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Beil, Gerald  
Best, A. E.  
Bosworth, S. M.

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Gerald Bell

Gerald Bell

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UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

West China Mission

Chengtu, Sze. July 5th, 1932.

Rev. Frank Anderson, D. D.,  
45 Grosvenor Street,  
London, Ontario

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Since the Annual Meeting of the West China Union University Board of Directors in April, the Executive Committee of that body has met several times to discuss the University budget for the year 1932-33. At the last meeting I was instructed, as English secretary, to place the situation before the Board of Governors with a request that assistance be given the Board of Directors in balancing the budget for the current academic year, i. e., 1932-33.

Doubtless Dr. Beech has been in correspondence with you regarding some of these matters, and I need not go into too much detail regarding the financial difficulties we face this year. The budget as presented by the Finance Committee to the Board of Directors did not come within \$6,000 Mex. of balancing income and expenditure. Even this much had been accomplished only by most rigid economy and cutting of departmental estimates by 8% as compared with the year just closing. The only exception to this was in the Science Faculty which, because of unusual circumstances, felt unable to take this initial reduction.

The reason for this was the urgent need of increasing the number of Chinese teachers in the Science Faculty, if the work was to be carried on this fall. That department has suffered very heavily in recent years through the inability of men like Bayne, Johns, and Sewell to return, and also through the lamented death of Dr. Stubbs. Miss Payne who has been teaching chemistry for two years has completed her contract and left the University at the end of June. Mr. and Mrs. Dye, who headed the Physics and Mathematics Departments respectively, went on furlough this spring, leaving only one missionary member on the staff of the Science Faculty, viz., Miss Downer. The United Church of Canada has appointed Mr. R. C. Spooner to the Dep't. of Chemistry, but he is still a language student and will not be available for another year. As a result four Chinese teachers need to be added this fall, if the required courses are to be taught. The salaries of these four new teachers must be met by our reduced budget.

The basic difficulty confronting the newly organized Board of Directors is that we have a rapidly growing and expanding institution with a practically fixed income. The Board of Governors has fixed annual contribution at \$50,000 Mex. The other main source of income is tuition fees. Long and serious consideration was given to the question of increasing fees, both by the Board itself and the Finance Committee and Cabinet to whom we referred our recommendations for discussion. At present the fees are roughly \$45 Mex. a year. But beginning with the coming fall term we have decided to increase the fees for new students on the following scale:

Arts -----\$55 Mex. per yr.  
Science ----- 60 Mex. per yr.  
Medical and Dental --- 65 Mex. per yr.

03 12



July 5, 1932

These represent, in relation to living costs, very appreciable increases of from 22 to 33 per cent. When you consider that the Government University charges practically no fees, you will understand the difficulty of charging fees on the above scale.

Very careful consideration was also given to the question of raising fees for students now registered in the University. I, personally, was in favor of pressing this matter, but the coopted member on our Board from the Provincial Bureau of Education, as well as the acting-President Mr. Fong, opposed this suggestion believing it impossible to carry out. The ground of their objection was that old students regarded the University as having made a contract with them regarding fees at the rate charged them when they first entered the University. They said that to increase them now would be only inviting trouble and opposition. That is, Chinese psychology doesn't permit of such action. It was finally decided to drop the suggestion as being impractical.

Now it may be suggested by the Board of Governors that one function of the Board of Directors is to raise funds locally. This matter was brought forward by the missionary members of the Board. The reaction of the Chinese members was somewhat as follows as was dealt with by quite a number of them including all the representatives of the Alumni Association. They do not regard it as at all feasible to obtain funds from wealthy local gentry or military men. The reasons for this were partly because the University is a Christian institution still unregistered, and partly because in the present state of affairs here any gifts of significant value would inevitably involve a quid pro quo of some kind.

The alumni feel that it is too soon to expect much assistance from them. They say that, not counting the class just graduated, there are only about one hundred and seventy or eight graduates. Of these a very considerable number are in Mission or Church employ at salaries which make it impossible for them to support the university. The others are divided roughly into two groups - arts graduates and medical-dental graduates. The former, they assert, are not only handicapped by having graduated from an unregistered university, but in addition are thrown into close competition with the great multitude of graduates of government institutions - many of the latter are returned students from abroad who hold high academic degrees. The doctors and dentists they admit are in a different category. They are the one group whose services are in real demand by Chinese society today and from whom we might expect assistance.

Unfortunately, so far as our immediate needs are concerned, the majority of these medical and dental graduates have been out only a short while and are just establishing themselves. In addition most of them are repaying debts contracted during their University course. All these things, the alumni representatives contended, preclude any significant assistance from the alumni for another four or five years at least. They admit the very fine support being given to universities in Eastern China by their alumni, but point out that their numbers are very large and such men are firmly established in business or professional life and so well able to support their alma mater.

Having thus canvassed every possibility of raising funds we were compelled to cut the Science Faculty by \$2,000 Sze. This together with what we expect to get from the increased fees of new students brought our prospective deficit down to about \$2,500 Mex. I should have stated that, in spite of very considerable opposition, the Board definitely and unanimously voted against any increase in salaries of the Chinese staff for the coming year.

0313



July 5, 1932.

By a resolution of the Executive Committee I was instructed to request the Board of Governors to permit us to use \$2,000 Mex. this year from the funds accrued in Shanghai from gains on exchange. The members of the Board of Directors are personally assuming the remaining \$500 Mex., of which the missionary members must assume their share even though each of us has very serious commitments in our own Mission work.

Now, as secretary of our United Church of Canada Mission in West China, I am fully aware of all that is involved in this request for funds from gains on exchange. But I can honestly assure the members of the Board of Governors that we see no other way of meeting the present crisis. I believe the statement of the alumni representatives is based on solid facts, that is, that we cannot expect for a few years any appreciable support from that source. Unless we are prepared to close down departments (and what could be closed without crippling the whole institution?), we see no way of meeting the situation in the interim other than by such a supplementary grant from the Board of Governors from the gains on exchange.

At the meeting of our Executive at which the above resolution was passed Dr. Beech did make one other suggestion. He offered to be responsible for one-half of the prospective deficit if the Board of Directors would assume the other half. This was rejected since we felt that while he would in all probability find his share in America, we would have to assume personally the balance. This we are absolutely unable to do under present conditions when our own salaries are being cut, and we are being called upon to assume large shares in work items, because of the decreased grants from our respective Boards for maintenance of the regular mission work.

In closing I ought to mention one other fact relating to the greatly increased cost of maintaining the University. That is, the increased cost of scientific equipment and materials such as chemicals. This is due not only to the present high tariff as compared with former years, but chiefly to the abnormal illegal taxes levied by the military on all freight shipped above Chungking. These charges amount to anywhere from 25 to 40 per cent of the original value or cost of the goods.

We, therefore, respectfully urge upon the Board of Governors a sympathetic consideration of our request since we see no other way to maintain the present work of the University and at the same time to prevent a deficit from year to year.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Gerald S. Bell

03 14



BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

*Feb 1936*  
*West China*



Union University

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

4th May, 1936.

Dr. B.A. Garside,  
Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China,  
NEW YORK CITY, U.S.A.

*ack 6/8*

Dear Dr. Garside,

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// Since the receipt of the Board of Governors' letter suggesting certain changes in the Contractual Statement and Constitution of the Board of Directors, we have had several meetings both formal and informal to discuss these matters.

*held for action*

(c) Where the changes have been merely verbal the Board of Directors has agreed to the same. However, in regard to Section II, clause 4, of the Contractual Statement, the Directors feel they cannot agree to the addition of this clause. In the first place, it says "all the representatives of one missionary organisation and their related church body", and as you know, at the present time there is only one representative of any missionary organisation or its related church body of the Board of Directors.

The chief reason, however, for our considering it inadvisable to include such a clause is the changed conditions under which the University is now administered. Formerly full authority rested with the Senate acting for the Board of Governors. At the present time the University is administered under uniform regulations fixed by the Department of the Ministry of Education. The Board of Directors and the University have not the same liberty of action as was enjoyed by the Senate. We feel, therefore, that there will be times when it will be necessary for the University to take immediate action on Government instructions. If we had such a regulation as this it is quite possible that we would not be able to take the necessary action without first referring it to the Board of Governors. You will understand that for psychological reasons this is quite undesirable. This clause was formerly included in the old Constitution but was not invoked, and we believe the University can continue to function without the inclusion of this clause in the Contractual Statement.

03 15



West China



Union University

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

CHENGDU, WEST CHINA

5-4-36

(2) In the second place, // the Board of Governors suggests certain additions to Section V. and Section VII, clause (b) of the Constitution. Since this Constitution has already been forwarded to the Ministry of Education when registration took place, we believe that it might raise serious questions if we made suggestions towards additions or changes at this time. We trust, therefore, that the members of the Board of Governors will see the inadvisability of making these additions at this time. //

Yours sincerely,

*Ernest S. Bell*

Secretary.

GSB/MR.

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Ministry of Education

First China



CHINESE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

In the second place, the Board of Directors  
has already been established in accordance with  
the provisions of the Charter of the University.  
The Board of Directors is composed of the  
President, the Vice-President, and the  
Members of the Board of Directors.  
The Board of Directors is the highest  
authority in the University.  
The Board of Directors is responsible  
for the management of the University.

Yours sincerely,

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See - Field Copy of Minutes  
Dear Mr. Evans, West China Union University,  
Chengtu, March 20th, 1943.

We enclose herewith Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, held on March 6th.

We regret exceedingly to have to report the death of Mr. S.C. Yang, Chairman of the Committee, on March 15th. Mr. Yang had a long and intimate association with the University, from which he received the first honorary degree conferred by the institution. He was for 25 years Principal of the Union Middle School which grew from small beginnings to its present size under his able direction.

E. 221. Honorary Degree. You will note that on the President's recommendation the University is to confer another Honorary Degree. Madame Lan is deeply interested in the work of the Home Economics Department, as you will gather from their generous gifts. She has shown unusual interest in the diet of their employees and is very keen to see this work developed in the University. General and Madame Lan's gifts to the endowment fund likewise receive recognition in the conferring of this degree.

E. 222. Health of Dr. Joseph Beech. It is with real regret and anxiety that Dr. Beech's associates and friends have learned that his health condition gives cause for concern. We trust that with rest and care he may be completely restored and able to continue his great work for West China.

E. 223. Alumni Campaign. This Alumni Campaign for endowment began with very modest plans and expectations. The enthusiastic response of friends of the University soon led to upward revision of the amount to be secured. As indicated the amount is now about \$3,000,000 N.C. and may possibly exceed that figure. Even in terms of present currency it is not an insignificant amount and testifies to the growing interest in and support being given to our work. It certainly indicates an assured place in the life of this province.

E. 224. Government Grants. With the constant and rapid increase in living costs, it is impossible to keep the remuneration for the staff in line with these costs. Therefore, every grant, regular or special, from the National and Provincial Educational Authorities is valued and welcomed. The amounts reported by Mr. Fong suggest a real willingness on the part of the Government to support our work, even in the face of tremendous demands from government institutions.

E. 225. Psychopathic Hospital. For many years the doctors of our Mission hospitals have hoped for the opening of a ward or institution to deal with psychopathic cases. There are no institutions for these unfortunate folk. Our Medical College staff in cooperation with a member of the National Central Medical College staff, who is a trained worker in this field, have worked out this agreement with the Municipal Authorities of the City of Chengtu. This is a very significant attempt at University and civic cooperation apart altogether from the service to be given. We are sure the Board of Governors will approve and welcome this effort.

E. 226. Youth Corps Building. The question of the erection of this building was reported in the Minutes of our last Executive Meeting. It has been drawn to our attention that the Board of Directors has not the power to authorise erection of buildings without the consent of the Board of Governors. Technically this is true and leaves the Board open to censure from the Governors. The circumstances seemed to suggest the desirability of approving the recommendation when presented by the President and approved by the Property Committee. It would be idle to deny that from certain viewpoints the plan does give rise to some concern, but the Executive believes that the details of the agreement (appended to these Minutes) do give the Administration definite control of activities to be carried on in this building. Under present circumstances there must be some adventuring, but we believe that the agreement does protect every legitimate interest of the University and of the Board of Governors. We hope that future events may justify our action. With this very brief comment we trust the Board will give its approval to the action of the Administration and Board of Directors.

With all good wishes,  
Yours sincerely,

G.S. Bell, English Secretary.

GSB/MR



Mr. C.A. Evans,  
Associated Boards,  
150, Fifth Avenue,  
NEW YORK CITY, U.S.A.

West China Union University,  
CHENG TU, Sze., West China.  
July 14th, 1943.

Dear Mr. Evans,

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*ack in previous*  
*correspondence to*  
*field*  
*KRB*

In this covering letter I shall refer to a few of the Minutes which may require further elucidation.

The meeting of the Board has been postponed from time to time because of our desire to secure information from you as to the appropriations of the Associated Boards for the next year, 1943-44, and because the Chairman of the Board, Minister Chang, was delayed in his coming to Chengtu. As it turned out the Board met without any word from you as to the 1943-44 financial situation.

D.210. We have already written explaining that these slight changes were made necessary by words and phrases having been omitted by the printers. The corrections are: Item 1 under "Personnel" delete the word "direct" and substitute "on the nomination of the W.C.U.U."; item 4 under "Division of Expenses of the Hospital", add note: "This article shall be rescinded when the Hospital has opened a laboratory for its own use."

D.212. These items refer to the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors, held November 23rd, 1942.

D.213. This, of course, refers to minute G-1714, US\$10,000 for equipment, \$2,000 for X-ray films and \$10,000 for dormitory. You have never replied to our enquiry as to the original grant of \$20,000 for dormitory. Originally the University was informed that \$20,000 was available for dormitory, later this amount was changed to \$10,000, and at the time of our meeting full information had not been received with reference to this appropriation.

D.215. The figures quoted here under (3) Finance are, of course, not final, but indicate the situation as nearly as Mr. Small could do so at that time. The subscriptions to the Endowment Fund have not all been paid in, and it will be some time before a clear and final statement can be made on this Fund.

D.216. Mr. C.C. Chang is the Hon. Treasurer of the Board of Directors and Mr. Ho Beh-heng is also a member of the Board and one of the most prominent West China business men.

D.217. One of the most difficult situations arising from war conditions here is the lack of housing accommodation and the rapidly increasing rent charged by house owners. The rentals of non-University houses in the vicinity of the University are high in proportion to the increasing costs of practically everything.

The small piece of land sold was of a shape and in a position that made it difficult to use, and the price received was in accord with the rising prices of land in this vicinity. It seemed a good plan to sell the land and invest the proceeds in houses.

D.218. Since the meeting information has been received that West China's allotment of Associated Boards funds from the United China Relief for 1943-44 is US\$170,000. In the budget estimates we had used the 1942-43 figure. This additional \$70,000, together with the fact that exchange is 30:1 rather than 20:1 will reduce the estimated deficit. However the situation is still a very precarious one and the University authorities will be keeping you informed of developments.



7-14-43

The Chairman of the Board, Minister Chang Kia-ngau, is planning to visit the United States shortly to study economic conditions and post-war economic reconstruction. I do not think he has been in the United States since he was chosen by the Board of Governors as a member of the Board and as Chairman of the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of Chancellor Beech. He has had a long connection with the Bank of China and is to a large extent the one responsible for that Bank's splendid record. He is looking forward to meeting Dr. Beech and the members of the Board and will welcome every opportunity to discuss the problems of the University. It is to be hoped that Dr. Beech's health will be sufficiently good to allow of his spending considerable time with Minister Chang. We understand that much of his time will be spent in connection with his official and banking interests, but he also hopes to have considerable time to give to the Board of Governors and the University.

D.220. Mr. and Mrs. Simkin<sup>x</sup> are connected with the American Friends Committee and are planning to retire. In 1923 the University allowed Mr. Simkin to build a house on a plot of land which had been secured for the Union Middle School. The record of this transaction will be found in Board of Governors' Minutes of February 5th, 1925. Mr. Simkin was anxious to take advantage of the present rate of exchange, and the University authorities decided that this was an arrangement satisfactory to both parties. At the present time it is not possible to report on the method to be used for the payment for this house, but when present negotiations with the China Medical Board are completed a statement will be sent to you. The representative of the China Medical Board, Dr. Claude E. Forkner<sup>x</sup> has spent some time in Chengtu and the Board has been meeting in Chungking, but at the time of writing word has not been received of the result of the plan of cooperation with the West China Union University in medical and nursing training work.

D.222. Mr. S.C. Yang<sup>x</sup> was one of the best friends of the University and missionaries in West China, and his services in all forms of Christian work extended over a period of 40 years. He was a personal friend of most of us and his passing has been felt by many to be a very real loss.

Under prevailing conditions the meeting of the Board could not be very satisfactory. We are very conscious of the weakness of the financial position of the University, but feel that we are living under conditions over which we have no control. As far as we can see this situation will continue. On the one hand we have practically uncontrolled rising cost of living, and on the other hand a large portion of our income is determined by a fixed rate of exchange. The Presidents of the five institutions here are doing everything they can to meet this situation, but as time goes on the difficulties increase. We shall need the advice and help of our friends both in China and abroad to see us through the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

*Gerald S. Bell*

Gerald S. Bell,  
Secretary, Board of Directors.

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JOINT OFFICE

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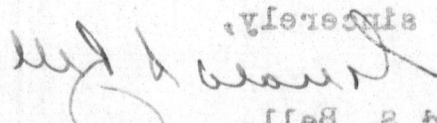


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Yours sincerely,  
  
 Gerald S. Bell,  
 Secretary, Board of Directors.

SEP 23, 1943  
 JOINT OFFICE



A. E. Best

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INDEXED

April 5, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
West Side Y. M. C. A.  
5 West 63rd Street  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Best:

I am sending you a copy of a letter received from John Kao in this morning's mail, also a copy of the one-half scholarship granted to him, and a copy of my letter to him.

With the background you have from other correspondence read in our office, you will have a clear approach to this problem. I am sure you will be of great benefit in helping John reach a decision.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

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ENCS.

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Copy of this sent  
to Dr. A.C. Best 4/5/40

April 3, 1940  
Graduate House  
M. I. T., Cambridge

Dear Mr. Evans:

First of all, I wish to apologize for my not being able to answer your kind letters for such a long time. I believe you will kindly excuse me after you go through this letter.

Heartily I am deeply grateful to you and some others, like Dr. Yates, for your kindness of care about my personal matter and trusting me that I am constantly paying full attention to my work. It is such kind of influence and friendship which cheers me up and encourages me to push when I feel the whole world is so blue.

I am very much obliged to Mr. Spooner's suggestion of spending about fifty dollars worth for books which I need for my work, on condition that they are the properties of the Department of Chemistry but as a temporary loan to me during my student life here.

In fact I have listed out the books which fit my need, as well as the Department of Chemistry. However, I delayed to mail them to you because there are some other things to be concerned.

Ever since I stepped into the school I could feel the general atmosphere and standard of the world famous M. I. T. After a few weeks I began to doubt the possibility of the renewal of the tuition scholarship for the next academic year. Since this worrying hangs in my head and never gets out I have to make plans for first, how to save the situation and second to get myself ready to face the new situation, in case it fails even with my best effort.

There is no doubt that I give constant push, however, M. I. T. is full of smart boys from all over the world with sound undergraduate engineering training and technique of tricky tricks of mathematics which are essentials for most of the work in this institute. At the same time I made calculations that I should try my best to get through the work for a master degree within this year so that my work here can be put into an end if financially I have to leave this institute for good because of the failure of the renewal of the tuition scholarship. In doing so I am carrying a very heavy load which covers the making up courses for the under-graduate work and the required courses for the degree, so I leave just twenty odd units for thesis which can be pushed through - I hope - during the summer vacation.

With your instruction I sent in a formal application for the renewal of tuition scholarship hoping that they might consider some other qualifications besides the grade for the completion.

When the assistant in the President's office called me for a talk and informed that the institute is in short of money, so is not able to grant me any scholarship for next year I knew that was final. However, he was talking for the President because my tuition scholarship was arranged directly with the President.

0324



4-3-40

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While I was waiting for the answer from the committee controlling the scholarship I went through the catalogue of the other universities to find out the charge for tuition and the courses in thesis fields with the hope that you, gentlemen, in New York would allow me to transfer and pay the tuition for me if it is not large in amount. Among the universities, University of Michigan and Pennsylvania seem to be the cheapest and second best schools.

The reason for me to delay to mail the list of books to you lies here. Since I do not know which school I am to join next year, naturally I do not know whether the books listed out will be of any direct value. Moreover, if I use them for buying the necessary books for the class work I shall not need so much money for books, so this amount can be shifted for paying the tuition. I was calculating, by doing so, the situation could be made easier.

As I have expected the committee to give the final announcement at the beginning of April, but to my surprise, they neither refuse my application flatly nor grant me a full tuition scholarship. Actually they grant me a half tuition scholarship. Frankly, I have never prepared for that, so I do not know what to do.

Personally I have no choice whether to continue my work here or transfer to other university. In any case, I am ready to get my M. A. Degree at the end of summer vacation.

May I submit this case to you, and will you please kindly advise me as to the final decision.

Soon as the final decision is fixed, and the major factors are cleared I hope I shall be able to get rid of worrying. It is worrying which makes people to grow old and dull, and set the nerve all the time under such terrific tension.

Very sincerely yours,

/S/ John Y. A. Kao

P. S. The official notification is enclosed here.

0325



1940

四川成都私立華西協合大學醫牙學院  
WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY  
CHENG TU - SZECHUAN

*File vBR*

DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE  
HEAD OF DEPT.  
DR. A. EDWARD BEST.

Huntington Ave. Y.M.C.A.,  
Boston, Mass., April 11,

Mr. Vernon B. Ramseur,  
Associated Boards for  
Christian Colleges in China,  
150 Fifth Ave., New York,

Dear Mr. Ramseur,

Before this reaches you, you will have received Mrs. Macmillan's letter concerning the need in West China as accentuated by the present crisis. Her statement is of course abbreviated but if after reading it you feel that the need as therein outlined might catch the imagination of the group you hope to interest and desire more details on any particular I shall be most happy to go into particulars. The need was acute when I left last year but a letter I have just received from the present superintendent makes clear that the situation is becoming more and more acute. Not only is the cost of living in West China soaring but the exchange on Chinese currency falling and of course all our drugs and instruments have to be paid for in gold. The conclusion is obvious. The facts are such that it is almost impossible to describe them and avoid seeming overstatement, the very appearance of which is of course always unfortunate. And trying to correct that is of course difficult unless one deliberately sets out to obscure facts.

I leave this next week for Toronto and there for the next two months my address will be 85 Asquith Avenue.

Sincerely,

*A. E. Best*

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四川成都聯合大學醫學院  
WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY  
CHENGDU - Szechuan

DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE  
HEAD OF DEPT.  
DR. A. EDWARD SEST.

Huntington Ave. Y.M.C.A.,  
Boston, Mass., April 11.

Mr. Vernon B. Ramsbury,  
Associated Boards for  
Christian Colleges in China,  
150 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Mr. Ramsbury,

Before this reaches you, you will have received Mrs. Macmillan's letter concerning the need in West China as accentuated by the present crisis. Her statement is of course appreciated but it after reading it you feel that the need as therein outlined might catch the imagination of the group you hope to interest and desire more details on any particular. I shall be most happy to go into particulars. The need was acute when I left last year but a letter I have just received from the present superintendent makes clear that the situation is becoming more and more acute. Not only is the cost of living in West China soaring but the exchange on Chinese currency falling and of course all our drugs and instruments have to be paid for in gold. The conclusion is obvious. The facts are such that it is almost impossible to describe them and yet a seeming overstatement, the very appearance of which is of course always unfortunate. And trying to correct that is of course impossible. I have this next week for Toronto and there for the next two months my address will be 85 Adelphi Avenue.

Sincerely,

RECEIVED  
MAY 29 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

7230

285771



Seen by E. B. M.

INDEXED

Huntington Ave., Y.M.C.A., Boston.

ACK 4/20/40

ACK 4/22/40

Mr. C. Evans,  
Associated Boards for  
Christian Colleges in China,  
150 Fifth Ave., New York,

Dear Mr. Evans,

Last Sunday, John Gao and I spent the whole day together so that I had ample opportunity to get at his inner mind and his problems. He is almost though not quite back to his physical condition as I knew him in Chengtu. Considering this deficit, his language difficulty and the fact that he was rusty on his foundation work I am really amazed that he has done so well. Also it is perfectly true that he has been worrying a good deal about the financial outlook which makes his success all the more striking. I use the word success advisedly, for although but 3.5 points were required he actually made 3.8. However, as this year the \$600 scholarship seems to have been on a competitive basis and he had to compete with a large number who did not have to carry the impedimenta he did, he is to be congratulated on making even the \$300 grade. He seems now to be in good spirits and confident that he can make good, which under the circumstances is rather significant. I learned from a Chinese friend of his here, a Dr. Li, that John over the past months has been much upset.

As to the topic of his studies, he tells me that this has been thoroughly discussed with our West China Science staff, that it is on this line he has been working and expects to go on working. Indeed as he unfolded, enthusiastically, what is in mind I was impressed with the wisdom of the choice. In the re-construction program of China, as applied to Szechuan the opportunities afforded for just the very knowledge which he is aiming to acquire is unique. He envisages two phases of the problem, the practical side of placing Szechuan's hidden resources within the reach of as many people as possible, and the other which is especially interesting perhaps for us, that of training right on the spot a number of his own countrymen to make the scheme effectual. I must say that I was impressed not only with his enthusiasm but with what he had done, unbeknownst to us, before coming leaving Szechuan in getting certain minded people there both interested and committed to supporting the scheme he has in mind. He is anxious to go back very thoroughly trained, as he will there ~~will~~ have no one with whom he may consult. He realizes that to do this may involve an extra year, the which again raises the financial problem but that belongs to the future and under present circumstances must remain a little vague.

Also I have emphasized to him that he really must keep you informed about what he is thinking about and how everything is going with him. If I may make a suggestion, it would be that well ahead of time you write him asking for very definite information on whatever points you have in mind, with a time limit for reply. He is working very hard and under such pressure, one week, two weeks or more can I know slip by without one being conscious of the passing of time.

I am wondering if I have supplied you the information you desired. Mrs. Macmillan may be interested in reading this, but if either of you have any questions that I can answer, or wish me to pass on anything to him I shall be very glad. I know the lad really rather well. My Toronto address for the next two months will be, 85 Asquith Ave.,

Cordially,

Robert

0328



JOINT OFFICE

RECEIVED

[illegible]

Mr. C. Evans,  
Associated Boards for  
Christian Colleges in China,  
150 Fifth Ave., New York,

Best Mr. Evans,

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Correspondence

0329



RECORDED

April 22, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

I greatly appreciate your letter of the 19th dated from Boston. This deals entirely with John Kao and gives us a pretty clear picture of your impression.

This morning's mail brings a letter from John, of which I am enclosing a copy. He raises the question in paragraph seven regarding the work he must plan to do. Is it better for him to work for the Doctor's Degree or for the special training which will be of most use to him upon his return to China? Is it a question of practical or theoretical training?

I certainly would appreciate your suggestion. Meanwhile I have stated that I will give the matter further thought and write him within a few days.

I wish I could enclose a stamped envelope for a reply, but it would do you no good.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B  
ENCS.

0330



85 Asquith Ave. Toronto  
April 24, '40

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

Dear Mr. Evans,

Yours of April 22 to hand, and contents noted. He raised with me the question of this Doctor's degree, and I told him quite frankly I doubted very much the wisdom of his spending, or rather wasting time on taking foreign languages he almost certainly would never use just to get a "sheepskin" for showing off to his fellow countrymen; that in my judgement he could serve his country better by putting that time and energy getting practical ~~experience~~ <sup>making</sup> to take back with him. Incidentally this Dr. Li who was with us at the time thoroughly agreed with me the which surprised me not a little as most young Chinese I have known prize very highly "certificates" attained in foreign countries. However, I have known Canadians to take identically the same stand, so cannot say very much. I could see that though silenced he was not convinced, and his letter to you, <sup>made</sup> this very clear-- obviously there is still a "hankering" within him which I find it easy to forgive, knowing the reaction of so many of his fellow countrymen. Nevertheless, I feel certain that we put a doubt into his mind, and that possibly a statement of endorsement by you, if you do endorse it, might eliminate the last vestige of it. I hope you do agree, as I feel strongly about this squandering of time on certain unrelated subjects just because some committee has archaic ideas on what is necessary to attain ~~some~~ a particular certificate, but you will of course be writing him as you see fit. I really am not suggesting that my ideas should in any way influence yours.

Sincerely Yours,

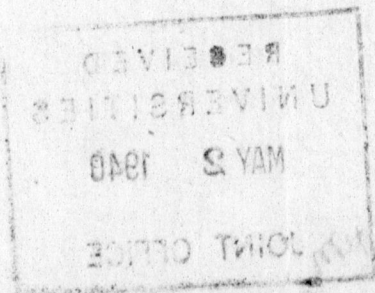
*Robert*

Later,

Your letter of enquiry about Dr. Du just to hand. I am not quite sure from it whether the information you desire is in general or particular. If you desire more details than are herewith given, please let me know. Du spent two years in a Philadelphia hospital and secured a degree, the nature of which I am not sure. He is now just completing a year in our Hospital for Sick Children here in Toronto and hopes to return with us in September though he is not quite sure yet about the wherewithal to cover his passage. He is highly trained, is of very fine character and I am happy to say that he has been just appointed to our staff out in Chengtu.

Cordially,

*Robert*



0331



85 Asquith Ave. Toronto  
April 24, '40

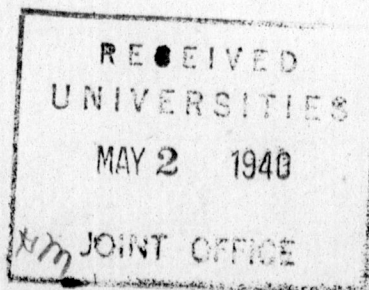
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Cordially,





April 26, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

I am wondering if you know a Dr. Swan Deh Du who  
has been studying at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.  
We understand that he has been taken on as a West China staff  
member and will return to Chengtu during the summer.

I certainly would appreciate any word you can give us  
regarding the above, and thank you in advance.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B  
ENC.

0333



*over*

INDEXED

May 3, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

I wish to thank you for your letter of April 24th which came to hand yesterday afternoon.

Enclosed find copy of a letter which I have written to John, and may I say that your letter did not influence me any more than did the financial consideration. Nevertheless, we are in thorough accord with the thought you expressed. To be facetious I noticed that even you hedged a little bit, and I must say that I have some sympathy with him, having in mind what the University expects him to do in the future. In that respect a Doctor's Degree would be worth a great deal, but it cannot be gotten at M. I. T. -- that place is too expensive, although a Doctor's Degree would be relatively of higher standing.

You are pretty familiar with these circumstances now, and when you return to China, you can have in mind the circumstances and advise us directly, or through the President what West China desires. As I view it now, John should be allowed to continue his work for 1940-41 along very practical lines. If a western university would grant a liberal scholarship, it is quite possible he could secure a Doctor's Degree within a year, but that would require thorough canvassing. This, of course, should be checked carefully early in the school year, as our scholarship plans must be in hand during November. Possibly you will not agree with this idea, but it has at least one virtue of cutting off a year of the proposed work at M. I. T.

I want to thank you for the word regarding Dr. Du. The Society of Friends in Philadelphia has become greatly interested in Dr. Du and is endeavoring to raise sufficient funds for his passage. They are requesting that I secure reservations on the boat upon which you have secured passage, and I am very glad to be of such assistance. However, I do not know your reservation and if you will give me this information, I will get busy immediately. If you have postal cards in Canada, that will answer the purpose, if you will drop one in the box upon receipt of this letter.

Dr. Cadbury of Lingnan University, who is on furlough, has suggested That Dr. Du's freight be forwarded to Hongkong to be taken in at a more convenient season, and that he fly to Chengtu from Hongkong.

0334



Dr. Best

- 2 -

5/3/40

I am sure the Friends in Philadelphia will appreciate any information or assistance which you can render Dr. Du, and surely our office will do everything possible to be of help.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

0335

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85 Asquith Ave, Toronto

July 4/1940  
ack 7/5/40

Dear Mr. Evans,

Dr. Du has just called in somewhat disconcerted as the "S.S." office here has just informed him that the Pres Pierce, the boat upon which you were good enough to secure passage for him does not stop at Shanghai. This getting to Shanghai is rather an important point especially in view of the present uncertainty about Hongkong. The same office said there was another boat, leaving San Francisco July 20, that is scheduled to stop at Shanghai but that only the New York office could tell whether or not accommodation was available on her. Probably however, you have already gone into that matter.

What about his going direct across from here by the Canadian Pacific? I have just phoned the office & was informed they still have accommodation available for both July & August. At present U.S. - Can. exchange he could thus actually save a little. He is short of funds, & should he get held up for awhile somewhere along the way, he might find himself financially in a tight corner. I raise the matter for your consideration, not knowing whether or not there is anything in the understanding, compelling his return by a U.S. steamer.

Cordially

A.C. Best

P.S. You have already done so much, Dr. Du, not knowing you is a little hesitant about raising the matter again. But knowing your kindly disposition, I do not feel the same hesitation. A.C.B.

0336



RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
JUL 10 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

0337

2854471



INDEXED

July 5, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

Thank you for your letter of July 4th. Dr. Du should have a letter from me indicating that his sailing has been changed to the "Coolidge" which is scheduled for August 2nd. This is the first American boat sailing with Third Class stopping at Shanghai. The "Harrison" does not carry third class passengers.

As to Dr. Du sailing on the Canadian Pacific, that is a different story. As the request came to me for sailing on an American boat, and his letter indicated that he would be willing to wait some considerable period, so the obtaining of the "Coolidge" reservation seemed to be an ideal solution. None of our Chinese friends have been willing to accept sailings on the Canadian Pacific. If, after reading my letter, this does not seem to be the solution, I trust he will let me know and we will delve still further into the conditions.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

0338



File

Swarthmore College

Dormitory D1-7

Dear Mrs Macmillan

Coming up on the train this p.m.  
Mrs. Kaylor of our Canadian W.M.S.  
told me she had been informed  
by a Mrs Atkinson of their Board  
there was a possibility you were in  
touch with some funds for this  
Dr. & Mrs. Krich. I am returning to  
New York this Thursday and as we  
are in a jam about funds for  
them I should like very much to  
see you Friday a.m. I suppose you  
will be there at 9. Should you be  
out of town at that time, would you  
be good enough to convey your  
information to Mr. Evans, as I wish  
to leave for Toronto as soon as possible  
afterwards

Cordially

Ed. Best



RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
JUL 19 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

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0340



July 23, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

A letter from Roy C. Spooner came to hand this morning and at his request, I am sending you a copy.

We will withhold doing anything about this order until we receive your comment. Of course, a great deal depends upon whether this shipment can be gotten in readiness to reach Hongkong in proper time. Anyway, I will await your reply.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B  
ENC.

0341



C  
O  
P  
Y

WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY  
Chengtu, Szechwan

July 8, 1940

Dear Mr. Evans:

I am enclosing order requisition #115 for balances and weights to be ordered from Central Scientific Co. I would like to have this order sent out with Dr. Best in the same way that I escorted an order for our Medical-Dental Faculty last year. Hence would you be good enough to write to Dr. Best in Toronto and ask his cooperation in this. If conditions are such that no freight is allowed to move through French Indochina to Kwenming, then the decision as to whether he will go by Rangoon or not, will have to be made by Dr. Best. In any case, would be satisfied to have you do as he suggests, since the responsibility for bringing this order through, will be his. I would suggest that a carbon copy of this letter be sent to him with your own letter.

In addition, would you please forward this requisition to Central Scientific. I remember last year that they were slow in filling an order for Dan Dye for a barometer which was to come with me. Hence it has not yet arrived and none of us know where it is. Since this is a simple order they should have no difficulty in filling it and being able to ship on the same boat which Dr. Best is taking. I note that there is a 10% discount in lots of 3 and 15% in lots of six. Please secure this discount whatever it is for a lot of ten.

This order is paid for by Chemistry, Pharmacy and Medicine-Dentistry, as the balances will be used by Chemistry in teaching the greatly increased classes in the other three subjects. It is an urgent need and only the desire of the administration to save as much as possible of the gold grants to bring out at current rates has compelled us to pay from our budget gold rather than charging to emergency budget.

Dr. Meuser suggests that Chemistry, in the present difficult situation in which it finds itself, appeal direct to Central Scientific for aid, such as would be given by the gift of some one piece of badly needed laboratory equipment. He has secured such help from them and feels that possibly they would be willing to help Chemistry. Would it be possible for you to mention this when you send them the requisition herewith enclosed? We badly need the following equipment which perhaps they might donate:

one calorimeter, parr standard, peroxide fusion type  
one sulphur bomb, electric ignition, parr  
one turbidimeter, parr

If you would prefer that I write direct, I would be glad to do so.

Please have invoices sent to us by Clipper AirMail. Our invoices for the AH Thomas order, req. #111 have never arrived here. We have preliminary invoice for #110 Central Scientific order which we used for making pass application. It would be wise under present conditions to send duplicates of important invoices, per American Express, Hongkong.

Your telegram mentioning the holding of orders has arrived. That was wise to do under present, we hope temporary, conditions. When conditions clear, please forward as per original instructions.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Roy C. Spooner

0342



85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
July 30, '40

Dear Mr. Evans,

Yours of July 23 to hand concerning order for Roy Spooner. I shall be quite happy to take the goods along but cannot yet say with absolute certainty just when or by what boat we shall be sailing. We were to have sailed Sept. 7. However, recent political tension between Japan and England-United States has in the minds of our central committee raised the question as to the advisability or otherwise of embarking on a journey which involves Shanghai-Hongkong-French IndoChina as possible calling points. There is to be a meeting this next week at which time I trust a definite decision can be made. In the meantime, I take it the best thing to do is to have the firm get the goods ready and await final shipping instructions.

I have received several other small orders which it will be highly advantageous to place in United States and pay for in U.S. currency. Because of new regulations, Government, pertaining sending money to U.S. from here, much time and bother is saved by paying for these from U.S., and I am reminded that Dr. L. K. Kilborn authorized expending \$350 for a projection microscope and of that I have used only \$183.69 (your order No. 3170). The balance would I think cover the items and cover you as to regular procedure.

This difficulty of now getting Canadian funds into U.S. currency came to my attention only to-day. There is considerable red tape concerning such transfers which of course though obtainable may occasion considerable delay. I am therefore wondering whether or not there may be some way of handling these through your office if covered officially by our United Church of Canada office to whom these money orders have been made out. By such an authorization I could secure quick action, something that might be extremely important for me having to make certain boat connections. Could you give this of your thought and let me have your ideas about what procedure would be acceptable? Dr. Arnup will be back in town next week and will bring the matter up with him, though I do not anticipate any difficulty there. These are irregular, emergency times in which we live.

Should you be taking your holidays within this next month to whom should I write concerning the above matters, please?.

Hope you have not been suffering too much from the heat. This last week has been hot here, and I fancy it has been worse in New York.

Cordially,

*A. B. Best*

0343



85 Avenue Ave., Toronto,  
July 30, 1940

Dear Mr. Evans,  
Yours of July 23 to hand concerning order for new  
equipment. I shall be quite happy to take the goods along but cannot yet  
say with absolute certainty. However, recent political tension  
between Japan and the United States has in the minds of our  
committee raised the question of advisability or otherwise of  
exporting on a journey which is to be made in the next week at  
which time I trust a decision will be made. In the meantime, I  
take it the best course is to wait for the goods ready  
and await their shipping instructions.

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
AUG 1 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

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advantageous to place in United States and pay for in U.S. currency.  
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back in a few days and will bring the matter up with him. I  
do not anticipate any difficulty there. These are very important, the  
times in which we live.

Should you be taking your holidays with the next month  
in which should I write concerning the above matter, please.  
Hope you have not been out much from the last. I  
last week has been not here, and I think it has been some in the  
last.

4440

2854471



August 1, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

I am grateful for your letter of July 30th. I had written to Dr. Graham asking if he intended to stay in Hongkong if and when he arrived and with sufficient time allowed for us to make the next boat. That letter was mailed yesterday. We have several orders for books brought by Dr. Beech which should consume about ten cubic feet.

We find that you do have a balance from the \$350.00 authorization which can be used on orders in the United States or in Canada if the exchange is properly handled. I understand that a managed currency for Canada is now going into effect. What the rate will be, I do not know. It simply means that you are paying more for the purchases than the open market evaluates them to be.

Further, we can take care of any orders in the United States, and place same through our office if the charges are to be made against the University, even if you have requisitions, or money orders, or drafts on the United Church of Canada, which eventually would be paid by the University. We can handle such in the United States provided the goods are to be ordered here. We will cooperate in every possible way toward expediting any equipment or supplies desired by the field.

I plan to be more or less in touch with the office at intervals, but Mr. Parker will be in the office continuously through the month of August. One of my secretaries will be on hand and, as she has had a great deal of experience in placing these orders, I am sure that there will be no difficulty.

Don't mention heat! Yesterday was better, and today is delightful, but before that all hell seemed to be turned loose.

We have been trying for a week to loosen up the State Department to allow Du Swam Deh to come into the United States. I have been sitting on the anxious seat all day hoping for a telephone call from Washington, but it is not in hand as yet. They certainly did get things mixed up, from all I can learn, at the State Department.

Very cordially yours,

*C. A. Evans*

CAE/B

0345



August 5, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

We are holding in abeyance the following requisitions:- 244, 245, 246, 249, 250, 351 and 352, amounting to US\$3,413.68, pending definite word from the field to go ahead. As I understand it, you have orders covering these requisitions and are likewise awaiting some word from China. Your recent letter makes your sailing rather indefinite, although I note there is to be a meeting, apparently this week, when a definite decision will be reached.

As the situation now stands, the above requisitions, plus one from Mr. Spooner, No. 115, calling for the following:-

10 Balances, #1000 Cenco Analytical  
12 Weights, analytical Lacquered Class S-2 No. 8200-B

and the following order of books for the Library are to be sent with you to ensure safe delivery.

U.S. CATALOG, Book in print Jan. 1, 1928 (order from H.W. Wilson Company)  
FIRST FIVE-YEAR SUPPLEMENT 1928-1932 (ditto)  
SECOND FIVE-YEAR SUPPLEMENT 1933-1937 (ditto)  
INTERNATIONAL INDEX TO PERIODICALS VOL. I to date (H.W. Wilson)  
CENTURY DICTIONARY & CYCLOPEDIA 12 vols. (ordered fr. D.Appleton-Century)

If you will let us know at the earliest possible moment what the prospects are, we can then proceed with the placing of these orders.

I take it that Dr. Du is getting away from Toronto today, and regret exceedingly there has been so much difficulty about his passport through the United States.

Very sincerely yours,

*C. A. Evans*

CAE:RC

0346



85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
Aug. 7.

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

Your letter of Aug. 5 just to hand, and contents noted. I have copies of all the orders you mentioned except the one 115 for Spooner calling for 10 balances and weights.

Aside from the above, I have two other items. A letter from Kilborn dated May 29 calls for,

10 lbs. Vanillin  
2 lbs. Coumarin

to be added to his order 00352 for Physiology & Pharmacology. He considers your office there will not question the addition. Therefore if agreeable will you please add these two items to his order.

① The other item is for Dr. Campbell, a microscope, order No. 00082. As you did not mention it, I take it his letter to you is in the mail somewhere. However, especially as it is a bit vague enquiries about it from the Arthur H. Thomas people should probably be started immediately, and the order definitely made. The time is getting short now. I am enclosing my copy herewith in case yours does not arrive. I have a copy but should be glad to know what is being done with it.

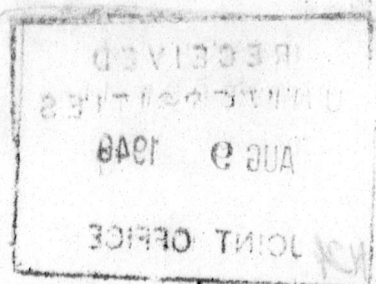
② Concerning order No. 00351 for Internal Medicine I should be glad if you can secure information from Arthur H. Thomas Co. concerning the items mentioned as most of them will probably have to be obtained in United States. However, as I am making enquiries here also please do not actually place the order until you hear definitely from me.

③ As to our date of sailing, Sept. 7 from Vancouver is still definitely a possibility, if not probability. There is therefore not a great deal of time especially if there are any of these new export regulations to be observed. The orders should I think be placed at once and packed in readiness. Just as soon as I know our exact date of sailing I shall inform you, and then all that will be required is putting the directions on the cases and shipping at once. I understand the name of the steamer is required on the shipping bills.

④ Lastly, will you be good enough to enquire as to whether or not the goods can be shipped in bond direct to Vancouver, and actually be placed on board ship without my having to put the bills through the Vancouver shipping or customs offices? If this can be done, much delay there may be saved. If not, perhaps they can inform me just what is required.

Cordially,

*A. E. Best*



0347



85 Adelaide Ave., Toronto,  
Aug. 7.

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

Dear Mr. Evans,  
Your letter of Aug. 5 just to hand, and contents noted. I have  
copies of all the orders you mentioned except the one for Spooner  
calling for 10 balances and weights.

Aside from the above, I have two other items. A letter from  
Kilborn dated May 29 calls for,

10 lbs. Vanillin  
2 lbs. Cammarin

to be added to his order 00352 for Physiology & Pharmacology. He considers  
your office there will not question the addition. Therefore if agreeable  
will you please add these two items to his order.

① The other item is for Dr. Campbell, a microscope, order No. 00082  
As you did not mention it, I take it his letter to you is in the mail  
somewhere. However, especially as it is a bit vague enquiries about it  
from the Arthur H. Thomas people should probably be started immediately,  
and the order definitely made. The time is getting short now. I am enclosing  
my copy herewith in case yours does not arrive. I have a copy but should  
be glad to know what is being done with it.

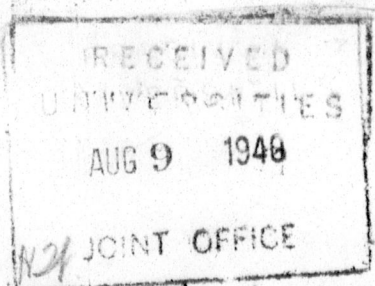
② Concerning order No. 00351 for Internal Medicine I should  
be glad if you can secure information from Arthur H. Thomas Co.  
concerning the items mentioned as most of them will probably have to  
be obtained in United States. However, as I am making enquiries here also  
please do not actually place the order until you hear definitely from  
me.

③ As to our date of sailing, Sept. 7 from Vancouver is still  
definitely a possibility, if not probability. There is therefore not a great  
deal of time especially if there are any of these new export regulations  
to be observed. The orders should I think be placed at once and packed  
in readiness. Just as soon as I know our exact date of sailing I shall  
inform you, and then all that will be required is putting the directions  
on the cases and shipping at once. I understand the name of the steamer is  
required on the shipping bills.

④ Lastly, will you be good enough to enquire as to whether or  
not the goods can be shipped in bond direct to Vancouver, and actually be  
placed on board ship without my having to put the bills through the  
Vancouver shipping or customs offices? If this can be done, much delay there  
may be saved. If not, perhaps they can inform me just what is required.

Cordially,

*[Signature]*



8460



85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
August 9, '40

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
Associated Boards,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.,

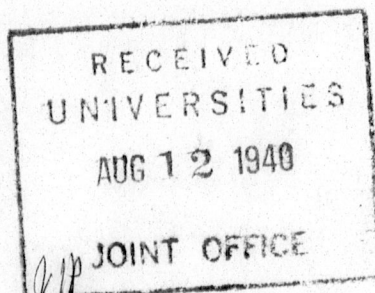
Dear Mr. Evans,

A few lines to cover an omission in my last letter concerning the orders for our W.C.U.U. Dr. Kilborn insists on the absolute necessity of getting across to each firm supplying goods to us that nothing whatever of German origin being included. Much trouble and considerable delay have been occasioned heretofore by some silly little thing that was in itself of no significance. The authorities at Hongkong and Haiphong are very particular on such points. Also I personally feel like adding that the same should apply to goods of Japanese origin in view of the present strained relations between England and Japan, and the possibility of an outbreak of hostilities there.

Dr. Arnup tells me that the \$800 he has just received from Chengtu for the Hsiehs, has been forwarded to you to hold in trust. The Hsiehs feel they need \$150 for present ~~needs~~ expenses, and as I had expected them to name a sum rather larger than this, I feel like agreeing immediately. I have been asked to be in charge of their affairs until I leave for China, and inasmuch as my successor has not yet been appointed, I hereby approve the sending of \$150 direct to him, Dr. H. H. Hsieh, Childrens Hospital Society, 4614 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, Cal. That will I know keep them going for some little time. It is just possible that the remainder will be enough to put them back in Chengtu but with conditions as upset as they are now, it is impossible to make any kind of an adequate estimate. Attempts are being made to raise something more for them, but what the results will be, only time can tell.

Cordially,

*Robert*



*Wrote*  
*W. H. Hsieh*  
*8/12*

0349



Wrote  
H. H. Hsueh  
8/12/40

August 12, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

Your letter of August 9th to Mr. Evans reached the office after he had departed for his vacation.

We are making note of your suggestions about shipments, and will try to see that your requests are met.

The \$800.00 from Dr. Armap has been received, and the money placed on deposit for the use of Dr. and Mrs. Hsieh. In accordance with your request, we are forwarding to him today at the address in California our check for \$150.00.

We will very much appreciate being informed of any steps which are taken in the handling of this account, and to know of your successor when he is named in relation to this particular matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Parker

JIP:RC

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August 12, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 7th, which enclosed requisition No. 00082. We will take up the various items as listed in your letter.

Requisition No. 00115 was received in a letter from Mr. Spooner dated July 8th, and same has been sent to the Central Scientific Company for execution. This equipment, together with that ordered under requisition No. 00244, will be sent by the Central Scientific Company to your boat, and we will give shipping instructions as soon as you inform us.

We have added the Vanillian and Comarin to requisition No. 00352, as per your request.

From the enclosed copy of letter to Arthur H. Thomas Company, you will see that we have sent the following requisitions to them:- 00245, 00249, 00250, 00352 and 00082. We have instructed them to assemble the shipment and hold same pending receipt of definite shipping instructions from our office.

We have asked for quotations on the various items listed under requisition No. 00351, and as soon as this information is received, we will get in touch with you.

We would appreciate it if you would forward to our office your copies of the following requisitions, as we have had to send our copy to the respective companies:- 00245, 00249, 00250, and 00352. You will receive complete invoices covering the Central Scientific and Arthur H. Thomas Company shipments, and the original requisitions will be of no further use to you.

Requisition No. 00246 was sent to the Permutit Company for execution, but we instructed them to send the shipment to the Arthur H. Thomas Company for consolidation, so there will be a minimum of invoices and shipping papers.

Under date of August 5th we listed the books which would be purchased for the Library, and which shipment you were also to supervise to Chungtu. We have been informed that the CENTURY DICTIONARY & CYCLOPEDIA has been out of print since 1920, so that will make it 12 volumes less for you to worry about.

Sincerely yours,

ROC

0351



85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
August 15, '40

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
Associated Boards,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.,

Dear Mr. C. A. Evans,

*E.C.*  
In your favor of August 1, you expressed willingness to handle in New York a drug and equipment order I have here for the Central Scientific Company of Chicago, the payment to be handled through our Church offices here in Toronto. That is to say I hold cheques in Canadian currency and because of present war regulations getting a permit to remit this to the States is highly involved and times taking. Inasmuch as our church yearly sends money to New York our church account down there could simply be credited with the amount you paid out for this order. I am enclosing the order therefore which you will please place with the Central Scientific Co., that they may not only get busy filling it, but ascertain the complete cost to lay it down in Hongkong via Vancouver so that it will be on my ship without fail. The cheque I hold is a blank one so that as soon as I know the total bill I can remit you through our offices here or get the official papers to cover your payment of said bill. The cases should be addressed

Canadian School,  
West China Union University,  
Chengtu, Sze.,  
c/o Dr. A. E. Best.

assuming that no box is too small for all that to go on. As I shall have a great many boxes, the above would help a good deal in sorting out, at Chengtu when I arrive.

Cordially,

*A.E. Best*

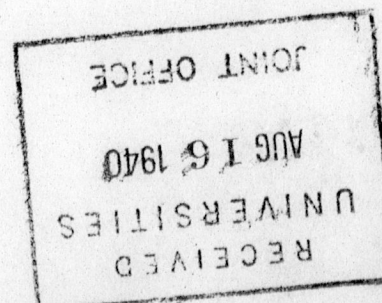
P.S., Extremely Important

I have been looking over the correspondence to Arthur Thomas and Central Scientific Companies and found no note to them emphasizing that no goods whatever of German origin must be included. Of course you may have covered that point in other letters to them. I stressed this point in mine of Aug. 9 and these few lines extra are to make quite sure there is no slip up, the which is quite possible and understandable in office staff shifts for summer holidays.

P.P.S.,

As requested please find enclosed indents 00245, 00249, 00250, 00352.

*noted  
roc*



0352



August 16, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

Your letter of August 15th with enclosures has been received and is having our careful attention.

As requested, we have sent the order for drugs and equipment to the Central Scientific Company. We note that this is to paid for by the United Church of Canada and we can adjust the matter on our books as suggested by you. We have again instructed the Central Scientific Company to ascertain that no goods of German origin are included in the shipment, which policy has been in operation for some time.

We trust you will let us know promptly what boat you are sailing on from Vancouver and the date. This information must be in the hands of the respective companies shortly, as all the shipping papers and invoices must carry this notation. The orders are now all being assembled and should be ready for shipment promptly upon receipt of definite word regarding your sailing.

With sincere personal regards, we are

Cordially yours,

ROC

0353



RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES  
SEP 20 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

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0354



Copy to Dr. Decker  
8/24/40

August 22, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best,

Dr. Decker has sent us a copy of the letter he wrote  
you on August 14.

Our West China office here in New York will be happy  
to give any assistance we can to Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Hsieh. That  
is one of the purposes for which our West China office here in New  
York exists - the giving of assistance to West China staff members  
while they are in America - and it is always a pleasure to help  
them in any way we can. Of course our financial responsibilities  
are necessarily limited to instructions we receive from the Bursar  
of the University, or from the Board of Governors.

With all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

B A GARSIDE

BAG:MS

0355



over

August 28, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

We are summarizing the status of the various orders for West China Union University, which you have kindly consented to take along with you to Chengtu.

Requisitions No. 115, 244 and the order for the Canadian School have been placed with the Central Scientific Company for execution. As soon as we have definite information from you regarding your sailing, we can instruct them to proceed with the writing up of the necessary documents. You will receive complete papers from our office covering these orders to facilitate handling through Customs.

The following requisitions are being executed by the Arthur H. Thomas Company:- 246, 245, 249, 250, 352 and 82.

In accordance with your letter of August 7th, we have sent requisition No. 351 to the Arthur H. Thomas Company, asking for quotations on the various pieces of surgical equipment. For your information we are quoting herewith the reply received:-

"In reference to the items on which Dr. Best has asked for quotation: these are all surgical items not regularly carried in laboratory supply stocks. We believe, however, that it would be of some help to Dr. Best if we endeavor to obtain and include in our shipment we are preparing. For this reason we will endeavor to obtain these items."

As we do not know if you have placed orders for any of the items listed on requisition No. 351, we are writing to the Arthur H. Thomas Company, instructing them to withhold execution until definite authorization from you is received. We would appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

The other shipment that we are asking you to take with you is a shipment of periodicals from the H. W. Wilson Company, about which we have written you previously. This shipment is also ready for sending on, when-

0356



Dr. A. E. Best

-2-

ever we can give them the "go ahead" signal.

We would appreciate some word from you by return mail regarding the matter of your sailing, because if you are to leave Vancouver on September 7th (in accordance with tentative reservation), the time for getting these shipments off is limited.

With many thanks to you for your cooperation, we are

Sincerely yours,

JIP:RC



0357

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85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
Aug. 28.

Dear H.H.,

N.P. { I have just received a letter from Mr. B. A. Garside, West China Union University, 150 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y., expressing his willingness to act for this next year in the same capacity as I have been acting this last year. May I suggest that he might appreciate a few lines from you, and also after a thorough discussion with Mr. Openshaw you send him as careful an estimate as you can now make out what will be your financial requirements for this coming year listing what you have already received. Dr. Decker whom you know and who has had a good deal to do with this whole matter this past year may be able to raise certain funds but to do that must have a very clear and complete statement to submit to the parties concerned. Large business concerns are apt to be very particular about what seem often unnecessary details. I think you will understand. Dr. Decker, wisely I think, considers that the \$650 remaining from that \$800 should be reserved for your travel expenses back to Chengtu a year from now.

Du left several weeks ago and now that Japan is evidently beginning to do some hard thinking, he may quite easily get back as planned without any difficulty. He left his trunks for me to bring with me.

A month ago things in the east as you know looked extremely unsettled, and it seemed wise to delay our sailing. We are now due to sail Oct. 5 and as far as I can see now am likely to get away as scheduled.

I am delighted to know you are getting on so satisfactorily though it seems rather too bad that Helen is so far away, and you see so little of her, also that she is not getting as much to do as you are. Perhaps later on when she is known a little better, something may turn up. Dr. Sellery may be able to do something.

Kindest regards to you both,

Cordially,



0358



85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
August 28, '40.

INDEX.

*ack.*  
*8/30/40*  
*JSP*

Mr. B. A. Garside,  
West China Union University,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Garside,

I wish to express my deep appreciation for your kind offer to from now on act as god-father to the Hsiehs for this next year. They seem to be well settled in where they are now in Los Angeles and now that the \$800 has arrived from West China I anticipate no difficulty. At my request, Mr. Evans sent them \$150 out of that as they did not seem to have much margin for these next few months.

From now on, Mr. Openshaw of the Baptist Board and lives in Los Angeles and who knows both the Hsiehs very well will be I take it the very best person to supply information as to their circumstances. As to what has taken place this past year, Dr. Decker is thoroughly conversant. However, if you wish I shall be glad to send you all the correspondence I have concerning them.

It would be a great satisfaction to me, and also to Dr. Decker if before I left I could supply a completely detailed statement as to the needs of the Hsiehs for this coming year and just how much is going to be required to place them back on the Field in Chengtu a year from now, but do not see how that is possible, now and from so far away. Openshaw is the man to report on the local situation and its need, and when the time comes a year from now I shall be very glad from the field end to make an estimate on what it will likely cost to get them from the coast in to Chengtu. Conditions out there are changing so rapidly now there is no point guessing on what the situation will be a year hence.

As to their present assets, Mr. Evans is holding for them \$650, the balance of that \$800, and Dr. Decker intimated to me that there is a bare possibility, possibly very bare, of getting something for them out of a fund he has in mind. He knows also of some correspondence with the Pennsylvania Medical Society, and will be the best judge as to what is likely to come out of it.

Cordially,

*A. E. Rust*



0359



notes  
JIP

August 30, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

This will acknowledge your letter of August 28 and the enclosed copy of your letter to Dr. Hsieh. Mr. Garside is away from New York and will not be back until about the 12th of September. However, I am sure that he will greatly appreciate having any correspondence which you may think of value concerning the Hsiehs. Since you will be out of the country and not available for reference, it will be well for him to have the supporting material at hand in case reference to it is required.

Dr. Decker has been in touch with Mr. Garside about the Hsiehs, and I am sure he and Mr. Openshaw will be able to help Mr. Garside in making his plans for whatever is necessary.

I note in your letter to Dr. Hsieh that you indicate you are expecting to sail on October 5. We have already written you asking about this date, and also instructions on the shipping of the supplies you are to take with you. We must have ample time to get this shipment sent so that it will reach the steamer on which you will sail without any question. This is the reason for our urgent request for definite information about the date of sailing and the name of the steamer.

Sincerely yours,

*J. L. Parker*  
Assistant Secretary

JIP:VW

0360



*Miss Chennick*

85 Asquith Ave., Toronto,  
Sept. 3,

*ack*

*9/5*

Mr. Joseph J. Parker,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.,

Dear Mr. Parker,

In reply to the query raised in yours of August 30 may I say that there now seems to be no reasonable doubt but that we shall be sailing as scheduled on the Empress of Asia, Oct. 5 from Vancouver. Will you therefore be good enough to communicate as soon as convenient with the various firms holding our orders supplying the necessary information and stressing that besides the usual information clearly on each case, each case be numbered and the number correspond with the number on the invoice, so that the contents of each box may be clearly checked, and that four copies of the invoices be sent me here just as soon as possible. I plan to leave for the West this next week and should like to have the invoices all with me.

Another point of considerable importance is a slight change in our plans. A month ago it was rather uncertain as to whether or not we should be disembarking from Shanghai or Hongkong, and it therefore seemed wise to send the goods to Vancouver and re-ship from there. As it is now quite clear we shall be getting off at Hongkong it would probably be of considerable convenience to have them shipped through to Hongkong, though of course via Vancouver so as to be sure that all the goods for which I am responsible might be right on the same steamer with me. Would you please enquire into this and arrange if possible. Thank you.

As to that Canadian School order which you were good enough to place for me, I have here the cheque to pay for that but await the details of that, that is as to the amount of the invoice and the charges prepaid if possible to Hongkong. I was not told to insure this, but it seems to me that it would be wise, if possible under present conditions and if the charges are not too high. Would be glad to know what is being done about insuring the other orders.

I am conscious that although I have received several letters from you I have been replying addressing my letters to Mr. Evans. Please accept my apologies. I am quite sure that you must be until further notice carrying on in his place.

Please find enclosed a copy of order No. 00244, which I think possibly you have already but I wish to make sure. You did not call for it but I wish to be quite sure that an order for the goods mentioned in it has been definitely placed.

Sincerely,

*A. E. Best*

0361



85 Adelaide Ave., Toronto,  
Sept. 3,

Mr. Joseph J. Barker,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.,  
Dear Mr. Barker,

RECEIVED  
CITIES  
SEP 5 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

In reply to the query raised in your letter of August 20, I say that there now seems to be no reasonable possibility of my being able to visit New York. I am sorry that I cannot do so. I am sorry that I cannot do so. I am sorry that I cannot do so.

Another point of considerable importance is a change in our plans. A month ago it was rather uncertain as to whether or not we could be disembarking from Shanghai or Hongkong, and it therefore seemed wise to send the goods to Vancouver and re-ship from there. It is now quite clear we shall be getting off at Hongkong. It would probably be of considerable advantage to have them shipped direct to Hongkong, though of course Mr. Vandover so as to be sure that all the goods for which I am responsible might be right on the same steamer with me. I would please enquire into this and arrange it as soon as possible. Thank you.

As to the Canadian School order which you were good enough to place for me, I have been the pleasure to pay for that but wait the details of that. That is as to the amount of the invoice and the charges thereon. I am sorry that I was not told to include this, but it seems to me that it would be wise, if possible, to include present conditions and if the charges are not too high. Would be glad to know what is being done about financing the other orders.

I am conscious that although I have received several letters from you I have been unable to answer them. I am sorry that I have been unable to do so. I am sorry that I have been unable to do so. I am sorry that I have been unable to do so.

Sincerely,  
J. J. Barker

2660

2854771



File  
RC  
9/16

September 5, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
85 Asquith Avenue  
Toronto, Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

This will briefly acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 3rd, giving us instructions regarding the shipments for West China Union University. We have written to the Arthur H. Thomas Company, as per the enclosed copy, and will give similar instructions to Central Scientific and the H.W. Wilson Company.

We are quoting herewith the reply received from the Arthur H. Thomas Company, giving prices on items listed on requisition No. 00351:-

"Referring to our letter of August 30th, we are pleased to inform that the items referred to can be obtained as follows:-

Thoracoscope (Coryllos type).....		\$175.00
Marriott's drip Blood-transfusion apparatus with enough parts		
Jute tubes for duodenal drainage.....	each	2.50
Multiple Stethoscopes, 3 persons.....	each	9.00
Thin Trochar and cannula for thoracenteses.	each	5.00
Wasserman Needles.....	dozen	1.00
Extra sets of APT needles.....		

"Please note that on the Marriott's drip Blood-transfusion Apparatus with extra parts and the extra sets of APT needles, we have been unable to obtain the price, and the surgical supply house has suggested that we try to get additional information, as no doubt with some additional information on these items, we also will be able to give you a price in the event that you wish to have them included with your other orders."

We trust you will give us instructions in this matter, which we shall carefully execute.

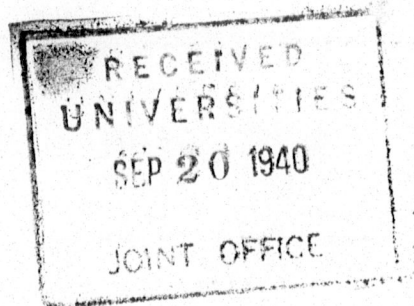
With sincere personal regards to you, we are

CAB:RC  
enc.

Cordially yours,  
C. A. Evans

0363





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0364



85 Asquith Ave., Toronto, Can.,  
Sept. 15, '40

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

Dear Mr. Evans,

In connection with orders for our West China Union University there are several points I wish to clear up before leaving for Vancouver.

*Note Da-lite Screen 9/16*  
First please place an order ~~xx~~ with the "Da-lite Screen Co., 2723 North Crawford Street, Chicago, Ill., (they probably also have an office in New York) for one wall type beaded screen, Model B, square, size 72"x 72", list price \$42.56. Because of its length and slimness, and the long rough road it is going to have to travel it must be ~~packed~~ in a stout wooden case. I am assured by the agent here that you will be able to obtain a much better price than the one above quoted because of our institution being both educational and missionary. This package will of course travel with me on the Empress of Asia sailing from Vancouver, and the firm, ~~be~~ so instructed. As the time is now very short there is need of emphasis that expedition is called for--these goods must be actually in Vancouver by Sept. 30. The invoices must as with the others be in triplicate, or better four copies. Please charge the item to Internal Medicine, which I believe has a balance with you of some \$100 left over on the microscope deal.

*Inv. to office*  
The information asked for on the sundry items to make up that \$500 order for Internal Medicine (Thoracoscope, &c.) has not yet come to hand and I have been therefore compelled to handle the matter through a local company (The J. F. Hartz Co., Ltd, 32-34 Grenville Street, Toronto). To get clear of customs, taxes, exchange &c. the order has been placed with U.S. firms. They have instructed the various firms concerned to send the goods in bond to me on board the Empress of Asia at Vancouver and also inform me that present regulations require that they arrange the details of payment. Will you therefore please forward the above mentioned Hartz Co. a U.S. currency order or cheque to cover the enclosed bill, \$538.30, addressing your letter, "Attention Mr. T. B. James". The extra over the \$500 can be charged to the balance from the \$100 after paying for the screen and there will still be a margin.

No copies of invoices have yet come to hand, and I am leaving in the morning for Vancouver. The invoices now will have to be sent to me at Vancouver, addressing to, "Dr. A. E. Best, Passenger, Tourist Class, Empress of Asia". I shall not be back in Toronto before sailing.

Up until Sept. 29 I shall be staying with my brother in B.C., so that until then any correspondence should be sent to me there,

*noted*  
c/o Mr. H. S. Best,  
Box 1094,  
Vernon, B.C.,  
Canada.

Any expedition you can give to the above matters will be greatly appreciated. It is of course extremely important that all the goods ordered should be in Vancouver before the end of this month. Past experience has been that there is always a great deal of detail to tend to in Vancouver and also always something ~~turning~~ up unexpectedly, so that one is wise to allow for a slight margin.

You will be back from your holidays and into harness again I take it. Many thanks indeed for courteous and efficient service. It has been a real pleasure to have known you and I trust we shall meet again.

Cordially,

*Note Central Scientific 9/16*

*Telegram to A.H. Thomas 9/16*

*Note A.H. Thomas 9/16*

0365







September 19, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o Mr. H. S. Best  
Box 1094  
Vernon, B.C., Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

Your letter of September 15th is at hand, and we are sorry indeed to learn that our letter of September 5th never reached you. Copy of this letter is enclosed herewith, which will show you that we acted promptly. Canadian or American postal authorities are to blame. As President Roosevelt's personal attache, Jim Farley, has now been snubbed out of existence, we can no longer blame genial Jim.

Last week we received a cable from Chengtu asking us to hold all freight shipments temporarily. We immediately got in touch with Arthur H. Thomas and the Central Scientific Company to ascertain the standing of the shipments. Meanwhile, Claude Thomson happened in, and we checked with him regarding conditions. He states that it is very possible to get the shipments through if they are shipped care of the American Express Company in Hongkong, and by no means allowed to get into the go-down at the wharves in Hongkong. His procedure was to go by stages:- first from Hongkong to Hanoi; and from Indo-China, after a presumable stay to leisurely go on to China. He states that billing through to China is safer. With this in mind, we have authorized the Central Scientific Company to make shipment to the West coast care of the EMPRESS OF ASIA, instructing them to send quadruplicate invoices to you, and we are enclosing a copy of our letter herewith. We are telegraphing to Arthur Thomas and writing as per attached copy, and will let you know immediately their reply. I trust you will find our actions satisfactory.

As requested, we have ordered the screen from the Da-lite Co., which will be sent to you care of the boat, together with invoices.

We are paying the invoice for Hartz & Co., charging same to requisition No. 00351.

We have had a telephone conversation with H.W. Wilson this afternoon, and they are sending the shipment of books for the Library to the ASIA, along with invoices, which you will find upon arrival at Vancouver.

Any other correspondence will be addressed as requested or to the boat. Wish I could have seen you before you left. It was a joy to have you with us even the few times. May the good Lord go with you.

CAE:RC

0367



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UNIVERSITIES  
SEP 20 1940  
JOINT OFFICE

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September 20, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o Mr. H. S. Best  
Box 1094  
Vernon, B.C., CANADA

*(until 9/29)*

Dear Dr. Best:

We are writing you further regarding the shipment of books and periodicals from the H. W. Wilson Company, about which we have been in correspondence. These are for the West China Union University Library, and you will recall that you agreed to take these along with you to Chengtu. We are quoting herewith part of a letter from the H. W. Wilson Company dated September 19th, which is self explanatory:-

"We have shipped the volumes direct to China, addressing them as follows:

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o American Express Company  
4 Des Voeux Road Central  
Hongkong, China

"We have written today to Dr. Best aboard the S. S. Empress of Asia, explaining to him that we did this so as not to involve him in any difficulty with the Canadian custom officials. With our letter, we enclosed three copies of the bill of lading. On his presenting these at the office of the American Express Company in Hongkong, the shipment will be turned over to him."

We trust this procedure will be perfectly satisfactory to you, and that you will have no difficulty in the transshipment of this order from Hongkong to Chengtu.

Sincerely yours,

CAB:RC

CC: Librarian, West China  
Mr. Roy Spooner

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September 23, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o Mr. H. S. Best  
Box 1094  
Vernon, B.C., Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

In accordance with instructions in your letter of September 15th, we ordered the wall type beaded screen from the Da-Lite Screen Company in Chicago. We have now been informed that they are not in a position to handle direct shipments into Canada. They have suggested that we place the order with their Toronto distributors, and we have written to the Associated Screen News Company, as per the enclosed copy. We trust there will be ample time for the shipment to reach Vancouver well in advance of the sailing date.

With sincere personal regards, we are

Very truly yours,

CAE:RC  
enc

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September 24, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o Mr. H. S. Best  
Box 1094  
Vernon, B. C. Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

This morning we received a letter from the Arthur H. Thomas Company, stating that it would be impossible for them to put their shipment on the S.S. EMPRESS OF ASIA. We telegraphed you as per the enclosed copy, and trust the suggestion of shipping directly to Hongkong meets with your approval.

From the enclosed copy of acknowledgement to Arthur H. Thomas, you will see that a saving can be effected in shipping costs by using an American boat. Since your real task of supervision will be from Hongkong to Chengtu, this procedure should be satisfactory, but we trust it will not delay you too much in Hongkong.

The Central Scientific Company apparently will make shipment to Vancouver in time. As yet we have had no word from the Associated Screen News regarding the possibility of their shipping to Vancouver before October 5th, but hope to be able to give you complete information before you sail. We will send you the necessary invoices and shipping papers, and those that are not ready before you sail will be sent to you in care of the American Express Company at Hongkong.

As has been our procedure in the past, we will send one copy of all the invoices to Mr. Spooner via Clipper mail, and he will secure the necessary tax exemption papers in advance. We trust you will be able to handle the shipments with a minimum of difficulty.

Sincerely yours,

*C. A. Evans*

CAE:RC  
Enc.

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*Handwritten text, possibly "Book 30"*

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September 25, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o Mr. H. S. Best  
Box 1094  
Vernon, B.C., Canada

Dear Dr. Best:

This will acknowledge receipt of your telegram, instructing us to ship goods ordered from the Arthur H. Thomas Company to the American Express Company in Hongkong, and we have accordingly authorized them to proceed along this line.

We are enclosing herewith a copy of a letter received from the Arthur H. Thomas Company, indicating the present status of the various orders.

You will notice the substitution suggested in the sixth paragraph of their letter, upon which your advice is needed. We are enclosing the descriptive sheet sent to us, and if you think the substitution would be satisfactory, we would appreciate your approval of same. This could be sent along with the other items which are not ready for shipment at the present time.

You will notice the suggestion that is made in the third and fourth paragraphs on the second page of the letter that you take certain small items of German origin along with you personally. We are enclosing a copy of our acknowledgment, from which you will see that we have given the Arthur H. Thomas Company your address, in case they want to ship these items to you before you sail.

Four copies of the invoice will be mailed to you in care of the American Express Company in Hongkong.

As soon as we have definite word from the Central Scientific Company regarding requisitions No. 00115 and 00244 and the order for the Canadian School, we will communicate with you further. As you know, they are planning on making shipment to the S.S. EMPRESS OF ASIA. The necessary invoices and shipping papers will also be sent to you on these orders.

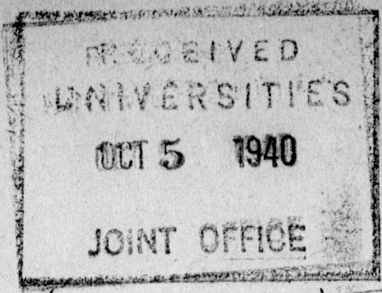
Sincerely yours,

CAB:RC  
enc.

copy *Spoooner*

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0376



150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.  
October 18, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o American Express Company  
4 Des Voeux Road Central  
Hongkong, China

Dear Dr. Best:

We trust you have had a pleasant voyage across the Pacific and that the shipments for West China Union University caused you a minimum of trouble.

You will find enclosed invoices covering the orders which were shipped on the S.S. EMPRESS OF ASIA, i.e.

Requisition No. 00115 (Central Scientific Company)  
00244 (Central Scientific Company)  
00351 (The J. F. Hartz Co., Ltd.)

An order for the Canadian School (Central Scientific Company) Payment for this order is to be made by the United Church of Canada  
Screen

An order for a Screen (Associated/News, Ltd.)

We trust these invoices will facilitate the matter of transshipment of the goods from Hongkong to Chengtu.

The Arthur H. Thomas Company, who are executing requisitions 00245, 00249, 00352, 00082, 00250 and 00246, was unable to have their shipment ready in time to put on the S.S. EMPRESS OF ASIA. This shipment will be sent by freight directly from Philadelphia to Hongkong as soon as possible, and we trust it will reach Hongkong soon after your arrival. Copies of these invoices will also be sent.

As has been our custom in the past, we have sent copies of the invoices enclosed herewith to Mr. Roy Spooner, who will secure the necessary tax exemption.

With sincere personal regards to you, we are

Cordially yours,

*C. A. Evans*

CAE:RC  
enc.

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*Handwritten signature*

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November 4, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o American Express Company  
4 Des Voeux Road Central  
Hongkong, China

Dear Dr. Best:

As stated in our Clipper letter to you dated today, we are enclosing herewith the invoices, packing lists and bills of lading in connection with the shipment from the Arthur H. Thomas Company, as covered by requisitions No. 00062, 00245, 00249, 00332, 00250 and 00246.

We trust these will arrive in ample time, and that you will have a minimum of difficulty in the transshipment of this apparatus to Chungku.

Very sincerely yours,

CAN:RC

Enclosures

sent to Best via Pres. Van Buren

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150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.  
November 4, 1940

Dr. A. E. Best  
c/o American Express Company  
4 Des Voeux Road Central  
Hongkong, China

Dear Dr. Best:

The invoices covering the shipment from the Arthur H. Thomas Company have just been received. These cover the following West China requisitions:- 00082, 00245, 00249, 00352 and 00250.

For your information we are quoting herewith from a letter received from the Arthur H. Thomas Company:

"We have made shipment of the above orders on the S.S. DON ANICETA direct to Hongkong, consigned to Dr. A. E. Best, c/o American Express Co., No. 4, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hongkong. We are enclosing invoices and packing lists, and also statement of account, and we suggest that you immediately forward to Dr. Best by air the enclosed three copies of negotiable bill of lading and at least one copy of enclosed invoices and packing lists. Also send him by regular mail a follow-up letter with copies of invoices and packing lists and another copy of bill of lading, as Dr. Best will have to present these to the American Express Co. in order for him to obtain delivery from the steamship company. The negotiable bills of lading must be presented to the steamship company before they will make delivery."

As this order was sent via freight only last week and it will take about six weeks to reach Hongkong, we are not enclosing the invoices and supplementary papers herewith due to the prohibitive cost. However, we are enclosing one copy of the bill of lading, which has to be presented to the steamship company for release of shipment. The invoices are being sent to you at this address via the S.S. President Van Buren, which is due to arrive in Hongkong on December 10th. We are sure the papers will be received in ample time before the shipment arrives by freight. We are writing to Mr. Spooner at Chengtu, and will also send him copies of the invoices so that he may secure the necessary tax exemption in advance.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and trust this prolonged delay in Hongkong will not interfere too seriously with your plans.

Cordially yours,

*C. A. Evans*

CAE:RC  
enc.

clipper mail

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Kutkai, Burma, March 10.

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, U.S.A.,  
Dear Mr. Evans,

It seems ages since we were in Hongkong, getting various letters and invoices from you, and deciding that in a few days now I would be in a position to send you a final letter that would completely wind up all official matters concerning the sundry shipments that you have been sending on in my care. Now at long last (the various causes of delay in Hongkong and especially Rangoon is a long, long story, so will not burden you with details) we are about to cross the Border into China with not only all the goods about which I have received letters from you but some that had been held up in Hongkong and Haiphong for in certain cases over a year.

The goods from Arthur H. Thomas referred to in yours of Nov. 4, and due to not-arrival before we left Hongkong I had turned over to the American Express Co. there actually caught us up in Rangoon and are now with us. Also with us is the Wilson order, (yours Sept. 10), the Da-Lite Screen (by the way, the price they charged on that seems to me rather preposterous, and makes allowance for no discounts at all such as the Toronto office informed me was certain if applied for, but probably that does not represent the amount you actually paid. I hope so. the goods from the Central Scientific Co. as per yours of Sept. 24, and 25, As far as I know nothing has been left behind and when this stuff gets to Chengtu there should be a certain amount of rejoicing!

Kindest regards,

Cordially,

*A. E. Best.*

0383



Kutner, Morris, March 10.

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
150 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, U.S.A.,  
Dear Mr. Evans,

It seems ages since we were in Hongkong, getting various letters and favours from you, and feeling that in a few days now I would be in a position to send you a final letter that would completely wind up all official matters concerning the sundry shipments that you have been sending on to my care. Now at long last the various causes of delay in Hongkong and especially in London is a long, long story, so will not burden you with details. We are about to cross the border into China with not only all the goods about which I have received letters from you but some that had been held up in Hongkong and Shanghai for in excess of a year.

As regards the two H. Thomas referred to in yours of Nov. 4, and the goods referred to before we left Hongkong, I had turned over to the American Consulate in London, there actually coming up in London and are now with the goods in the warehouse order. (Yours Sept. 10), the De-Lite Bureau in the way, the price they charged on that seems to me rather high and makes allowance for no discounts at all such as the goods are. I have informed me as certain it applied for, but probably that was not representative of the amount you actually paid. I hope so. The goods from the General Scientific Co. a year or two of Sept. 24, and 25. As far as I know nothing has been paid behind and what this at all gets to Shanghai there should be a certain amount of relief.

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West Side "Y", 5 W 63<sup>rd</sup> St, N.Y.  
(7) Mar 27, 1941

Dear Caldwell,

How are things going on your fund raising program? You seem to be very busy, at least I called in twice & was told you were out of town.

Are you still looking for items? If so, I have some suggestions:

\$3500 for salary of a Chinese doctor on our staff, (Chinese cur.)

\$800, gold for an electrocardiograph.

\$350, " " special instruments, I should like very much to take back with me.

\$5000, gold, more or less for charity cases in our hospitals out there, with special reference for teaching our much enlarged body of medical students.

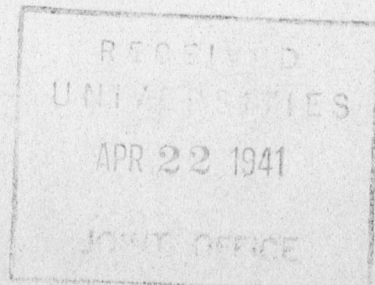
Any sum, to help pay for extra cost of drugs & charges for getting them delivered to Chungking.

\$800, gold, to permit Dr & Mrs Hsieh (Hume has the details) taking an extra year here in U.S. in postgraduate work - they are two of our most valued Chinese members.

I'm leaving for Boston the end of next week, but hope to see you before I leave.

Cordially,

H.C. West



0385



June 19, 1941

Dr. A. E. Best  
West China Union University  
Chengtu, Szechwan, CHINA

Dear Dr. Best:

I am acknowledging your letter of March 10th which comes as a great relief as we have been wondering about the merchandise you mentioned was getting through. Further than that, and still deeper, our worries covered how you were getting on. We have thought of you repeatedly and as often as orders come to hand arises the question as to your welfare.

We have also had you in mind in our dealings with John Kao who has now received a scholarship for next year's work toward his Doctorate. He has done remarkably fine work, for which we are all grateful.

I shall be most happy indeed if you will write me a few lines giving me your experiences in traveling in from Burma.

We now have twenty-five tons of freight being assembled to send in with Claude Thompson and Dan Dye. We are purchasing two trucks which will be operated by the Ambulance Corps from the Friend's Service Committee. At the present cost of freight going up the Burma Road, we will save a large amount. You will know more about it when they arrive and know what their experience has been. Meanwhile I shall be delighted to hear what you have done.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B

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Miss S. M. Bosworth  
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SHANGHAI

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LONDON  
NEW YORK  
PHILADELPHIA

Rev. J. M. Yard,  
West China Union University,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Jim:-

I think you may be interested in the enclosed clippings from the N.C. Daily News which is of course just as much agin the N.C.C. as always. But certainly the cartoon or picture was somewhat questionable just at the present crisis for I think it very true that the illiterate would not be able to understand it and would be quite likely to misinterpret it.

Things are lively here. Refugees on every steamer. A big bunch of Szechuen folk arrived yesterday, Pilchers, Blanchards, Mc Curdys, Gentrys, and perhaps some others, en route home. Mrs. North and Bill, Jr. Mrs. Rape and Paul, and some others to stay here for a while. I wish I could give you the exact list but I have not had it myself. Kiukiang women and children were evacuated some time ago. Mrs. Johannaber and Mrs. Plummer and children are her living (camping) in the house where the Allmans lived. Mrs. Argerlander stopped off at Wuhu. Dr. and Mrs. Brown have been down here for a couple of weeks buying equipment for the new hospital in the face of all the probable changes. Now we hear that Bishop Birney is calling the Nanchang mothers and children in. The Gales have been called in from Tunki by the consul (at Nanking?) but say everything is quiet and peaceful with them. It is hard to tell what the future will bring forth but safe to say we are due to see something blow up if the British get too insistent upon the protection and maintaining of Shanghai. Two contingents of Punjabis have been landed and are quartered on the Race Course, or rather in the new Grand Stand which has room in the upper story. Some day soon I will take a day off and think up a lot of things to tell you but today I am too busy. I do not know how much news you get from Shanghai.

I guess about the most serious thing that has occurred in our mission so far has been the Foochow trouble and we did not suffer as much as the English and Amer. Board. Two of the latter houses were completely looted. Mr. Beard found some of his clothes for sale on the street the next day. Institutional Church and Dr. Hu's hospital were also looted. The English at the North Gate were badly treated.

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The worst of the rioting occurred on Sun. the 16th and by Wednesday most of the American women and children, especially mothers, had departed. The U.S.S. Pillsbury took the most of them to Manila and went back for another cargo, hoping those from up-country would be in and ready to go. Helen Lacy came up here as she had her girls in school (all she has). The other mothers had some here and some there and no relatives to come to and it seemed wiser for them to go to Manila. Mrs. Bishop Brown also came and two of the Hwa Nang girls. To some of us it looks a little as though Consul Price got panicky but it is a heavy responsibility for a consul and one cannot judge what is best for another to do. So far the English consul and V. Consul and most of the missionaries are staying but a good many of the merchant class have gone.

I could write a ream but I must stop.

With love to the family,

S.M. Bosworth

*Bosworth*

"OUR JOB, THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE, YOUR JOB, TOO"

0390



Feb. 24, 1927.

Miss Sara M. Bosworth,  
#13 N. Szechuen Road,  
Post Office Box #725,  
Shanghai, China.

Dear Aunt Sadie:-

You were mighty good to send that letter of January 28th. It came in a few days ago.

Your second paragraph starts off, "things are lively here." If that were true on Jan. 28th, it must be ten times as true today, according to reports in today's paper. Mr. Steep in his dispatch, says that one shell from the Chinese fell in front of the Dollar House and another one hit near the Red Cross Hospital. Did you hear them in the Methodist Compound? I judge that Sun's defense is ready to collapse. I'll bet he himself, has already fled to Japan!

I wish you would tell me whether or not the University in Chengtu is open, and whether it will remain open for the next year or so, or will it be closed for several years? How can I raise money for a University that may be confiscated or shut up any day? A few dollars keep trickling in, but I certainly have not the nerve to start out on any real campaign.

We have had cables telling of the arrival of the various groups in Shanghai. You must be more crowded than we were in 1911 and 1912. I still remember quite vividly what a mess that was.

With love from us all,

Sincerely yours,

JMY:EH

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P. O. BOX 725  
SHANGHAI

March 22, 1927.

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JOHN C. WINSTON CO. NEW YORK  
PHILADELPHIA

Rev. James Maxson Yard,  
West China Union University,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Jim:-

These are grand and exciting days in good old Shanghai and if I were a betting man I would wager any amount that you, like Paul Hutchinson, would give five years of your life to be here. At least, that is what he wrote Carleton the other day. To quote from the "North China" leader this morning: "The long expected has at last been realized." Shanghai is Southern. On Sunday J. B. Powell took a party of tiffin guests including Mrs. Stanley High (Stanley is on his way back from Hankow, probably due in today.) for a motor trip out on the Minghong road. He had heard that there were things doing in that vicinity and there were. I guess most of the party were satisfied to turn around about ten miles out. They could see the soldiers and plainly hear the rifle firing. Early yesterday morning Southern troops took possession of the districts just south of Lunghua. The North China further says "it would be a mistake to say the Northern resistance collapsed: none was ever offered. Whether or not this was part of an understanding between Chiang Kai-shek and Chang Tse-lin for a combine against the Communists and their Russian advisers in Hankow remains to be seen. We may never know. However after taking possession of Lunghua they also entered Chapei and there the most of the fighting has been done. Plain-clothes Northern soldiers were caught looting and there was trouble between them and the Chapei police. Also the Northern troops who have been quartered at and near the North station for some time put up a defence and even this morning fighting is still going on.

When I went out to tiffin yesterday there seemed to be a good bit of excitement on the streets, more people than usual but there are so many refugees in town and so many unemployed, strikers from the mills, &c. that I did not pay much attention to it. I did notice that there were no trams running. When I came back an hour and a half later the streets were crowded. I noticed one shop already closed and when I arrived at the office I found the men quite excited. "The Nationalists had arrived" and in less time than it takes to tell it almost, the shop keepers all about us were putting up shutters and small groups of "students" were going along with the Nationalist flags shouting "Close your shops". In a half hour practically every shop but ours was closed and flags were flying in some places two of them. One which is most evident is a red flag with a corner blue field

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JMY-2

*like the  
communal  
the red  
flag*

with a twelve pointed white star. The other is just the blue and white flag which I am told is the original Southern flag, also the Navy Flag. There seems to be some question about it. But the red flags predominate. The Post Office was closing its doors as I came past and a guard of police were standing by. It is safe to say we did not do much work during the afternoon. Some of our staff never showed up at all, could not get through the lines from their homes in Chapei as the barricades and defences were all up and heavily guarded. So at four o'clock we closed up and I walked down to the Missions Building. There had been literally (I am sure) millions of fire-crackers let off during the afternoon and the air was heavy with the odor of gunpowder and the streets strewn with the remains. The P.O. was flying the red flag though the papers this morning say that it was put up without the knowledge of the authorities. Trams and busses had all stopped and I went down to make sure of my place in our office car as I frequently, usually I should say, stay in on Monday night for the Missionary Prayer Meeting.

We did not know how things would be out in Frenchtown but all was as quiet as a May morning (not quite so warm). Neither did we know whether we would have our regular car this morning but we did. Beyond the fact that all the stores (Chinese) on Nanking Road were closed and the S.V.C.s and various brands of British soldiers and marines of all nationalities were stationed here and there or patrolling the streets, everything was about as usual. Reminded us of June, 1925. When I arrived at the office (one of the head men, our friend Chen, the buyer) had telephoned me before I left the house that Mr. Hsu, the manager, was sick and could not come but he thought we would have to close today as we are so surrounded by Cantonese shops. I found part of the men here and they told me about the fighting still going on in Chapei. They say the Commercial Press was fired by the retreating Northerners last night and partly burned. The families of a number of our men are in the area of the fighting and they have been very anxious but so far we have not been able to get any definite word. Mr. Hsu and Chen live together and they moved in sometime ago inside the settlement. There has been one British soldier, a Punjabi, killed and several people wounded, both foreigners and Chinese. I think I will try to get a North China Herald when it comes out as that will have a lot of details that you may be interested in. We hear that the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce has called a holiday to celebrate the Southern victory but there is some doubt as to just how long the holiday is to last. Mr. Macintosh said probably two days and we will have to stay closed again tomorrow. There are some advantages but it is a blow to business. And what the aftermath of the Southern occupation will be is shrouded in mystery. *We hope* Hankow and Kiukiang and Canton are not to be repeated in Shanghai. Time to go to tiffin.

OUR JOB, THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE, YOUR JOB, TOO

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JMY-3

Wednesday, March 23.

This is the next day. Things are about the same. The fighting in Chapei continued all day yesterday and fires also burned. I bought a copy of the China Courier, the Nationalist paper, for you. I thought you would be interested in its account of the occupation of Shanghai. The former editor, Frances Zia, was captured or kidnapped or something some time ago and put in jail by the Northerners because of his seditious beliefs. On the plea of ill health he was released on a sort of parole. A man named Howard was editor for a time but he has been dismissed for some reason and I do not know who has been carrying on but I suppose now the Kuomintang are in power Zia will come into his own again. Which leads me to comment on a remark in one of the two letters received from you recently. You said you were disgusted with Bishop Birney for blaming the revolution on the Bolsheviks. I do not blame the whole thing on the Bolsheviks unless all forward looking missionaries are Bolsheviks. It is the natural outcome of all the work that has been done these many years to waken the Chinese people to a sense of their political importance and responsibility. But I do blame the Bolsheviks or the Communists or the Red Russians, whatever you may call them, that are trying to run the Nationalist government and whose follow-up policies, after the military conquests have been made, are so subversive of law and order. It may be one stage of all revolutions. I am too rusty in history to say positively but we have been reminded frequently of late the after the American Revolution followed a period of adjustment when things were in a state of turmoil and unrest not unlike what has been experienced in Hankow and other places. Some of the people who have been in Canton lately have been quite enthusiastic over the management of affairs there and it is to be hoped that the Nationalist government will be able to keep the promises they make so glibly guaranteeing a full measure of protection to foreign life and property. Not that I think we should demand any special protection but we have a right to the usual protection given to any resident of a country but the authorities of the country. Even some of our "anti-extrajurisdiction" friends have been glad to seek the "protection" of the foreign concessions in this crisis!

Now for the news of today. There was a serious skirmish on Range Road about 4:30 yesterday afternoon when about 500 defeated Northern soldiers worked their way through unprotected alleys and made a dash for the settlement through Haskell Road (between N. Sze. and N. Honan). The British soldiers fired and a dozen or so Chinese were killed and more wounded. The rest were rounded up, disarmed and taken to a detention camp to be deported or otherwise dealt with. Also shells from the fighting going on in Chapei fell in the foreign section near the P.M.P. works and elsewhere so the Municipal Council ordered all foreigners into the settlement. "OUR JOB, THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE, YOUR JOB, TOO" It must have been some job to get places for all.

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JMY-4

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I heard that Dr. and Mrs. Rawlinson camped in his office. They had found places for the children elsewhere. The third floor of the Navy Y has been turned over to women and children the men being confined to the fourth. The men from the gunboats do not get shore leave these days. They are either on duty or on the ships, ready to be landed when needed. The MacGillivrays, from Scott Road, stayed at the Darrochs on Ave. Foch. Everybody is doubling up. Mr. Macintosh and the Douglasses stayed out in their compound last night but I hear more stringent orders have gone out today. Whether the Municipal Police have some sort of a tip as to coming trouble or what I do not know. Our men seem quite optimistic this afternoon that things will be easier tomorrow. But even if shops and the Post Office open we have been hearing threats of a seaman's strike which may be pulled off any time. Such is life in the Far East. Maybe you wish you were here but sometimes I wish I were not. Any way I said yesterday, I wish a man were on the job here though my Chinese staff are perfectly fine and jump to help me in every possible way.

You will see by the enclosed receipt that your check was received and Chen is getting things together but of course this thing has put an end to buying for a little while. We will arrange about paying Chen. I told him what you said and he demurred but I will fix him. He has not had much to do this winter as people are away from their stations. As for me. It is all in the day's work. Some day I may ask you or Mabelle to do some shopping for me but just now I am not buying any more than I actually need. If we are all sent home I can do my own buying.

Your letter of Feb. 4 speaks of a "call to the Shanghai Church". I presume you know that they have about decided not to call any one just at present, that is, not to bring any one out from home. Once you asked me that I thought about your taking that job and I believe I did not approve feeling that with your previous experience with the Chinese and having the language there should be some wider field for you. But I think now it might be a little different. Community Church will I hope gradually become more and more to our Chinese friends and a man with experience, tact, and judgment, in all of which our present pastor is more or less deficient, will be a very desirable link.

Your letter of Feb. 24 was amusing from more than one point of view. Yes, we heard the reports of the shells that were fired from the Chinese gunboats that night, or at least on the evening to which you refer, Feb. 22. Some say they were aimed at the French Concession some say at the Arsenal. If the latter it showed poor marksmanship. If the former--I wonder. Well, I do not know just where they landed but I think we were all glad when it was over. You said you bet Sun's defenses was ready to collapse. Even so (if he had one). I was told confidentially (which always amuses me) just about that time that he had fled to Japan. The man who told me (Chinese) said his friend helped Sun buy the yen with which to go but the very next

0395



Sunday he was reported in all the papers as meeting Chang Chun-chang for a conference in Nanking. So there you are.

Excuse me for turning the sheet but this letter will be overweight as it is and use up all the MBC paper. Probably better used this way than for the Bolsheviks to get it.

As to what West China Union University is going to do, I was telling Dr. Wallace about your questions and he said in that semi-sarcastic way he has, which is not always so "semi" but don't say I said so. "Does he think the Mission Book Company knows everything?" Well, by this time you have seen the Beeches probably and know all about it (?). We shall all be interested in your next "job". Come back and manage the MBC and do publicity work for some of the home papers.

I do not think I mentioned in my last letter that we have moved. After the Birneys came back they and Miss Davis could not come to a satisfactory arrangement for Miss D-- to carry on there though Mrs. B-- hates to keep house with Chinese servants and her attempt at it this winter ended in a state of nerves that made the Bishop say she could not go on entertaining refugees. This when -- but that is another story. So when Miss D-- found that the former McLachlin house on Route Winling which they sold to Gold of the Ford Hire Service was for rent, furnished she took it. Gertrude and I were tired of living in one place and eating in another so we moved with her. The whole compound is for sale and just at that time they thought they had a buyer and we did not relish a Chinese landlord. A wealthy Cantonese wanted the Bishop's house for his private residence and they said he could not have it without the rest of the compound. So that cooked the deal apparently for he did not take it. We are very comfortable and happy where we are. It is nice to be again a family again. Dr. and Mrs. Beech and the two girls stayed with us the very short time they were here. What I remarked above was that when Melissa Davis had fifteen in the house for two nights Mrs. Birney had just Mrs. Bishop Brown. And now she has no one and the Bishop is up river so Dr. Miller stays nights with her. Mrs. Main, too, had a houseful and was giving meals to the refugees who were in our old apartment, G's and mine, which was I think you know the "transient suite" of the old Lacy apartment. They have now installed an electric grill in the end of the hall where we went through to the Lacy dining room and the Coles of Hinghua are doing light housekeeping there.

We are all anxious for news from Nanking. Wires are down and all the messages that come through are the wireless. The Presbyterians are expecting a big party today. A very few of our people are here. But we hope more are coming. The Foochow folks had hoped to go back this week but a cable from the Consul says Legation disapproves of any one returning just at present. I suppose they are waiting to see what happens after the fall of Shanghai.

Well, I think I have about exhausted the subject for today. I hope all this screed will not bore you to death. If you live to tell me that it did I will not so it again but I have nothing else to do these days. If the P.O. opens tomorrow there will be plenty doing.

Friday, March 25, two days later

The Post Office is not open yet but the "Controller of Voluntary Services" has made arrangements for the despatch of letters to all parts of the world except China with British stamps. Last time there was a P.O. strike the Dollar Company made arrangements to take letters at their office. I do not know which way we will send this time. O, what a muddle it all is. I suppose the Chinese postoffice employees think they are annoying the foreigners and crippling their service while the foreigner goes on making his own arrangements and it is, to a large extent, their own people who suffer from such a tie-up. Why cannot they learn co-operation? It is too big a muddle for me and I am fed up with the whole business. The Chinese, as a race, are so lovable and peace-loving, and lawabiding, and yet one gets so vexed



with them when they act this way. Let's change the subject.

The Stanley Highs have been staying with us at Miss Davis's. He went up to Hankow a week ago Sunday to view the situation and Dorothy stayed here. She says he will be more than peeved when he finds out all he has missed here. He is due back today. He is very much the old Stanley we knew in Centenary days but very likable as he was then and she is a brick. She is considerably fed up with this trip. But she makes the best of it and says she wants to come back to China some day when it is normal and when she can come here first as now she is full with Africa, India, Java, &c.

The Havermales are also with us. Bishop Birney was very anxious for him to go to Nanking for this spring in the Theological Seminary. He told him there was not the least danger of trouble in Nanking. I wonder what he thinks today. (See the headlines in your morning paper) But Mr. H- was also offered a job here for a few months, some research work for the Council on Higher Education for the N.C.C. (Another good man gone over to the "Missionary Reds" our anti-N.C.C. friends would say) and so he decided to stay here and they are congratulating themselves now that they did. I like them both so much and little Gerald is a darling.

The N.C.C. is getting its share of knocks these days. Also the Shanghai Missionary Association. I have saved a couple of clippings for you but I cannot send them this time as this temporary P.O. will not take letters over 1 oz.

Now a few words as to Nanking. Things are about as bad there as they can be I judge. Mrs. Trimmer and her baby arrived at our house last night. She was worn out with the trip and did not come down for dinner and I only saw her for a few minutes at breakfast. But the morning paper says all the foreigners are being brought out. The Port Doctor has been killed, a Britisher by the name of Smith, and the British Consul wounded. The foreigners had concentrated on "Socony Hill" which I think is the big hill just inside the North Gate, and the Chinese gunboats opened fire on the hill. That is why I say I wonder what Bishop Birney will think and say when he hears that. He is somewhere up river himself but in Kiangsi I think. Mrs. Trimmer, Mrs. Wilson and Mother Cline, and Mrs. Dieterich and her children are the only ones of our folks who have arrived so far, yes, and a few W.F.M.S., Miss Crane and others who came the end of last week. A number of the Christian Mission folks came last week. The settlement is more than crowded as day before yesterday the Council ordered all the foreigners in the Northern district north of the Boundary to come in. They told some who objected that if they did not come they would be forcibly brought in. A shell struck the corner of the rock of the Pres. Mission Press building and burst in the Chinese composing room doing a big lot of damage. Had the workmen not been out on strike (or holiday whichever you want to call the cessation of activities during Tues. and Wed.) some would surely have been killed. Argument for strike?

Shops along this street pretty generally opened up yesterday so we did too but there is not much to do since we cannot get any mail.

Now I know you will be worn out with all this and I am going to stop. I know you would like to be here but as for me I would just as soon be somewhere else for a few weeks or months or perhaps years. Who knows? They say (?) they have strikes in America but I'd risk it for a peep at the good old U.S.A. just now.

Much love to the family,

*Ann T. Cline*



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April 18, 1927

Mrs. S. M. Bosworth  
13 North Szechuen Road  
P. O. Box 725  
Shanghai, China

Dear Aunt Sadie:

Many many thanks for yours of March 22nd. You need never fear that I will tire of reading such interesting letters as that one no matter how long they may be. That same day or the next one, I had a very good letter from Carleton Lacy who gave us a lot of information that we would not be able to pick up any where else. During those weeks when we got no cables from Willard in our papers the little group here in New York felt pretty much lost but now we can at least get up to date once a week.

From this end the thing looks pretty hopeless to me. I believe that our government is in cahoots with Great Britain and that to all intents and purposes we are now at war. Our statesmen are too stupid to play the new game that the new day demands and the end will be that all white men will get kicked out of China and then out of India. It wouldn't surprise me if the whole world will get mixed up in a big world war in the next year or two.

After reading that article on the N.C.C. by some of our imminent churchmen and educators I just about lost hope for the church too. How in God's name can self respecting Chinese cooperate with such a bunch? If they can kick the missionaries out, they may be able to save the church. A letter just in from Paul Hutchinson says it looks to him like the deluge. It looks about like that to me. He is preparing one whale of an editorial for his paper this week but what good really do editorials do? There is an immense amount of public

0398



opinion in America that is entirely in sympathy with China and utterly opposed to the way our government is dealing with China but for some reason this great mass of people, made up of 90% Americans, does not seem to be able to affect the policy of the government. The small banking group whose spokesman is Mr. Mellon, controls the government and we shall all go to war to please the hundred or more who make up this group. What a bunch of fools we are. 100,000,000 people going to war for the sake of 100 millionaires. And we call ourselves civilized.

Now please take this down and read it at the next Missionary Prayer meeting and we ~~have~~ had a fine time.  
*you will have*

Sincerely yours,

0399



May 4, 1927

Miss Sadie Bosworth  
13 Szechwan Road  
Shanghai, China

Dear Aunt Sadie:

Many, many thanks for yours of April 8th. It is mighty good of you to send me those letters with clippings, copies etc. It does help me to keep up to date and puts punch into my speeches because of the fact that I can quote something direct from Shanghai.

I regret more than I can tell you the fact that Bowen and others signed that terrible attack on the N.C.C. I also regret the statement that Mrs. Thurston and others signed. The facts are probably all correct but sometimes it is just as well to keep quiet. The Lord knows the Christian leaders are having a hard enough time of it as it is. They have made in practically every instance a heroic effort to be loyal to their religion and loyal to their foreign friends.

There is nothing very new in the Yard family. Maybelle is doing very well with her Chinese business. We are wondering how soon we shall be cut off from our source of supply. I am getting my share of publicity this week. Paul Hutchinson has published a book review and has written me up as one of the authorities those articles have been published by the Christian Century recently, and this morning the New York Times says I am to address a meeting in Union Square on Saturday along with Harry Ward, Scot Wearing and other rough-necks. I was just about to call up and say I could not be at the meeting, as a matter of fact I think I shall for Elizabeth is coming to town and expects to meet me. On the other hand I may decide to take her with me

0400



to the meeting and let her see what a soap-box orator looks like. I suppose it is the better part of valor to stay away. If I should get put into jail, the Methodist High Priests would rejoice at the downfall of this Methodist Red. I think I will go home with Elizabeth.

With much love from us all,

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May 31, 1927

Miss S. M. Bosworth  
13 N. Szechwan Road  
Shanghai, China

Dear Aunt Sadie:

Many thanks for your letter of the 28th of April. The package of clippings has not arrived yet but I am expecting it. Thank you very much for keeping me in mind for I do need just such things to keep in touch with affairs.

Your man did not seem to have very good luck in buying this time. He charged us, for example, 50¢ a piece for those little salt spoons. We can not possibly get out money out of them at that price. The tassels on those little card peach pits were pretty poor too so I am afraid we shall not dare to ask him to buy for us again. Of course I realize that the market in Shanghai is very poor and it is difficult to buy anything so I am not blaming him.

Jack Service arrived ten days ago and will be off tomorrow to California, visiting his relatives en route. He had a wonderful time through India and Europe and arrived in fine health and spirits. We have enjoyed having him with us. Elizabeth got home from college Sunday. She has no position yet but hopes to get something soon. Last night she and Jack and Priscilla went to Coney Island to complete their education. The Lord knows what they did or how they enjoyed it. None of them were awake then I left this morning.

With love from all,

As ever,

0402



file  
Brown

SMB

13 N. Szechuen Road,  
Shanghai, Dec. 31, 1927.

Dear Jim:

As I wrote the date of this I thought of its being the last day of 1926 and inadvertently wrote 1927 but it isn't. It will be soon enough for the time just whizzes by. As Bill Sanders once remarked, "How tempus does fidget along!" Which remark will help to explain the long time since your letter of the 1st Nov. was received. But we have sent the cigarette holders as per the enclosed invoice and hope you get them all right. One who did not know you might think you a hardened smoker. You see you still have a small balance as your check at the prevailing high rate of exchange brought \$11.41. We could have sent one ~~or two~~ more holders but Chen thought there might be duty, or more postage than there was. We will be glad to get more things if you like. Chen is doing quite a bit of buying for George Kerr and his Chinese shop.

I am glad you like it at Wallace Lodge. It seemed very attractive to me after you got there but something of a pull up the hill at the end of a day. However that sort of exercise is good for one and I loved the view of the river that I had from my window. I had such a nice letter from Priscilla which I shall be answering soon I hope.

Well, Shanghai and its foreign concessions are still on the map in the same old way. Chiang Kai-shek has had his hands too full further up the river to bother much about us though no doubt he has us in his mind's eye all the time. It is hard to know what to believe or to expect from the Southern government. In many ways it looks as though we would be better off. Their principles are sound enough if only they had the power to carry them out. At the Community Church Forum Dec. 19th Mr. King Chu gave a very illuminating talk on Sun Yat Sen and his principles. But I ~~feel~~ <sup>think</sup> there is too much "Red" influence at work among the laborers to permit of the full realization of those principles and ideals. I mean now not simply with regard to the status and the well-being of the foreigners but for the good of the common people. We foreigners are too much inclined to think of how these changes are going to affect us and our little task and too little of what it all means for the country at large and the new China that is bound to come.

Schools are pretty much upset in various parts of the country. I heard the other day that Yale-in-China is moving to Shanghai, that the Presbyterian School (Girls') in Changsha is closing because they will not register and schools in other places have closed down. Dr. Gowdy has resigned from the University because he cannot stand against the pressure and feels that he has been hurt by some of his best friends (supposedly Chinese). When I was down there in Oct. he seemed thoroughly discouraged at the prospect and said I might consider myself fortunate that I got out of school work when I did. It is reported that his friends hope the resignation will not be accepted. You may have heard

0403



something from him direct.

As for me I am trotting along in the same old course. Mission Book Company affairs are in statu quo. You probably see the China Christian Advocate (if you do not you ought to) and know that there has been some pretty plain opinion expressed. <sup>W</sup> Walter Lacy's article in the last issue is very much to the point and I think is quite an eye-opener to some of the folks as to the method employed in bringing about the withdrawal of the Methodists (North). The Presbyterian Evaluation Commission recommended that the M.E.C. be continued under the direction of the P.M.P. Board of Directors but the recommendation has to go home to their Board for confirmation. I think there is little doubt as to the Board passing the recommendation. Meanwhile the two M.E. representatives, Cline and Main, are pressing for a settlement and some of us feel that were the facts properly set before our Board they would make some move to reconsider their withdrawal of the capital. It is not to be expected that they would renew their grant-in-aid in view of the present financial condition of the Board but if they would just let us have the use of their share of the stock and fixtures it would help. Bishop Birney is up river and has not been present at any of the meetings to consider the case. He will probably be gone all of next month. Mrs. Birney is with him.

Miss Davis is still running the Episcopal residence though she has asked to be released as it is a losing proposition as she has it now. What Mrs. Birney will do then remains to be seen for she does not want to keep house. Gertrude and I take our meals with Miss Davis. Miss Bonafield has gone on furlough (to Peking for the winter-later is going home) and the new management did not want to feed us. Guess we eat too much. What we will do when Melissa gives up we do not know.

Of course you know that the M.E.Compound has been put up for sale but so far there has not appeared a buyer who would pay the price. in Oct.

I spent my vacation in Foochow and Amoy. Had a fine time all the way around. Was in Foochow three weeks and two days and it was nice to be there when there were no meetings "no career, no destiny, no strategic work at hand", just free to go and come as I liked. In Amoy my old students gave me a grand time, banquet, &c. I was there two days and came direct back from there.

I do not know as there is any more Methodist or other - wise news to relate. I think Mabelle hears frequently from Mrs. Service. Community Church seems to be prospering. You have probably heard that Mr. Drury has asked to be released next June and go to Edinburgh for study. Hope something helps him to become a better preacher. Hope too we get a good man in his place but methinks it is a hard job to please everybody. I believe you may be thankful you did not accept the call.

With love to the entire family,

*Aunt Sarah*

Miss S. M. Bosworth

0404