated yearly by the American Board. In the case of 1937-38, where the actual figure given by Mr. Evans for that year is included, you will notice that the total secured by addition is greater than the total expense as given! Before our final agreement is reached, we should have a consistent statement on this point.

Without working the proposals down into final details or working out an exchange adjustment, but providing for the return to China with Mr. and Mrs. Riggs of the two younger children - Wendell and Edith - and for the usual children's allowances in this country for Charles Jr. and Elizabeth, the total average annual expense for the next two years would seem to be approximately \$2600. Beyond that time, the expense would gradually taper off as the children became twenty-one and no longer received children's allowances. In addition, the outgoing travel and refit on the usual American Board basis might amount to as much as \$2280. We have no basis of reckoning the cost of travel from the eastern part of the United States to Chengtu. They would like to go via Shanghai and take some of their furniture and other possessions from Nanking to Chengtu on the way out. Probably \$2000 would cover their return travel expense. If this were pro-rated over a period of seven years, the annual expense would be approximately \$613.

A liberal reckoning of expectation from the Easter offering of the People's Church, East Lansing, Michigan would seem to be \$500. The income from the Menoka Fund has varied between \$555 and \$320. A fair estimate for the future would probably be \$450. per year. The Congregational Couples' Club has grown older and more or less dissolved, while the income from the church as a whole to the American Board support of Mr. Riggs has dropped, and Dr. Kelsey feels that their resources should be thrown into the regular benevolence budget of the church instead of going into an outside object. As you know, for various causes, it seems impossible to count on any further gifts from Cornell-in-China. Taking the two remaining estimated sources of income and adding the annual appropriations from the American Board, it would appear that there might be an average annual draft on the University of something like \$1750. (See postscript table #1.) Mr. Riggs has suggested that it might be better if the University assumed the responsibility for travel as a special item aside from its annual budget,

0738



5-15-39

in which case the annual amount from the University would be reduced to approximately \$1150 (see postscript table #2) with an outgoing travel extra of approximately \$2300 in 1939-40, and return travel scattered through the years of approximately \$2000. It is our understanding that while in consideration of the emergency risks involved, the American Board would be entitled to any income from East Lansing and the Menoka Fund above the amount estimated, the amount expected from Nanking would be reduced by the amount of terminated children's allowances and would be increased by any general restoration of salaries in the North China Mission.

The basal salary set in these proposals is the North China basal salary of \$1214, plus other allowances, which come to a total field salary of U.S. \$1873.88. The Board retains part of the gain on exchange on \$1723.88 of this (basal salary and children's allowances). The exact adjustment for this item I will have to get Mr. Belcher to work out and advise you later, but I understand that it is between 10% and 15% of the \$1723.88. I hope that it will be possible for you to figure out how this compares with salaries paid by other Mission Boards with staff in Chengtu, or with any standard which the University of Nanking has established for people in residence in Chengtu, or West China University has for its staff members not under budgets of Mission Boards.

Mr. Belcher and I shall be glad to have your reactions and those of the University's to this general proposal, and if they are favorable, to proceed to work out in more detail an annual schedule adjusted to the plans of the Riggs family and to the ages of the children. The American Board does want to cooperate, and appreciates the services which the College of Agriculture and Forestry has rendered in the past to the work which it helps to support. Even though the new location of this work would seem to make any direct contribution to its fields in North China and Fukien even more remote, it is glad to continue cooperation in some form. When it comes to the financial question, unfortunately while the spirit is willing, the budgetary "flesh" is weak..

With cordial regards,

Very sincerely yours,

*Wynn C. Fairfield*  
Wynn C. Fairfield

WCF:LD

Enclosure

P. S. Table #1.

Salary	\$2600.
Pro-rated travel	613.
	<u>\$3213.</u>
Lansing Church	\$500.
Menoka Fund	450.
American Board	<u>500.</u>
Balance from Nanking	1450.
	<u>\$1763.</u>

0739

P. S. Table #2.

Salary		\$2600.
Lansing Church	\$500.	
Menoka Fund	450.	
American Board	<u>500.</u>	<u>1450.</u>
Balance from Nanking		\$1150.
Plus travel out and return		

0740



RECEIPTS BY NANKING UNIVERSITY ON

CHARLES H. RIGGS ACCOUNT

	<u>1932-33</u>	<u>1933-34</u>	<u>1934-35</u>	<u>1935-36</u>	<u>1936-37</u>	<u>1937-38</u>	<u>1938-39</u> (to 4/12/39)
Peoples' Church East Lansing, Mich.	285.00 ✓ 204.00 ✓	250.00 ✓	250.00 ✓	276.00 ✓	302.00 ✓	506.00 ✓	585.00 ? 25.00
Congregational Christian Church (Income on Menoka Fund)	480.00 ✓ 287.50 ✓	267.50 ✓ 273.96 ✓	272.50 ✓ 160.00 ✓	160.00 ✓ 197.54 ✓	200.00 ✓	452.86 ✓	125.00 ✓
Congregational Couples Club (Ithaca, New York)	150.00 ✓	150.00 ✓	175.00 ✓	175.00 ✓	120.00 ✓	97.00 ✓	--
Special Gift from Friend						40.00 ✓	
Cornell-in-China		350.00 ✓	160.00 ✓ 140.00 ✓	175.00 ✓	175.00 ✓	50.00 ✓	
	\$1,406.50	\$1,291.46	\$1,157.50	\$983.54	\$797.00	\$1,145.86	
Annual Appropriation-A.B.C.F.M.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	250.00 ✓
	\$1,906.50	\$1,791.46	\$1,657.50	\$1,483.54	\$1,297.00	\$1,645.86	
Balance apparently taken from famine prevention fund	1879.98 866.42*	982.41 658.49	757.20 963.65	1452.39 1,024.12	1,165.75**	2,371.03**	
Total expense as reported by American Board	\$2,772.92	\$2,449.95	\$2,621.15	\$2,507.66	\$2,557.65	\$3,956.20*	
* Includes travel	3786.48	2973.87	2414.70	2909.93			

\*\* Reported by Nanking University; the other figures in this line are merely subtractions.

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MAY 17 1933  
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0742



May 24, 1939

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
American Board of Commissioners  
For Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Fairfield:

Mr. Garside has turned over to me your letter of May 15th regarding the return of the Riggs family to China, and a change of policy regarding support.

Quite naturally from the variable income there has been no effort on the part of the field to budget anything but the minimum amount of the assured gifts, but it would not appear to be a major factor in giving serious consideration to the future status of the Riggs family.

If there is real uneasiness because of approaching exhaustion of the Famine Fund it has not been brought to our attention. Up to April 17th we had received \$19,000.56 income on a local currency budget of \$165,428.20; using a local currency exchange of 6 to 1 there is an equivalent of US\$27,500.00. This leaves approximately \$8,500.00 to be taken from principal. Of course, the rate of exchange is an uncertain factor upon which we cannot place too much dependence. The field, however, did set up a program of activities which will carry them over into 1954 at which time the Famine Fund principal would be spent by a tapering off process during the last five years. What this war will do to this account no one can tell, but primarily their budget for 1939-40 was increased by LC\$30,000.00. It would seem as though this might be a time to review the policy of this fund and base the field activities more upon actual income rather than using any year. That, however, is a situation which we cannot urge at the present time, but it might not be out of place to suggest it.

One of the principal reasons for writing you is to assure you that we have this matter in hand and are working out schedules to show the exact cost over the past six years. There are some charges which you have not included and consequently your Famine Fund figure is not correct.

There is one question which you raise which I cannot see will be altered by change of financial arrangements and that is their standing on the field. Going back over the correspondence, one reason for having the American Board handle the payments of salary was because the American Board standards would prevail. In other words, your Board was to use the American Board basis and charge us periodically. It really worked out that we paid you in advance and adjustments were made later.

Dr. Fairfield

-2-

5/24/39

As the uncertainty of the Famine Funds is one occasion for making this adjust, I am wondering what the Nanking Board will think if they are to make a definite appropriation for the support of the Riggs family with thought of continuing this after Famine Funds have been exhausted if the present policy prevails.

The vote quoted in your letter does not limit the agreement, but this particular item might be clarified while we are working out the details of the costs over the past several years. These should be ready in a day or two and meanwhile if you have anything to say in the light of this letter, I shall be very glad to have your reaction.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

0744



June 9, 1939

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Fairfield:

I was quite willing yesterday to take the responsibility for sending a cable regarding the Riggs returning to Nanking - for, while they are principally connected with the American Board, yet their value to the Nanking program is of such a nature that I would not hesitate on such an issue. I would also be willing to adjust this charge to Famine Funds account later on.

This morning, however, the Accounting Office presents to me a full-rate plain-language cable going to Shaowu regarding the invitation to Hwa Nan. This figures to \$14.08 plus tax. The service to China is not so cluttered up that a deferred cable at the present time will not do practically the same service with possibly a very few hours delay, and it costs \$7.04 plus tax. Twenty-five words radio letter could have gone through for \$7.34 plus tax. Fukien is in a much different position than Nanking and has no money in its Trustees Account for expenditures of this kind.

I realize that the American Board is doing a gracious thing in granting the use of the property to Fukien and is extending courtesy still further to Hwa Nan, and I shall be very glad indeed to have an International Committee to arbitrate this matter if the two of us cannot reach an agreement otherwise.

I am sorry that we sold our Western Union Bonds recently as after this cable was sent the price might have been greatly enhanced.

I hope you do not find Swarthmore heated by the gods of the sun in the same way I have on several occasions when I have been there. Frankly the most effective thing that that conference could do would be to pray for rain.

Most cordially yours,

CAE/B

C. A. EVANS

0745

Charge to the account of ASSOCIATED BOARDS FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
FULL-RATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HALF-RATE DEFERRED	<input type="checkbox"/>
NIGHT LETTER	<input type="checkbox"/>
SHIP RADIOGRAM	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the cablegram will be transmitted at full rates	

# WESTERN UNION CABLEGRAM

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

June 6, 1930

LIENCHINGJUN  
HSING  
SHAOWU (CHINA)

AMERICAN BOARD WOULD APPROVE YOUR INVITING HUANAN SHARE SHAOWU PROPERTY  
IF DESIRABLE

FAIRFIELD

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

0746



INDEXED

June 8, 1939

Mr. Harold Belcher  
American Board of Commissioners  
For Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Belcher:

Dr. Fairfield spent some time with me this noon discussing the Riggs situation. As a result of this conference, we cabled the field as follows:-

"AMERICAN BOARD PROPOSES \$1200 AMERICAN ANNUAL PAYMENT FROM FAMINE FUND SEVEN YEARS AND FURLOUGH PLUS TRAVEL FOR RIGGS BOARD ASSUMING ALL OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES CABLE DECISION."

As the field has figured out a program of expenditures over a period of twenty years, beginning with 1934, with the assumption that the funds would be absorbed within that period, we found it unwise to agree to any expenditure not authorized by the Committee in China. The situation develops that neither the American Board nor the Nanking Trustees have authority to advance funds without sanction by the field.

Dr. Fairfield requested that I write you giving the result of our conference calling attention to the total figure of \$1200.00. This represents the average expenditure from Famine Funds over the past six years, aside from travel, plus refit allowance distributed over the eight years.

This cable has gone as a night letter and upon receipt of a reply I will communicate with Dr. Fairfield and yourself.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

0747

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

HAROLD B. BELCHER, TREASURER  
FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
S. EMMA KEITH, ASSISTANT TREASURER

## Treasury Department

HARVEY L. MEEKEN  
PUBLISHING AND PURCHASING AGENT  
EARLE E. SMITH  
DEPARTMENT ASSISTANTJune 9, 1939.  
*ack by  
copy letter to  
Dr. Fairfield 6/10/39*Mr. C. A. Evans, Assoc. Treasurer  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.Dear Mr. Evans:- Re Charles H. Riggs, Nanking Univ.

I want to thank you for your letters of June 1st and 8th in regard to the proposal which the American Board has made to the University covering the support of the Riggs family. I haven't checked over the figures in your letter of June 1st, because I wanted to do that with Dr. Fairfield, who has been more conversant with the Nanking University end of the Financing during this past term.

I note that the figure of \$1,200. has been used but am not clear whether this means a change in the proposal as detailed in the last paragraph of Page 2 of Dr. Fairfield's letter of May 15th to Mr. Garside. If so, it would mean that there is a gap of \$550. between the \$1,750. which we reckoned as the average annual amount to be requested from the University and the amount proposed to be provided from the Famine Funds. If this is the case, it looks to me as though it would mean a reconsideration by the Prudential Committee of their vote of May 9th, which definitely limited the responsibility of the American Board budget to the \$500. per annum which is now being provided. I expect, however, that I will have some word of this when I see Dr. Fairfield.

Very cordially yours,

*Harold B. Belcher*

Treasurer.

HBB/L

0748





June 10, 1939

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield  
c/o Foreign Missions Conference  
Swarthmore College  
Swarthmore, Pa.

Dear Brother Fairfield:

I quote the following cable received from Chongtu this morning:-

"APPROVE PROPOSAL RYOGS"

Apparently this is authentic for us to proceed on the premises as outlined in our discussion. In a letter from Mr. Belcher dated June 9th he calls attention to the discrepancy in the \$1,750.00 proposed in the third from the last paragraph in the May 15th letter and the \$1200.00 plus travel, which we submitted to the field.

Please correct me if I am wrong in my interpretation that the \$1,750.00 is the average including travel, which spread over seven years, plus furlough, would be approximately that figure. But, with travel deducted, the average net amount due from the University including refit would approximate \$1200.00.

With the stack of work on my desk, I am not writing further this morning, but if further questions arise please let me know.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Belcher for his information.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B  
c.c. to Mr. Belcher

0749

JUL 13 1939

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

July 12, 1939

To the Members of the  
Executive Committee  
Boards of Founders  
University of Nanking

Dear Friends:

Two important matters require an immediate action of the Executive Committee. It seems out of the question to secure the attendance of a quorum at a meeting at the present time, so we are asking you to register your vote by mail so that we may proceed with these two matters.

The first concerns the completion of the arrangements for sending a letter to Dr. Bates in Nanking which will enable <sup>him</sup> to deal effectively with the requests coming for the use of the property. It is planned to send a certified copy of the minute, on which you <sup>are</sup> asked to vote, to go with certified photostatic copies of the Provisional and Absolute Charters. The minute herewith enclosed provides for your vote by signing at the end of the item your approval or disapproval according to your decision. This should be returned to our office as soon as possible.

The second item concerns the arrangements with the American Board of Commissioners in regard to Mr. and Mrs. Riggs. You will find attached hereto a copy of a letter from the American Board on which they would like to have a signature which will make the agreement in force. Here again, we have provided at the end of this letter a place for your signature of approval or disapproval. This also should be returned to the office as soon as possible.

Thanking you for cooperating in getting these two matters settled, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Joseph J. Palmer*  
Assistant Secretary

JIP:D

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AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass

July 6, 1939

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

Dear Mr. Garside:-

Trustees of Nanking University

In order that there be a clear record of the understanding in regard to the support of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Riggs during this next term of service, I am noting below the vote of the Prudential Committee covering the basis on which their return is authorized and adding one or two notes of my own. I am sending an extra copy of this so that if it is agreeable I would be glad to have your or someone sign for the University the acceptance of the understanding and return that copy to me so that I can have it in our files, while you keep the original letter in yours.

The vote of the Prudential Committee is as follows:

"The University to provide outgoing and return travel to and from Chengtu for Mr. and Mrs. Riggs and one child, exclusive of refit allowance.

The University to pay \$1200 per annum for eight years from July 1, 1939 to the American Board, minus any net savings that may come during the period because of changes in children's allowances, and plus any increase that may come as the result of a general increase in the basal salary of members of the North China Mission.

The American Board to reassume its usual financial responsibility for the support of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs upon the regular North China basis, including refit allowance; and to receive the income from the Menoka Fund and the Easter offering of the East Lansing Community Church as well as any other miscellaneous gifts to apply upon the increased obligation.

This agreement to take effect July 1, 1939."

I understand that we will render a statement of the travel expense on the basis of which you will make payment in refund. This will only include for the present Mr. and Mrs. Riggs, the youngest child remaining in this country with the possibility of going out in another year or two if conditions become stabilized.

It would be convenient if the University could plan to make the \$1200. per annum payment in semi-annual instalments at such dates as may be convenient for you. The youngest child remaining in this country will receive a larger allowance than she would receive on the basis of field salary, and I think my best plan would be to work out the exact situation on the salary and

0751

Mr. Garside -- 2

children's allowances at the end of the first year of the agreement, at which time I could indicate to you whether there should be any adjustment payment by the University beyond the \$1200. basal figure indicated above. Similarly, at the end of the second year. After that as Dr. Fairfield has pointed out in earlier correspondence, the amount will diminish due to the fact that one of the children will cease to receive allowance and the family support will thereby be released.

Mr. Riggs has advised the people in the charge of the Menoka Fund and the Church at East Lansing that their remittances hereafter should be made to the American Board.

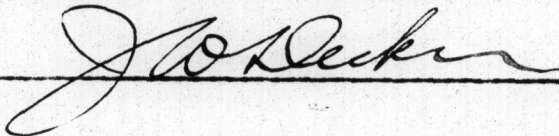
I trust these arrangements will work out without too much complication either to your office or to ours.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Harold B. Belcher  
Treasurer

Vote of the Nanking Executive Committee:

APPROVAL



DISAPPROVAL

0752



# AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
MRS. MARY S. HALES,  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

## Treasury Department

HARVEY L. MEEKEN  
PUBLISHING AND PURCHASING AGENT  
EARLE E. SMITH  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

June 28, 1943

Mr. C. A. Evans, Assoc. Treasurer  
Trustees of Nanking University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:-

Your letter in regard to the closing of the fiscal year of the Universities reminded me to look up and see what our situation was regarding the Riggs matter. I find that due to the fact that our bookkeeper and assistant bookkeeper both passed away quite suddenly during the course of the year that a number of things which they followed up have been let slide and this is one of them.

According to the agreement \$1200 was the basal amount of Nanking's support of the Riggs and this was to be increased by any changes in salary rate and decreased by any changes due to children dropping off the allowance list. I figure, therefore, that for the period July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943 the account would be as follows:

Basal amount	\$1200.
Increase in field salary, July to Dec. 1942	270.
Increase in field salary, Jan. to July 1943	810.
Increase in allowance for Edith for twelve months	90.
	<u>\$2370.</u>
Less: Release of Charles Jr. from allowance	360.
	<u>\$2010.</u>
Balance	\$2010.

The increased amounts on the field salaries worked out as follows:

Field salary basis July 1 to December 31, 1942	\$1800.
Original Basis	<u>1260.</u>
Yearly increase	\$ 540.
Increase for six months - - - - -	-270.
Field Salary basis Jan. 1 to June 30, 1943	\$2880.
Original Basis	<u>1260.</u>
Increase for 12 months	\$1620.
" " 6 " - - - - -	810.

I hope this does not give you too much of a shock, for I note that it compares with an amount of \$991 in the previous year. The rise in the cost of living and the

was for whole year - compare with 2010)

*Handwritten notes:*  
Paid 3/29/43  
500.00  
Bel 1,510.00  
O/C CAC  
Paid 6/29/43  
No 7810

0753

Mr. C. A. Evans -2-

necessary rise in salary rates in West China is certainly hitting us all hard and making a serious problem as to how much we shall try and keep up our staff there.

I expect to be in New York on the 30th for a meeting in the afternoon of the Treasurer's Committee and may have a chance to stop in and say hello.

Yours sincerely,

*Harold Belcher*

HBB/ED

Treasurer

0754



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JUN 30 1943  
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RECEIVED  
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JUN 29 1943  
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**AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
MRS. MARY S. HALES,  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

**Treasury Department**

August 16, 1943.

HARVEY L. MEEKEN  
PUBLISHING AND PURCHASING AGENT  
EARLE E. SMITH  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
Trustees of Nanking University,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:-

I have just had word from Harold Robinson that we obtained from Miss Priest the equivalent of \$5,000. U.S. and I am, therefore, enclosing check to the order of the Trustees of Nanking University for this amount.

In an earlier letter he raised the question of our keeping a deposit in your hands from which you could deduct such amounts as he drew from Miss Priest in place of the present plan of our remitting to you each time he advises that he has drawn. The present method of remitting to you on receipt of his advice is simpler for us, and I would naturally prefer to continue it. At the same time I recognize the fact that Nanking University money is tied up for a period in this accommodation that you are giving to us. If, therefore, it would be of any advantage to you to have us keep a deposit in your hands I will be very glad to carry on in that way. We do appreciate very much the convenience of the arrangement whereby our people there obtain their funds through Miss Priest. I hope that you have been able to be away for some rest and vacation during the summer time.

Sincerely yours,

*Belcher*

HBB/GLM

Treasurer.

*Dep. 8/17/43*

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0757

August 19, 1943

Mr. Harold Belcher, Treasurer  
American Board of Commissioners  
For Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Belcher:

In July Mr. Earle Smith, Assistant Treasurer, sent us a check for \$2000.00 covering certain obligations of the American Board in connection with the University of Nanking in China. He indicated at that time that there was a request for a further deposit on the part of the American Board to cover anticipated obligations to accrue in the future. He stated that this would be held against your return from vacation.

Your letter of August 16th is at hand enclosing check for \$5000.00 which has been credited to the checking account of the University of Nanking. This is in payment for an equivalent amount secured by Mr. Harold Robinson in Chengtu.

It will not be necessary for you to make any advance deposit on the Nanking University account as arrangements with our bank make it possible for checks to come through and the bank notifies us of any overdraft. We keep a sufficiently large balance on hand to take care of all ordinary purposes but anything extraordinary is taken care of as stated.

I am trying to get away next week for a respite from the heat of New York and the work in the office.

With many, many thanks for your concern, I am

Very truly yours,

CAE:EW

C. A. EVANS

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AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON 8, MASS.

FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
MRS. MARY S. HALES,  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

## Treasury Department

HARVEY L. MEEKEN  
PUBLISHING AND PURCHASING AGENT  
EARLE E. SMITH  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

November 19, 1943

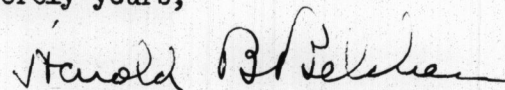
Mr. C. A. Evans  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Evans:

I have just received from Harold Robinson in Chengtu his statement of account to June 30 and in checking up his report of amounts received from Miss Priest, I seem to be missing an item. He reports that on January 18 he received \$2000 from her. I do not seem to have a record of that advice or a corresponding payment to you.

At about the same time I have a record of a request from him to credit the personal account here of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Riggs \$2000 because of an equivalent sum which they turned over to him there. It may be that he has made a mistake in saying that the \$2000 he received January 18 was from Miss Priest and should have put the Riggs' name against it. Would it be possible for you to check over Miss Priest's advices to you to see if we have reimbursed you for all the sums that she has reported drawn by either Mrs. Riggs or Robinson since January 1, 1943? I am sorry to put you to this bother, but I do want to make sure that we are clear in our account with you.

Sincerely yours,



HBB/ED

Treasurer

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November 22, 1943

Mr. Harold B. Belcher  
American Board of Commissioners  
For Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Belcher:

Answering your letter of November 19th regarding the US\$2,000 reported by Harold Robinson in Chengtu, I find that on July 21st Mr. Smith sent us a check for US\$2,000, which he stated was at the request of Mr. Robinson and same was to cover funds advanced by Miss Priest.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

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# AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON, MASS.

FREDERICK A. GASKINS,  
ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
MRS. MARY S. HALES,  
ASSISTANT TREASURER

## Treasury Department

HARVEY L. MEEKEN  
PUBLISHING AND PURCHASING AGENT  
EABLE E. SMITH  
DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT

September 1, 1944

Mr. C. A. Evans, Assoc. Treas.  
Trustees of Nanking University  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I find that I have not sent you as yet this year a statement in regard to the account of Rev. & Mrs. Charles H. Riggs at Nanking University and I am therefore giving a statement on the same basis that I did in my letter of July 28, 1943, starting out with the agreed basal amount of \$1200 to come from the Trustees of the University and making the adjustments that would follow out the points in the agreement. Again we find the increased salary rate in West China boosting the figures quite considerably. Here they are.

Basal Amount		\$ 1200.00 ✓
Salary increase July to Sept. 1943	\$ 720.	
Less	<u>315.</u>	405.00
Salary increase Oct. to Dec. 1943	\$ 1044.	
Less	<u>315.</u>	729.00
Salary increase Jan. to June 1944	\$ 2120	
Less	<u>630.</u>	1490.00
Increase in allowance for Edith for 12 months		<u>90.00</u>
Less: Release of Charles Junior from allowance	\$360.00	\$3914.00
" " Elizabeth from allowance	<u>360.00</u>	<u>720.00</u>
		\$3194.00
Less: Payment received on account, March 31		<u>500.00</u>
Net amount due		\$2694.00 ✓

*me*  
*PAID*  
*9/6/44*  
*No. 7995*

As the last day for receiving amounts to be credited on the closing of our fiscal year is September 8, I hope that it may be possible for you to get remittance into our hands by that time. If, however, there is any question concerning the account or the items in it, we shall want to clear those up.

As you know, Mrs. Riggs has now returned to America and the account that I shall render next year for the year July 1, 1944 to June 30, 1945 will include her homeward travel, as I believe the agreement provided that the Trustees of the University would be responsible for that in addition to the basal amount.

Yours sincerely,

*Harold B. Belcher*  
Treasurer

HBB/ED

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Nanking

September 14, 1944

Mr. Harold B. Belcher  
American Board of Commissioners  
For Foreign Missions  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Brother:

Yours of September 1st is at hand enclosing an accounting  
for the Riggs family.

I am sorry indeed that we did not get this to you before  
September 8th and apologize for the delay. It is our understanding  
that we are to pay homeward travel.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

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AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET BOSTON 8, MASS.

OFFICE OF  
D. BREWER EDDY, D. D., SECRETARY

Home Department

BALLOU

REC'D 4/12

ANS'D file

Dear Earle:

Since receiving your letter of March 27<sup>th</sup> I have pondered your problem earnestly but without real results.

I know of no outstanding man, experienced, devoted who could make a real success of that task.

Mr. McBrier is right about me. Age is against me and I am surely a Congregationalist, tho for 36 yrs. in constant interdenominational contact & sympathy. Health is not on my side. I would give no consideration to any other real job for a year to come at least.

And I cannot help by suggesting the right man, tho I wish some flash of vision could guide me.

It is a deep regret to write this negative answer.

Earnestly yours.

Brewer.

April  
March 9 '45

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