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Lobenstine, Edwin C.
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Maning

September 18, 1916

TRANSFER

Rev. Edwin C. Lobensteine
5 Quinsan Gardens
Shanghai, China

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your letter of August 10 from Kuling. I appreciate very much your hearty approval of what has been undertaken with the China Medical Board. I am still sanguine that they will carry out the plan as proposed. Speaking to Dr. Buttrick the other day, I learned they had not received as yet Mr. Greene's judgment of the plans and he said they would very much like to have that before taking it up with the Board here. He has had to go for a ten days' trip to Oklahoma on General Educational Board matters and expects to be back next Monday and wanted me to come in then and they could take up the matter. He has been very cordial in his relations to me. I agree heartily with what you say that we must cooperate directly with the China Medical Board and seek by all means in our power to give to their work as well as ours the highest Christian ideal and spirit.

I was delighted to hear of the very splendid work that Dr. Coffin had done in Kuling and I am sure also in Peithaiho. He has a fine spirit. If I am unable to return to China before his return here, I am counting upon a visit with him and learning his impressions of our work. I see Fletcher and Mary often. They are settled in New York now in a very attractive apartment having light and air on three sides, a most unusual thing in New York. It is like home to me to run in there and have a little visit. A letter from Lillian this morning reports the children are all well and that Dickey is flourishing like a green bay tree. It is an unspeakable relief to have this word. I was in great suspense for two weeks between the time I had the letter that they were all down with dysentery and had not responded to the Emitine treatment and the time of the next mail when I learned that they were then up and about. I hear often from Logan Roots and am expecting to see him next week.

With love to Susie and the laddie and yourself,

As ever yours,

JEW/MAB

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THE CHINA CONTINUATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
NATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE, SHANGHAI, 1913

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(Those whose names are marked by an asterisk constitute the Executive Committee)

OFFICES. 5 QUINSAN GARDENS
SHANGHAI

KULING, August 10th, 1916.

Rev. J. E. Williams, D.D.,
American Presbyterian Mission,
NANKING, KU.

Dear Jack:-

Your letter of June 26th enclosing the action taken by the Board for the University of Nanking has been received. I had already seen copies of this action and of your letter to Bowen as well as other communications here on the hill.

The latest news which came today in your letter to Sam tells of the plans which are being made for the Hospital work in Nanking. I congratulate you heartily upon your success. I know how hard you found things at home but trust that you feel repaid for the trip. There can be no doubt that the coming in of the China Medical Board powerfully affects certain aspects of Higher Education in China. The only thing for us to do since our Board is committed to hearty cooperation with them, is to throw ourselves as heartily as possible into the plans for cooperation, and seek to give to the work that is to be carried on the highest Christian ideals.

We have seen Lillian occasionally though she has not been out a great deal. I have as usual been more or less busy with Conference affairs here and with meetings. We have had a most helpful Conference Week. The addresses were given by Dr. Henry Sloan Coffin of New York who spoke on the Social Aspects of the Gospel and who won all hearts including the C. I. M. and the Plymouth Brethern. This week he is with me at Pentaiho where he will be the main speaker at the Conference there.

I hope that you will have a fine trip back. It will be fine to see you again.

Sincerely yours,

Please forward if there is sufficient time.

E. C. Lobenstine
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June 26, 1916

Rev. E. C. Lobenstine,
5 Quinsan Gardens,
Shanghai, China

Dear Ed:-

I am enclosing you two copies of the action taken by the Board of Trustees with regard to the Medical. Please hand one to Robert. I am asking Bowen to have duplicates made of the letter of Mr. Speer reporting the conditions on which this action was taken, also the long conferences which he and I had with Dr. Butterick on several occasions. His statement is so lucid and accurate that I need not supplement it. I hope that the object for which I came primarily may be achieved - holding the co-operative Boards in the University behind an enlarged Hospital and the other departments, the carrying through of a plan of a larger endowment and the securing immediately of two men for agriculture and forestry and additional men for the College Faculty.

You will be interested to know that Dr. John F. Downey, Dean Emeritus of the State University is sailing with his wife on the "Empress of Russia", the 7th of September. By the rule of the University he retired at the age of sixty-eight without the pension of the Carnegie Foundation.- The Carnegie Foundation however will continue his pension waiving their usual rule. We are providing travel for Dr. and Mr. Downey out and back. He was Professor of Mathematics, but had one hundred and fifty members of the Faculty under him and two thousand students. I believe he can straighten us immediately. I have had some fine talks with Flexner and expect to see him later in the Summer.

I saw your sister just on the day that your father and mother and she were leaving for Lake Mohawk. I hope, however, to have a better visit with them later. I am off this afternoon (Saturday) to Cleveland for conferences with Mr. Severance, Mr. Swazey and Mr. Schwerin. Tuesday I meet with the Executive Officers of the Foreign Christian Mission Society in Cincinnati.

I covet very much your sympathy and prayers in this work, Ed, for it is the hardest project I have ever been up against in all my experience. With love to Susan and the dear ones, I am,

As ever yours,

(Dictated but not read)

J. E. Williams.

0406

THE CHINA CONTINUATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
NATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE, SHANGHAI, 1913

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Rev. Liu Fang
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TEMPORARY OFFICE OF SECRETARY,
25 MADISON AVE., ROOM 1928, NEW YORK

February 5, 1919.

Mr. J. E. Williams,
25 Madison Ave.,
New York.

Dear Jack:-

I have today been in conference with Prof. Monroe of Teachers College, Columbia University, in regard to the possibility of an arrangement by which American University professors could be sent to China during their sabbatical year to teach for at least one full term, or for the whole year, in connection with one or other of the Christian colleges or universities in China which could profitably use men of this type. I may say that plans are already under way, and certain funds likely to be made available by the Carnegie Foundation, which make very promising the outlook for securing for China in the near future the services of a limited number of men of this type. There is little probability that the number who could go to China in any one year will be large, but there seems good reason to hope that a few men could be sent out each year.

Prof. Monroe has asked me to find out from someone competent to speak for the University of Nanking as to whether or not it would desire to secure help of this kind and in what subjects it could profitably use such professors during each of the next five years.

Dr. Monroe also desires to know whether the institution would be in a position to provide satisfactory living accommodations for such professors, the majority of whom would probably be accompanied by their wives, and what would be the living expenses per month for a man alone boarding with some one of the professors and for a man with his wife. Would it be possible or desirable to make arrangements by which, were these professors accompanied by their wives, they would be able to keep house?

Sincerely yours,

E. C. Lobenstine

0407

THE CHINA CONTINUATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
NATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE, SHANGHAI, 1913

Offices:—5 QUINSAN GARDENS, SHANGHAI

Feb. 9, 1918.

Dear Jack:

Leighton told me last night about the proposal to invite Pastor Ch'eng to join the staff of the School of Theology in Nanking. He did not mention your name, but I had no difficulty in connecting you with this suggestion. (//) and am sorry you did not speak to me about it while you were here.

Leighton and I had a good talk in regard to the matter, and I told him what I thought both Ch'eng and I would agree to.

I don't know whether you would approve of our talking in the same way about any of the University faculty in Nanking, or seeing whether we could pull them away for work in connection with us, or having Bishop White do so at the Baptist College. These questions of mission comity are serious ones, and need great care in handling them. Mind you, I do not object to Leighton's coming to me as he did, but there is need of great caution in matters of this kind.

Ever sincerely yours,

Ed

Rev. J. E. Williams,
Presbyterian Mission, N.,
Nanking.

ECL.AW

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Feb. 18, 1918.

Rev. E. C. Lobenstine,
5 Quinsan Gardens,
Shanghai.

Dear Ed:

Your letter of February 9 came into my hands on the fourteenth, as my Valentine'.

I am glad you wrote so frankly as you were evidently a bit hurt by your understanding of what I had done. I am not surprised, Ed, that you should have had no difficulty in connecting my name with Leighton Stuart's conversation and suggestion, as I have been very openly interested in the whole plan for the advanced seminary course, undertaking, as far as I am able, the burden of securing the men and the backing for that enterprise.

You are mistaken, however, in thinking that I was not ready to come to speak to you about Cheng Ching-yi; in fact I went into your office a couple of times without finding you, and had I thought there could be any misunderstanding, I should not have failed to have gone with Leighton Stuart. Remember that we neither of us spoke a word to Pastor Cheng directly about the matter, but the whole affair was taken up with you first; nor was it a new question with Pastor Cheng, since the matter had been up with him with regard to the Seminary once before. Furthermore, we were both given the impression that such an arrangement would not be disapproved by you.

Under mission comity I do not see how we could have acted more circumspectly than we did. I do not think that I or Bowen would resent any man coming to us with a matter that he would want laid before any member of our faculty. If he went first to the member of the faculty and tried to disaffect him and then tried to approach us, we should feel that he might have acted a little more frankly and generously; but if he went to us before approaching a member of the faculty, so far from resenting, we should have felt it a compliment to the University to have men who are desired for other important enterprises. In fact, we know that propositions have been put to our men very strongly without consulting us first, and even so we have not been much disturbed by it. In a

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E. C. Lobenstine, 2.

Feb. 18, 1918.

word. I want to say that we did not mean in any way to act outside of the most careful rules of comity. Both Stuart and I believed so deeply and heartily in the work that the Continuation Committee ~~are~~ ^{is} doing that we should not want to do anything that would in any way weaken that work. If my conduct, not only in this matter but in any other questions that concern the interests of sister missions or union enterprises, has been open to question, I shall appreciate very much your writing me frankly about it. I do feel the burden of building up the University, but I do want to be delivered from coming to think that other work should be sacrificed to the interests of this work. I certainly never want to be found guilty of being disloyal to my friends.

I should like to have learned your reaction to the big meeting we had. It seemed to me that ~~the~~ number of things must have been cleared up by that larger conference - not on the lines we had hoped, still none the less to the advantage of the general outcome of our work.

We here do not feel the least bit disturbed by the gift made by the C. M. B. to St. John's, nor do we feel apprehensive about the larger development of the University. We were never more convinced that God has been in the enterprise from the beginning, and it is receiving His blessing.

As ever affectionately yours,

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THE CHINA CONTINUATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
NATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE, SHANGHAI, 1913

Offices:—5 QUINSAN GARDENS, SHANGHAI

Feb. 19, 1918.

Dear Jack:

Do not take too seriously the letter I wrote you the other day. I think it was perfectly proper for Leighton to come to me in regard to Ch'eng, and I really did not "have it in for you" for suggesting Ch'eng's name for the Seminary.

I am quite convinced that Ch'eng's largest opportunity can be found in his present position, and I heartily approve of his giving a week or ten days to the Nanking Seminary each year for the strong personal message that he can bring to the students.

I appreciate greatly what you are doing for the Seminary. I think it is on right lines, and am glad you are getting under the burden of it. That is the best way to bind the Seminary to the University, and I hope that ultimately it will become even more closely connected with it than it is now.

With regard to the meeting here in Shanghai the other day it was, I think, well to know just what was in the minds of those present. Certainly both Cline and White revealed their positions clearly. Cline said nothing which I did not expect; White in his second speech did, and I confess I was sorry.

I hope this survey on higher education can be pushed forward. I believe that the hearty backing of the Educational Institutions concerned will strengthen our hands in appealing to men at the home end to come out for such work.

I would like to know what suggestions you and Bowen have as to the personnel of such a Commission. The men originally named were Sadler, Burton and Sailer. Sailer was added as an afterthought, in a way, because he was planning to come to China anyway, and because of his connection with the Edinburgh Continuation Committee. I think it would be better to change him, and to put on a man like Munroe. There is doubt as to whether Burton could come, because of his wife's health, nor do we know whether Sadler could be released during the European war. I think, however, we can put up a sufficiently strong argument to get him.

Would a commission of these three men, Burton, Sadler and Munroe, be satisfactory in your judgement?

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ed Logan
C. C. Rostine

Rev. . . E. Williams,
Nanking.

ECL.AW

0411

THE CHINA CONTINUATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
NATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE, SHANGHAI, 1913

Room 1928 25 Madison Ave
~~Offices 5 QUINSEN GARDENS, SHANGHAI~~

New York 18. 11. 18

Dear Jack.

Well how are you & where are you?
When are you to be in here. I want to see you
& check up with you on your work & get your
valuable advice for I am a novice at my job
here in America having been here all told but
a few months in 20 years and feeling a good deal
like a fish out of water. You will be able to give
me some helpful suggestions & I can bring you
in return some of the news from China.

When are Lillian & the children? and how are
they. I have met Joe & a few of the Episcopalians,
but none of our Presbyterian missionaries. I am
stopping with my brother at 162 E 71 street. My
mother, sister & Miss Beebe are at 50 E 58 St. The old
house is closed & I have not yet been in it.

I hope you will be in here in New York soon so
we can see something of each other. Remember me to
Lillian & the children.

As ever yours &

Ed Robertson

January 6, 1919.

Mr. E. C. Lobenstine,

25 Madison Avenue, New York.

Dear Ed:

On December 23rd there came a cable from Bowen as follows:

"Voice at Washington Denking American Community's protest against Brewers' Association Activities China."

Dr. Speer reported this to R. S. Miller, head of the Bureau of Far Eastern Affairs in the State Department, and told him he would send any further information that might come to us; also to the Chairman of the Sub-Committee of Reference and Counsel dealing with questions of relations to government. Mr. Speer received word from Mr. Miller that he at once took the matter up and referred it in the proper lines thru his Department, and remarked that he had noticed with satisfaction that publicity had been given to the matter in the New York papers. Bowen's letters later will doubtless give fuller information of the action and what they are contending with.

As ever,

Affectionately yours,

W:R

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OF THE
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Rev. J. Leighton Stuart, D.D.

Rev. E. G. Tewksbury
Miss Ting Shu-ching
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TEMPORARY OFFICE OF SECRETARY,
25 MADISON AVE., ROOM 1928, NEW YORK

January 9, 1919.

not read.

Mr. J. E. Williams,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Jack:--

Thanks for yours of January 6th regarding Bowen's cable. I enclose a copy of a letter I have just written to W.W. Lockwood. I want to see you at an early date; I do not remember just how I left matters in connection with the exchange professors for China. I think you were to work out a budget, which we were to be prepared to present to the Carnegie Foundation, on International relations. I have a letter from Stokes introducing me to Pritchard; I think he is the President of the Foundation. We ought to get busy on this proposition as soon as possible. Have you and Edmunds had any further conversation on it?

My time in this country may be so short that I cannot afford to let the grass grow under my feet. We must move on, but at the same time we must be perfectly clear that we have a good case and that we have sufficient backing of college professors or presidents before undertaking it. I really think that we must get a little group together again, work out a better plan, arrange to get in touch with men like President Faunce, the President of Toronto University, Falconer, people at Columbia, Princeton, Chicago, etc., and that when we have their interest and backing, and not until then, go for our money. What we really need is to get some kind of a group together, if possible, as was suggested, in McElroy's office, and then we shall be able to unload very largely the financial task on to men here at home. One of them can do far more to get this money than we can. We have our place in connection with it; it is to work out the plan to arouse interest in not less than one-half dozen to a dozen institutions, and then to determine what organization is necessary at this end for effective selection of men to go. When we have these things in shape we are in a po-

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J.E.Williams.

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sition to go to the Foundation. I question a little whether we should go earlier. We men from the field are not the best ones to decide.

I have not seen McElroy since our meeting; do not know whether he spoke on this subject to the Foundation; am not at all sure that he is the best one to do so, and yet he may be. How about tomorrow for lunch? Call me up on the phone and let me know; there is always someone here.

Sincerely yours,

Ed.

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Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie, D.D.
Rev. C. H. McNeur
Miss Luella Miner, Litt.D

*Rt. Rev. H. J. Molony, D.D.
C. C. Nieh, Esq.
Rt. Rev. F. L. Norris, D.D.
Rev. H. W. Oldham, M.A.
Rev. C. E. Patton, D.D.
*Miss Ruth Paxson
Miss A. M. Pitts
Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott, D.D.
Rev. J. T. Proctor, D.D.
Rev. Watts O. Pye
Rev. Frank Rawlinson, M.A.
Rev. W. Hopkyn Rees, D.D.
Rev. W. E. Sallee
Rev. O. Schultze
Rt. Rev. Sing Tsai-shêng
Miss Mary Stone, M.D.
Rev. J. Leighton Stuart, D.D.

Rev. E. G. Tewksbury
Miss Ting Shu-ching
*Rev. Tong Tsing-en
*Rev. Lindell Tsen
A. T. L. Tsien
Rev. C. J. Voskamp
Rev. E. W. Wallace, M.A.
Rev. Wang Cheng-ao
*Hon. Chengting T. Wang, LL.D.
Rev. A. Weir
F. C. Yen, M.D.
Secretaries
Rev. C. Y. Cheng, D.D.
Rev. E. C. Lobenstine
National Evangelistic Secretary
Rev. A. L. Warnshuis
Statistical Secretary
Rev. C. L. Boynton

*Those whose names are marked by an asterisk constitute the Executive Committee

TEMPORARY OFFICE OF SECRETARY,
25 MADISON AVE., ROOM 1928, NEW YORK
January 13, 1919.

Mr. J. E. Williams,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Jack:--

Thanks for yours of the 10th and for the suggestion about my going to England to meet the British secretaries. I have been thinking that matter over for the last two or three months and have promised myself that in the event of my not being able to get back to China for our Annual Meeting I would do my best to get over there. A letter received from Mr. Oldham last evening urged strongly that I take the matter under consideration, and it now looks to me as not improbable that I shall be delayed beyond the time when I could get back for the Annual Meeting, in which case I shall try hard to get to England. There are so many things that cannot be arranged by correspondence that it seems particularly desirable that I should go over there this time. You know I absolutely agree that we should carry the British with us in all that we are doing and that what is done should be equally their work with our own.

Sincerely yours,

Ed Lobenstine

Let J. E. Williams to
answer

Kenarden Lodge,
Wooster College,
Wooster, Ohio,

Jan. 23, 1919.

Ans 24/1/19

Dear Mr. Lobenstein,

On the advice of Dr. White I am writing you for advice in connection with my preparation for missionary service in China. Do you believe there will be a demand for scientific agriculturalists or teachers of chemistry, physics, etc. in mission colleges and universities? Which branch do you consider the more important for mission work and the more difficult for which to find properly prepared workers?

I have been taking my college course so far with the intention of entering the medical or one of the above lines of work. I now feel the need of coming to some definite decision if possible. If you could give me some idea as to the preparation necessary as well as to the relative usefulness of the different lines of work I feel you would be doing me a great service.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Courtney Douglass.

P.S. Possibly I should identify myself as the son of C.W. Douglass at Shanghai. You may recollect me as a small boy.

0417

Kenarden Lodge,
Wooster College,
Wooster, Ohio.
Jan. 23, 1919.

Dear Mr Williams,

When I met you, with Miss Silver, at the Board rooms the first of the year, I neglected to make some inquiries of you which I would now like to make. I am interested in following up some scientific or agricultural line of work on the mission field in China but I do not know what kind of training is required on the field for which there is the greatest demand. Do you believe that there will be a field for work in China similar to that of Higginbottom in India? Will there be an opening for strictly scientific men as teachers of chemistry, physics, etc in the mission schools and universities? I suppose there will be a demand for both but for which one, in your opinion, will there be the greater demand and field of usefulness? How would you advise me to prepare myself in college and after graduation?

As far as I have been able to learn there is no one in this country well enough acquainted with the situation to advise me on this subject, so I am taking the liberty of writing to you knowing that you are closely connected with this field of work.

Sincerely yours,
Wm Courtney Douglass.

0418

January 24, 1919.

Mr. Wm. S. Douglass,
Kanarden Lodge,
Wooster College,
Wooster, Ohio.

My Dear Courtney:--

Your letter of January 23rd has just reached me. I certainly do remember you, but not as a little boy, for you grew so rapidly that in my recollection you were always tall. I heard some fine accounts of you and of the way you had been developing physically in recent years by outdoor life during the summer, which is certainly fine. I am going to turn your letter over to Dr. J. E. Williams, Vice President of Nanking University, to answer, not because I am not interested in answering, but because of the fact that Nanking has an agricultural department and is in need of just the type of work which you are considering fitting yourself for. I think there is no place in China where you would have a better opportunity should you decide to become a scientific agriculturist; there will be opportunities for teaching both chemistry and physics in quite a number of the colleges and universities, but Dr. Williams can I think give you more concrete information than I.

I hope you are having a fine time in college and we shall look forward with pleasure to seeing you back on the field. It is one of the great advantages that you boys have who are born on the mission field, that many of the difficulties which the rest of us face in the life there, in adjustments with the people, you overcome unconsciously in your childhood.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

04 19

THE CHINA CONTINUATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
NATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE, SHANGHAI, 1913

*Rt. Rev. L. H. Roots, D.D., *Chairman*
*David Z. T. Yui, M.A., *Vice-Chairman*
*Rev. G. H. Bondfield, D.D., *Vice-Chairman*
*Rev. C. G. Sparham, *Honorary Secretary*
Rev. W. F. Chen, Ph.D., *Hon. Treasurer*
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Rev. August Berg
Rev. J. H. Blackstone
Rev. J. P. Bruce, M.A.
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Rev. E. Dewstoe
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Rev. John Gowdy, D.D.
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*D. E. Hoste
Rev. Hsü Tse-chow
Rev. Hu T'ing-chang
P. W. Kuo, Ph.D.
Rev. N. Astrup Larsen
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Rev. J. Walter Lowrie, D.D.
*Rev. D. W. Lyon, D.D.
Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie, D.D.
*Rev. G. H. McNeur
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Rev. J. T. Proctor, D.D.
Rev. Watts O. Pye
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Rev. W. Hopkyn Rees, D.D.
Rev. W. E. Sallee
Rev. O. Schultze
Rt. Rev. Sing Tsai-shêng
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*Rev. Tong Tsing-en
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*Those whose names are marked by an asterisk constitute the Executive Committee

TEMPORARY OFFICE OF SECRETARY,
25 MADISON AVE., ROOM 1928, NEW YORK

January 24, 1919.

Mr. F. E. Williams,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Jack:--

I enclose herewith a letter I have just received from Courtney Douglass along with my answer. Will you please answer him to the best of your advice. I heard in China that he has been developing finely and you may find that he will be a good type of man for you to have at Hanking. It certainly would be delightful should that seem the right thing for him to prepare for.

Sincerely yours,

Ed.

Pres. BSA

Nanking

December 24, 1935

Dr. E. C. Lobenstine
1088 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Lobenstine:

We are happy to learn of the action of the Presbyterian Board in electing you as one of their representatives on the Board of Founders of the University of Nanking.

I know the Board will warmly welcome you to its membership. You have been so long and so intimately acquainted with the University and what it is doing that you are admirably qualified to render valuable service to the University in this new relationship.

With every good wish for the holiday season,

I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MP

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May 16, 1936

Dr. E. C. Lobenstine
1088 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Lobenstine:

I enclose a copy of a letter I have recently received from Mr. Homer G. Bao.

Do you know Mr. Bao? If so, do you consider his potentialities sufficient to justify our making some special effort to assist him? I do not have any idea whatever as to where we might turn to secure \$400 or even any substantial fraction of that amount to assist him. I have already written him saying that we really do not see how we could possibly help. Unless you know of some special factors in his case which would justify our pursuing the matter further, we can let it rest at that.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:MP
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Homer G. Bao
Auburn Theological Seminary
Auburn, New York

April 18, 1936

Mr. B. A. Garside
Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Garside:

I've come to America with an intense interest to study the Religious Education here in America. I want this training so badly because I wish to go back to China to be a Religious Education worker. However, I have been teaching in the Middle School, University of Nanking, Nanking, China, as a Religious Director for the last two years. Because of the fact that there is no School of Religious Education in Auburn Theological Seminary I wish to transfer to Hartford Seminary, if possible, during the next school year. Here in Auburn I have been taken care of by the scholarship which is not available in Hartford. That is why I am looking forward for some financial help which would make my sacred preparation possible.

I am now coming to you for help and guidance. I am sure that you are the right person that would help me in this respect. I expect to stay at least one more year in Hartford instead of Auburn. That would probably need four hundred dollars. It might be a wise investment if anybody would take my life work into consideration.

I am looking forward with sincere hope and warm appreciation. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Very sincerely yours,

Homer G. Bao

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UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING, CHINA

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

December 11, 1936

Dr. Edwin C. Lobenstine
c/o International Missionary Council
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Dear Cousin Ed,

I am sending you a copy of the letter which the University has written to the Carnegie Corporation requesting a grant to enable us to carry on research in the problem of teaching English. I hope that you will be interested in the project and that you may be able to give us some assistance in securing such a grant. Personally, I am not too hopeful of securing help from the Carnegie Corporation, for I fear that they may not be willing to invest anything here in China. I am convinced, however, of the need of such a program as the enclosed letter outlines, and I hope that, even if this request fails, we may be able to secure the funds elsewhere. If you have anything to suggest, I shall be very glad to have your advice.

As you know, the Department of Foreign Languages and its budget is something of a sore point with the administration. Dr. Chen is constantly urging me to employ Chinese in the hope of cutting down expenses, but I have so far refused to consider the idea. In the first place, considering the amount of work that it does, the department is not expensive; the members carry unusually heavy teaching loads, both in hours and students. In the second place, Chinese prepared to do the same quality of work are not only expensive but also unwilling to do the "dirty" work needed. In the third place, recent graduates (which Dr. Chen is suggesting) could do neither as much work nor as good.

So I am anxious rather to increase the budget than to decrease it. For one thing, I am quite convinced that we are definitely understaffed at present. For another, I believe that the teaching of English is one thing which, almost above all others, we should do well here. We have made progress in the last few years, but we have just about reached the end of our rope. And there are so many things crying to be done. We could very easily become the center for the training of middle-school teachers in English, if we had time and money. If we were adequately staffed, we could take recent graduates (as liabilities) and train them. In a word, we could do for East China what no other university is doing (mission or government) - help to improve the present ineffective teaching of English in middle schools. And at the same time, we could do a better job here and give our teachers a chance at something creative.

It is with such facts in mind that I have persuaded the administration to make the request to the Carnegie Corporation. If it fails, we'll have to try something else.

0424

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING. CHINA

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

We hear of your activities only indirectly, but we look forward to seeing you and Cousin Susan when we go home on furlough in 1937. Meanwhile, our kindest regards to both of you and the children. We are well.

Affectionately yours,

William Fenn

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Attached to W.P.Fenn's letter of Dec. 11, 1936

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING, CHINA

November 25, 1936

The President
The Carnegie Corporation
New York City

Dear Sir:

We are writing to request from the Carnegie Corporation a grant of US \$21,700.00, to cover a period of four years with an annual payment of US \$5300 for the last three years and of US \$5800 for the first year, to enable our Department of Foreign Languages to carry on research and experiment in the teaching of English in Chinese middle schools.

We are anxious, first, to investigate, in a selected number of middle schools, the methods already in use in the teaching of English; and, second, where good methods are at present being used, to apply the vocabulary of the Interim Report on Vocabulary Selection (prepared by the Committee of the Conference held in New York in 1934 under the auspices of your corporation) to the junior middle school grades; third, to undertake tests to see what modifications and extensions are necessary to provide the vocabulary basis for a complete junior middle school course in English; and fourth, to initiate experimental classes for the devising of a more satisfactory method (based on this vocabulary) than is now in use. The minimum time required for such a project would be one year for preliminary investigation and three years for the junior middle school course.

As you know, English has become the second language in China and occupies a good share of every student's time throughout his six years of secondary work. One or two serious efforts, and notably that of Dr. Fawcett, have been made to develop a scientific method for presenting the language to Chinese students, but the methods largely in use today are extremely varied and produce, in most instances, unsatisfactory results. Aside from the Orthological Institute established in Peiping by the Rockefeller Foundation, the efforts of which are directed entirely toward investigation of basic English, there is, to our knowledge, no scientific study now being made of the problem of teaching English in China.

Here at the University of Nanking we have long felt the need, as a prerequisite for any real progress in the teaching of English, for a serious examination of the methods now in use and for the application of the results of such research as your Committee has been carrying on. Indeed, our Department of Foreign Languages has for some years been eager to carry on such a

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November 25, 1936

project and has been prevented from doing so only by lack of funds. Professor H. Ifor Evans of the University of London, who has been visiting universities in China to lecture for the Sino-British Cultural Association has been conferring with us on this matter. As a result of his visits to a number of centers and his discussions with teachers and university professors he has been very urgent in his insistence that research and experimentation such as we have in mind be undertaken here in the very near future.

The University has had a long tradition in English studies and because its graduates fill many of the teaching posts not only in this area but also throughout the country, it seems a logical place in which to undertake practical experimentation. It is associated with a large middle school of some 1000 students and less directly with a small practice school, both of which could be used as central laboratories for the project. Furthermore, we are convinced that any work that is to be done in this important matter of the teaching of English in China can best be conducted from the capital. A friendly relationship exists with the Ministry of Education, and we have reason to know that the present Minister is sympathetic towards the development of experiments of this nature.

The head of the department, Dr. William P. Fenn, has been with us only four years, but in that time has done much to raise the standard of the work done in the department. He has shown himself both an able administrator and a student of the problems involved in the teaching of English to Chinese. He has either produced himself or directed the development of all the materials, both for reading and for composition, now being used in our required courses in English. In addition, he has been carrying on experiments in the measurement of vocabularies. Moreover, through his chairmanship of the English section of the East China Christian Education Association, he is in constant touch with the middle school teachers in many centers. We have every confidence in his ability to carry through such a project as we have in mind.

The grant for which we are asking is intended both to relieve Dr. Fenn sufficiently from his duties at the University to enable him to direct such a project, and to provide him with the assistance needed. We believe that can be managed with the assistance of one secretary, one Chinese with a foreign degree, and one Westerner. Salaries for such a personnel would be contrived for an annual expenditure of US \$4450. Running expenses, including overhead, travel, and books, would require an additional US \$850 a year. This would mean a yearly total of US \$5300. In addition, an original investment of US \$500 for equipment would make the first year's total US \$5800.

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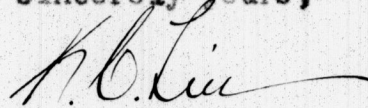
The President
Carnegie Corporation

-3-

November 25, 1936

May we assure you of our willingness to cooperate in every way toward the success of this project? If you wish further details, Dr. Fenn will be very glad to answer any questions. While waiting to hear from you, we are taking the liberty of sending copies of this letter to the members of the committee which prepared the Interim Report on Vocabulary.

Very sincerely yours,



For the President

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