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Corres
Wesleyan University
1925-1937

0830

The Present Crisis at West China Union University
Chengtu, China.

1926

10

The institution was founded by "Joe" Beech, '99 and was opened in 1909 for students of preparatory grade. Instruction of college grade began the next year. It is maintained by a union of the American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society; the Church Missionary Society, England; the Friends' Foreign Mission Association, Great Britain and Ireland; the General Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, Canada; and the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, U.S.A. Of the five Wesleyan men who have been appointed to its faculty, Beech and Larkin '18 are still serving. Neumann '05 has but recently returned to America, and funds are urgently needed to provide his successor. Since the founding of the Church of Christ in Wesleyan University, the church subscriptions have been devoted in part to the support of our alumni who are teaching at West China. The amount pledged so far this year by students and faculty is somewhat over twelve hundred dollars.

This is the only Christian institution of high grade in a population about equal to that of the United States. The location is such that the University can extend its influence to all West China, Tibet, and the many border tribes. Quite a number of students from these latter have already entered the institution. It is the chief object of West China Union University to train native workers for this enormous field. Chinese young men are being trained as pastors and as teachers and physicians, in order that they may supplement and in time replace the missionaries from western lands.

In common with other Christian institutions, the University has suffered from the present unrest in China and from the anti-foreign agitation. Owing to lack of educational funds, the government schools in Chengtu are in rather a chaotic condition. The students from those schools, being idle, have used their leisure in trying to sow seeds of revolt among the students at the University.

Through all of this Dr. Beech has been doing a very exceptional piece of work. He has had to handle the administrative work in the most delicate circumstances because of the extreme sensitiveness of the students, both our own and those of government institutions, to the slightest cause of offence. Anti-foreign spirit has run so strong that it was a serious question whether our University there could open this fall, but it has done so with only a small decrease in the enrollment. Being a union institution with over half of the foreign staff British, against whom there has been particularly strong feeling because of the Shanghai and other incidents, it has been necessary to use the utmost tact and we may all be very proud of Dr. Beech for so ably handling the situation.

He has also maintained a most helpful relationship with the government in spite of the fact that officials have changed many times during the last few years. Their attitude seems to be that while they may have serious differences among themselves, there can be no difference of opinion as to the quality and value of the work being done by the University. Gradually but surely, Dr. Beech has succeeded in developing friends for the institution and we are abundantly justified in expecting that they will show increasingly their approval of the work, unless the anti-foreign spirit becomes so strong that they do not consider it safe for them to express their interest.

Dr. Beech has also carried on extensive building operations, having charge of the erection of a large building for preventive medicine and biology, and, following this, a large library building. There are in China many building difficulties which one does not experience in this country at all and frequently foreigners, when in charge of building operations, use but few men and build slowly. Dr. Beech has used large numbers of men, and built rapidly and most successfully.

Dr. Beech's colleagues from Wesleyan have also rendered exceptionally fine service, of which we may well be proud.

The great importance of the work that is being accomplished by West China Union University, and its strong Wesleyan traditions, should win for the institution a warm place in the interest of all Wesleyan alumni.

0831

March 5, 1926.

Dr. James L. McConaughy
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Dr. McConaughy:

You will no doubt be interested in hearing about my new job in connection with West China Union University at Chengtu. That is the city to which I went sixteen years ago this month.

The Board of Governors has just appointed me to represent the University in America and I am beginning my work with much enthusiasm. I have always been keen about West China Union University for the following reasons:

(1) Five denominations are working there in union. There are no theological divisions.
(2) It is working in entire harmony with the Chinese educational authorities.
(3) Its scholastic standards are high and its moral tone unquestioned. It is doing a first-class job in education.
(4) It supplies a real need. It is positively the only college in a population of 100,000,000. The Province of Szechwan, in which it is located, is just a bit larger than France. The highest grade provincial school in all this vast territory is the normal school. It is plain, therefore, that our Christian college is needed.

Bishop Grose has appointed me to the faculty of the University and I hope to go back some day to teach, probably in the Department of Comparative Religion.

My office while in this country will be Room 502, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York. Please write me, or better yet, when you are in New York come in to see me.

Sincerely yours,

JMY
BP

To reach the nearest college requires a journey of 14 days — one could go from New York to Oxford University and back in less time.

0832

Dr. Codman.
N.J. Ministers
Newark. Wallace
Phila.
Galen
Elliott Curtis.
High Reporters
Chinchey Pictures
Earl Taylor -
Map, inc.
Letters to girls. My
Armenian - for advocates.
Subs 12 hours

April 22, 1926.

Dr. James L. McConaughy,
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Connecticut.

Dear Dr. McConaughy:

Thank you for your kind letter of April 12th. It will give me great pleasure to be present at the Commencement Exercises of Wesleyan University on June 21st, and to receive this honor at the hands of my Alma Mater.

I am sending you under separate cover the program of the Washington's Birthday celebration held at the home of Dr. Joseph Beech in Chengtu, West China. I think you will be interested in it.

Sincerely yours,

JMY
ELH

0834

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
MIDDLETOWN, CONN.

April twentieth
1926

My dear Dr. Yard:

The chapel preaching list for next year is practically complete but it may be possible later, if there is a change in date, to consider Dr. Lew. Thank you for suggesting him.

As far as a special course of lectures goes, it is more difficult in these days to get a student audience than to get money for the series! I do not think it is peculiar of Wesleyan students for I know the situation at other institutions; it makes no difference how noted the lecturer or how pertinent the topic, the students are no more interested in the average type of lecture than are people in general. While this is undoubtedly unfortunate, it seems to be a fact. There is too much competition with radio, movies, and the host of activities that now center around a college campus. Under these circumstances I greatly doubt whether it would be advisable to attempt a series of lectures on Chinese culture. One address, probably on such occasion as your meeting here recently, might work out. After your recent visit to us, with the unusual accompaniments of your address at the Gymnasium, I wonder how you feel about this problem.

Cordially yours,

James L. McConaughy

Dr. James M. Yard,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

0835

1926

Dear University Students and Alumni:

For the past twenty five years the students of Wesleyan University in the United States, have been directly interested in the students of West China. Every year since Dr. Beech came to Szechuan funds were sent to him for work with the students. In 1921 the Wesleyan students began a definite movement, in which they sent Mr. and Mrs. Larkin to Chengtu, and undertook each year to raise enough money to pay their salary. They are still doing this,and with enough stimulation they might be induced to do more for the work of the university. Besides this they have for the past year sent small sums for athletic work,which has been used to pay for physical instruction in the middle school. This year they are helping to pay for the services of Physical Director Lu P'e Shuen.

The Wesleyan students are doing this because they have a fellow-feeling with the students of China in their endeavor to carry out the patriotic reforms which are needed to make China a a good and a prosperous republic. But this sympathetic interest must be stimulated and encouraged by closer contact with the students of West China. For the past five year Mr. Larkin has sent home frequent reports of various phases of the work of the university,and of things of general interest in West China, with a constant appeal to the Wesleyan students for their increased interest in West China.Union University. But there is need of a more personal touch, one which you students and alumni alone can make,through the medium of personal or group letters assuring them of our need for mutual friendship and of your appreciation for their interest in men on the opposite side of the globe.

Will some of you now do your part in strengthening this bond of friendship, either by writing (in English) personal letters directed to t the President of the Wesleyan Christian Association,Wesleyan University, Middletown,Conn. U.S.A.,or by communicating a letter through Dr. Beech or Mr. Larkin. This is your opportunity to continue the movement for Wesleyan-in-West China.

0836

Form letter

THE
WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
LOYALTY FUND

BOX 31 W, WESLEYAN STATION
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI COUNCIL

F. T. KURT, '95, CHAIRMAN
W. B. HOLTON, JR., '10, VICE-CHAIRMAN
J. M. DAVIS, '05, TREASURER
H. L. CONNELLY, '09, SECRETARY

C. R. BERRIEN, '96,
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Dear Classmate: 1926

You know about the Loyalty Fund.

It seems to have been decreed that I am to hold the hat for you and your one time fellow-students (?) to drop in your contributions for the current year one and all, accent on the all. And that accent, by the way, is the keynote of this Loyalty Fund idea, as you well know, most honored Sir and Alumnus.

No one is expected to endow the College; but everyone who has a soft place in his heart for Wesleyan is expected to give something just to show he cares. No one's loyalty can be measured by what he gives; but by what he would like to give. And what you or I feel we can give is, in the words of the poet - "nobody's business". But it is Wesleyan's business to expect everyone of us to stand back of her. We can all do something.

Personally, I have a little class feeling about this matter, too. To date, our percentage of participation is only 14% whereas back in 1918 we hit the 32% mark. Some class is going to be able to boast that they have the highest percentage of participation. How about making 1905 that class, by June 1? Our class baby, C. Nelson Winslow, is a freshman at Wesleyan, so you see I have a personal wish to keep the Loyalty Fund growing.

I admit that this is a form letter; but I have written it with a lot of you in mind. So please take this as very personal, and I assure you it will give me pleasure to write you acknowledging your contribution for old time's sake. And let me hear from you now. It won't take you more than two or three minutes to fill out the enclosed and place it in the addressed envelope. Get it off your mind by doing the right thing now, without delay, and that will help a lot.

With a sincere feeling of good-will, I am

Sincerely yours,

Howard L. Winslow

Class Agent

Range of Subscriptions to March 1

$1	12	$6	1	$16	1
$2	18	$7	1	$20	11
$2.50	3	$7.50	4	$25	42
$3	3	$10	107	$30	1
$4	1	$13	1	$50	16
$5	148	$15	16	$100	11

0837

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF
ETHICS AND RELIGION
W. G. CHANTER

August 2, 1926.

Reverend James M. Yard,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Yard:-

You were kind enough to say when you were here at commencement that you might be able to lecture to my class in the Philosophy of Religion on Chinese religion. I was to write you letting you know when in the order of the course the section of Chinese religion would come.

As I have outlined it, the week beginning January 10 would be the time. But if that would be an inconvenient time for you it could be put earlier - hardly later as the date of the mid-year examinations would prevent that.

I plan to have the class do some reading in preparation for the lectures and class discussion each week - that is the week before you come (which would be the part of the week after the Christmas vacation) the students would be doing work which would look toward your lectures. If you can come and will let me know what readings you would suggest I will assign them. It would be well to let me know some time in advance in case the books would have to be purchased.

Tomorrow morning I am leaving for Detroit for a month's stay. My address there will be 141 Geneva Ave.

Faithfully yours,

WG Chanter

0838

Fisk Hall,
Middletown, Conn.,
September 9, 1926.

Dr. J. M. Yard,
159 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Yard:-

This is in answer to your letter of September 2.

There are three weeks in which your lectures on Chinese religion could be put. November 29, December 1 and 3; December 6, 8, 10; December 13. 15, 17. Of these the first would be the best, as during that week the Christian Association is putting on a sort of round table on religion. The last would be the worst as it is the last week before college closes for the Christmas recess and there is too much thought of that glorious event. Let me know your choice.

With best wishes, and appreciation of your willingness to help in this way, I am,

Faithfully yours,

W G Chanter

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0839

September 2, 1926

Prof. W. G. Chanter,
Wesleyan University,
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Chanter:-

Yours of August 2nd reached me while I was on vacation and I have neglected to reply. I regret very much that I shall be in Chicago during the week of January 10th and therefore unable to accept your kind invitation to meet with your class that week. Please therefore let me know what week in December would best suit you. I could make any fit in with my present plans.

I will get busy on my lecture soon and at that time will send you a list of readings.

Sincerely yours,

JMY
HBB

0840

September 10, 1926

Professor W. G. Chanter
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Chanter:

Thanks for your of September 9th. I am very happy to report that I can choose the first date you suggest and shall, therefore, be with you November 29th and the days following. I shall plan to spend the entire week there and will be available for chapel talks, personal conferences, etc.

With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

JKY
ELH

0841

October 7, 1926

Professor W. C. Chanter
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Chanter:

Here is my first instalment of readings for the students in your class on comparative religions.

"The Quest for God in China"
by O'Neil, Published by Doran.
Chapters 2, 4 & 5.

"The Ethics of Buddhism" by
S. Tachibana
Pp. 88 -100

"The Three Religions of China"
by Soothill.
Ch. 5-9.

"The Original Religion of China"
Ross. As much of this as
they can read.

"Christianity and the Religions of the World" by Schweitzer, pp. 38-67.

I hope also that they may be able to read all of the Taoist Classic, Tao Teh King.

If they do not have time for all this reading, I would star Ross, the Tao Teh King, and Soothill.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

JMY:HD

James M. Yard

0842

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF
ETHICS AND RELIGION
W. G. CHANTER

October 19, 1926.

Rev. James M. Yard,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Yard:

In reply to your letter of October 7th with reference to the readings in preparation for your lectures on Chinese religion. About all I can hope to get from out of the members of this class would be an average of 100 pages a week. Preferably a good part of this should be in some of the original text, and consequently I shall assign Soothill and the Tao Teh King. In regard to Ross, do you simply want to have them go as far as they can, or are there any sections in the book which you would particularly like tohave read?

Usually some form of testing the reading of students is considered highly desirable at Wesleyan, and the means I have taken in this course is to assign certain questions, the answers to which are to be written. The questions, of course, are based on the text, and ability to answer them is dependent on some fairly careful study of the assigned reading. If you would like to send a list of questions, ability to answer which would constitute a preparation for intelligent appreciation of your lectures and at the same time would act as a guide to the students in their reading, I shall be very glad to pass the questions on to the members of the class.

I may say that the class now numbers ten, and that it seems to be composed of men who are interested and have the intellectual ability to carry the work. I think you will enjoy meeting them and I know that they will be looking forward to your coming as giving them first-hand contact with the ~~theology~~ religion which they will be studying.

Sincerely yours,

WGChanter

WGC/C

0843

1000 wo[illegible] 3 Confucius
as a man, his ideals & influence, what was his chief
Contribution?

Do you think Confucianism is a religion? About all I can hope to get from outside the readings of this class would be an average of 100 pages a week. Therefore a good part of this should be in some of the original texts and consequently I shall assign Scofield and the Tao Teh King. In regard to [illegible] you want to have them go

What does Tao Teh King mean?

Was the Tao Teh King a translation?

What is the main drift of the Classic?

What is its relation to modern Taoism

The idea of God in China

in Han time

Ross Ch 1 & 3

0844

Wesleyan University.

Middletown, Conn.,
October 29, 1926.

Rev. James M. Yard, D.D.,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Yard:

I think I have already written you in regard to the beautiful expression of religious faith which, in one of your letters, you quoted from your Chinese friend, Professor Song. Since then I have received your letter of October 25th, and the pamphlet on "Science in Szechuan". I was confident that our college in Chengtu was doing good work. Somewhat more of detail I got from President Beech's latest report, which I read with a good deal of care. I was very much interested in the more detailed account of scientific work given in your pamphlet. I think it would be no exaggeration to say that the opportunities for scientific study in West China Union University at present are far better than those which I found in Wesleyan University when I entered as a freshman in 1861. I incline to think that I might take a little later date in Wesleyan University for comparison, and say that they are giving better instruction in science in Chengtu today than we gave in Wesleyan University in the early years of my teaching. When I was a student, and in the early years of my life in the faculty, it was supposed that a scientific laboratory was ~~simply~~ chiefly for demonstration by the teachers, and not to any great extent for observation and experiment by the students.

2.

0845

The college world today is a very different world from that which I knew when I entered college as a freshman in 1861, or when I began teaching in 1868.

Some of the last information that has come from China gives occasion for a little anxiety in regard to the safety of our college and its noble band of teachers. But I judge that the apprehensions felt in some quarters were rather excessive. It seems to me that the mission boards that thought of sending for their missionaries, or at least for the women, to come home, acted in a rather panicky fashion. President Beech is not a man who is likely to be thrown off his balance by panic.

Yours truly,

Wm. North Rice.

WNR/C

0846

November 8, 1926

Professor W. G. Chanter
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Chanter:

I shall herein suggest a few things that I would like your students to do. Please modify them, if you think I am asking too much.

I should like a thousand word essay giving an estimate of Confucius as a man, his ideals, and influence on China.

In your opinion what was his chief contribution?
Do you think Confucianism is a religion? (See The World's Living Religions by Hume.)
What does Tao Teh'King mean? Was the Tao Teh King a revelation?
What is the main drift of that classic?
What is its relation to Modern Taoism?

If they have time, I should like a short essay on the Idea of God in China.

In Ross, "The Original Religion of China", please have them read chapters 1, and 3.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

JHL:MD

0847

November 19, 1926

Professor W. C. Chanter
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Chanter:

As I shall be in Watertown, speaking at Tafts School on Sunday, November 28th, and shall probably come to Middletown by the way of New Britain and Berlin, do not try to meet me. I shall go directly to the Faculty Club. Thanks very much for making that arrangement.

I ought to reach Middletown some time between eleven and twelve o'clock on Monday, the 29th. Thank you for letting me know the hour of my first class.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

JMY:MD

0848

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF
ETHICS AND RELIGION
W. G. CHANTER

Fisk Hall,
November 18, 1926.

Dr. J. M. Yard,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Yard:-

I do not know whether I ever told you the hours at which the class in Philosophy of Religion meets. It is 2 P. M. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Your first lecture would therefore come November 29th at two o'clock. If you have a Sunday engagement you will be able to get here, no doubt, some time during the morning of Monday. In case you come from New York, the best way of getting here is to take your ticket to Meriden and there, if you will let me know the time of your train, I will meet you. In any case tell me when and how you are coming.

I am arranging to have you stay at the Faculty Club so that you will be on the campus and have the opportunity to see what the college is like during ordinary term time.

We are looking forward to your coming with great pleasure.

Faithfully yours,

WG Chanter

0849

Wesleyan University.

Middletown, Conn.,
February 17, 1927.

Rev. James M. Yard, D.D.,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Yard:

After the disturbances at Chengtu which followed the Wanhsien incident last October, President Beech wrote me a long letter which he wished me to communicate, as I might be able, to the students at Wesleyan and to the Epworth League of the Methodist Church. Last Tuesday evening was the first opportunity that I had to present the letter to the Epworth League. There was a little drama, and some music, the same evening, so that there was a pretty large attendance of members of the League and other members and friends of the church. I read the letter, with some abridgements, and gave a little additional information received from various sources in regard to the other missionaries in whom Middletown people are particularly interested. In accordance with information which I ~~have~~ had received from Dr. F.M.North, I told them that I supposed that Dr. Beech had left Chengtu for Chungking and Shanghai, his family and others of the Chengtu colony having left previously.

I was very much surprised, after my address, to learn from a few of the members of the League, who had heard your talk in New Haven, that Beech is still at Chengtu and presumably intending to stay there. This to me was quite a surprise; but I doubt not you have the latest and most reliable information.

I will be greatly obliged to you if you will send me the

0850

latest information which you have in regard to the conditions at Chengtu.

The situation in China is of course very perplexing to one like myself, who knows very little about Chinese conditions in general. In the perplexing condition of Chinese politics, ought we to sympathize with Peking or with Canton? Which party has the best promise for the future of civilization in China? I gathered from an expression in one of Dr. Beech's letters that he was in sympathy with Peking, rather than with Canton. But the expression was only an incidental allusion, and I may have misunderstood him. I have seen some articles in regard to China that appeared to be intelligently written, in which the opinion was expressed that the hope of progress towards a better civilization rests with Canton rather than with Peking. I know you are very busy, and I do not want to ask you to write a long letter. Perhaps you have published something yourself bearing on political conditions and probabilities in China. Or perhaps you can refer me to some article by someone else which you can recommend as giving an intelligent view of the matter.

Any information that you can give me, without taking too much of your time, will be gratefully received by

yours truly,

Wm. North Rice.

WNR/C

0851

Feb. 21, 1927.

Prof. William North Rice,
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Professor Rice:-

In reply to yours of the 17th, may I say that I was mistaken in my speech at New Haven. The last letter I had from Dr. Beech indicated that because of the absence of Dr. Stewart he did not intend to leave. Last week, however, you probably saw in the paper, a dispatch which said that Dr. Beech had reached Shanghai. The Board of Foreign Missions had a cable from Bishop Grose at Shanghai saing all our missionaries had left West China save the Lewis', Manlys' and Mr. Cranston.

Practically all the China missionaries here in New York, and I can say all of the Chinese students sympathize with Canton at the present time. We feel that Canton has organized during the past year, a very strong government. Their officials seem to be more honest than Chinese officials have been for many centuries. They are also both soldiers and officials in sympathy with the people. In other words, I think the Canton Party, or Nationalist Party, pretty much embodies the ideals of all China. If you will look through the recent numbers of The Christian Century, The Nation, or The New Republic, I think you will find helpful interpretations of present movements in China. Mr. Millard's dispatches in the New York Times are usually helpful.

0852

Feb. 21, 1927.

If Dr. Beech was in sympathy with Peking it was due probably to one or two reasons, or perhaps to both of them. First, that the government in Chengtu was still loyal to the Peking regime, and second, that they did not have accurate information in Chengtu concerning the ideals and success of the Nationalist Party.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

James M. Yard

JMY:EN

0853

Wesleyan University.

Middletown, Conn.,
March 17, 1927.

Dear Dr. Yard:

I send you a copy of a letter received from Larkin, written on the steamer between Hong Kong and Manila, and mailed at Manila; also a copy of the letter we have sent to him.

The letter seems to indicate a decidedly despondent attitude on the part of Larkin in regard to the work of the University. The letter seems like that of a man who is sick of his job. I am puzzled by the question, how far his despondency is the effect of the troublous experiences through which he has passsd, upon a mind naturally not very buoyant, and how far his attitude is indicative of a real lack of the qualities essential for the best success in his work. Do you know how well he has succeeded in his work as a teacher? Can you cheer him up? or is his despondency indicative of a real lack of adaptation to the work?

There seems to be very decided difference of opinion in regard to the Peking and Canton governments. You thoroughly believe in the Cantonese. You feel strong confidence that they can slough off the Bolshevistic influence, and conduct China to a genuinely republican government. We had a talk this morning in chapel by L.L.Gilbert, Wesleyan, 1920, who has been at work in Yale-in-China. He seemed to be enthusiastic over the prospect of the establishment of a government by the Cantonese. On the other hand, you doubtless know that Dr. Beech believes in the Peking government, and thinks that the Cantonese movement is incurably Bolshevistic. When those of you who have had opportunity to know something about conditions in China differ so widely, we ignoramuses do not know what to think.

Yours Truly,
Wm. North Rice.

0854

Attached to Rice's letter, March 17, 1927

On board the N.D.L. "Fulda"
between Hong Kong and Manila

Manila, Feb. 7, 1927.

Dear Friends of the Missionary Committee:-

This is my last opportunity to keep you in touch with Larkin until I get to Genoa, and so I am writing this to be mailed at Manila. We are just leaving the beautiful island harbor of Hong Kong, after a stop of a day and a half. Mrs. Larkin and I, at different times, took the cable tramway up to the peak, and got that magnificent view of the harbor, full, as it was, of ships, and of the town which nestled into the hollow of the island and spread itself up and over the green promontory. It is a bit difficult for us, encumbered, as we are, with a two-months baby and a two and a half year boy, to see all that may be seen; but we are going to try to get in as much as possible.

I suppose, by the time this letter reaches you, the foreign evacuation of the interior of China will have become an accomplished fact, and the stories of families escaping with only a suitcase from mobs will be an old wives' tale. We deem ourselves indeed fortunate to have gotten out of the interior with all of our belongings, before the final rush.

The future is anything but hopeful, even though peaceful negotiations may be successful, for all over China the foreigner as a foreigner is cordially hated, and political agreements cannot make for amity in the relations of the people of China and those intruding foreign preachers and teachers, etc. I have about given up hope of a work in China, after furlough; and at the same time I am entirely out of touch with possibilities at home. I don't know whether to try to study for a year with a mind to returning alone to Chengtu after furlough (in case it is feasible) or to look for a temporary or a permanent place at home. After five years out of the civilized world, one is at a disadvantage in securing a position which would allow him to support a family of four, and it is hard to know for what I could qualify.

May I ask that you discuss this matter with Jim Yard and offer me your advice about what to do. If you think it best to study, something in the line of a scholarship or fellowship is necessary in order to allow my salary to support my family while I go to school.

If you think I had better find a job, perhaps you could help to connect me with a teaching position in preparatory school work or junior college (economics), thru the college authorities. I shall appreciate your advice, one way or the other, and if you could write me % Mr. J.C.Curnow, 3 Grosvenor Gardens, Muswell Hill N. 10, London, your counsel would be before me for contemplation before reaching home. I expect to be in England about the first of April.

0855

I hope that you will keep China before the students until all hopes of continuing the University in Chengtu are gone. It is hard to know, during these dark days, what will become of our fine plant out there. I hope there is still a work there for foreigners, for God knows that the vitalizing power of Christ is needed more than anything to make China over into a nation that can hold its head up among the nations.

Cordially yours,

Ray Larkin

RU 90 RU 1 37 57 90 40

March 17, 1927.

George R. Larkin, M.A.,
Care Mr. J.C.Curnow,
3 Grosvenor Gardens,
Muswell Hill N. 10, London.

Dear Mr. Larkin:

Your letter from the steamer at Hong Kong, mailed I suppose at Manila, is duly received. I do not wonder that the hard experiences through which you and your family have passed make you feel rather despondent about the work. I cannot help thinking, however, that the prospects of future success in missionary work in China are brighter than they seemed to you when you wrote the letter. Dr. Yard, with whom I have talked within a few days, feels enthusiastically hopeful about the work.

I do not wonder at your perplexity in the present situation. You certainly have my hearty sympathy in the hard trials through which you have passed, and in the uncertain and perplexing outlook for the future.

I do not wonder that you feel somewhat uncertain whether it is best for you to return to China or not. I believe West China Union University has a noble future before it. I believe that its work can be adapted to new conditions so far as is necessary. Of course it is obvious that in the future considerably more of authority and responsibility must be given to the Chinese.

You speak of one possibility, that of your returning to China alone, leaving Mrs. Larkin and the children in this country. I cannot think that that would be wise. It seems to me that if you go back, you ought to have the family with you.

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If you are to go back to China, you will naturally want to use the coming year in further study of your chosen department of teaching. We will do all that we can to secure the most favorable opportunities for you to study. Professor Chanter has undertaken to make inquiries in regard to scholarships and fellowships, in order to make the year as profitable for you as possible. Professor Chanter will of course take counsel with Professor Fisher in this matter. We will do everything in our power to secure for you the best possible opportunities for study in your chosen department.

Yours truly,

WNR/C

0858

March 10, 1927.

Prof. Wm. N. Rice, LL. D.,
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Dr. Rice:

As part of my reply to yours of the 17th, may I refer you to an article in the Chinese Recorder of February, 1927, by Mrs. Pearl S. Buck. You will welcome that as an interpretation of events, and especially as an interpretation of the mind of a good many missionaries. May I also refer you to the correspondence in the New York Times this morning, concerning Yale-In-China.

It is my opinion, after having lived in both Chengtu and Shanghai during troubled times, and having had experiences that neither Beech nor Larkin have had - both of them having spent practically their entire time in Chengtu, that one does not get a very good perspective in West China. I think they are both nervous and overwrought.

From some of Larkin's recent letters I have questioned the advisability of his returning to China. Sometimes I fear that he has the wrong attitude toward the Chinese. That will have to be ascertained from Beech and others, as well as from conversations with Larkin himself, after his return.

Perhaps after his good trip home, he will feel quite differently about the situation. I agree with you entirely that he ought not think of returning without his family.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

JMY:FN

James M. Yard

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April 4, 1927.

Prof. Wm. North Rice,
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Prof. Rice:

We have just had word that Rev. Lincoln Dsang, a graduate of West China Union University and M. A., from Northwestern University, has just been elected vice president and acting head of West China Union University. Would it not be a fine time for Wesleyan to give him the degree of D. D.? He is, I think, the most able man who has ever graduated from the University. And it is a great joy to me that at this crisis, he is there to guide our destinies. He will, undoubtedly, be elected president very soon.

If the University will grant Mr. Dsang the degree, would it not be a fine thing at the same time to give an L.L. D., to Dr. Beech? He has done a very remarkable piece of international service and has proved himself a statesman of no mean calibre. His wisdom, tact and foresight made possible the great success of the University. He has dealt ably with his American colleagues and also with the Chinese, Canadians, English and Australians on the staff.

I have no news that you don't get in the papers. I fear very much that the powers will intervene. In such a case we shall all be in great difficulty. If you can get hold of a copy of Upton Close's new book, The Revolt of Asia, it will give you a pretty clear perception of the tremendous currents that are working in the Far East, and will perhaps help you to see why no display of force will be of any ultimate consequence.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

JMY:FN

James M. Yard

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CHINA

The Wesleyan Argus

MIDDLETOWN, CONN., MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1931

WESLEYAN TO PROVIDE AMBULANCE FOR WORK OF BEECH IN CHINA

MONEY GIVEN ANNUALLY

"Joe" Beech, '99, President of West China Union University, Speaker Thursday.

Dr. Joseph S. Beech, '99, Wesleyan's own missionary in China, now at the end of his term of sabbatical leave, is soon to return to his post as president of the West China Union University in Changtu, in the province of Czechuan. Before leaving this country, however, he will stop at Wesleyan for a short visit on his way from Washington, where last Saturday he was accorded an enthusiastic reception by the National Geographic Society.

Wesleyan has in previous years sent "Joe" Beech a sum of money to be used in purchasing much-needed equipment for the University. This year it is planned, instead of sending money without knowing its exact destination, to purchase a Ford ambulance for carrying patients to and from the three Clinical Hospitals of the University. At present there is no adequate means of conveyance from one to another of the hospitals, which are almost three miles apart in a city with three-quarters of a million people. The recent creation of the Medical-Dental College and the shift of emphasis to that type of education demands that the hospitals be brought as near to each other and to the Medical-Dental College as possible. Patients must be transferred from one hospital to another—as they all specialize in different fields of medicine, from their homes to the hospitals, and from the hospitals to their homes. For all this, and the use of the Medical-Dental College students, the ambulance is urgently needed. The old superstitions against operations and other forms of medical treatment no longer exist in modernized Chengtu, as evidenced by the 110,000 visits to all three hospitals last year.

The "Wesleyan" ambulance will cost approximately $1800. As nearly one thousand of this has already been collected or pledged, it is hoped that the students will meet the need for the other $800. To facilitate pledging toward this sum, the time between Thursday and Friday noons will be allotted to the drive for the needed amount. Each fraternity house will have its pledging chairman and committee. Further details will be given in the next issue of the Argus.

Dr. Beech will be the speaker in Thursday morning's chapel service. In the evening, in the '92 Theatre-Rich Hall, he will give an illustrated lecture on China, entitled "To the Roof of the World." The lecture will take place at 7:30.

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TRANSFER

WEST CHINA

The Wesleyan Argus

MIDDLETOWN, CONN., THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1931

Ambulance Drive Under Way With $427.45 Pledged

The Ambulance Campaign, up until 2:00 this afternoon had netted $427.45, subscribed by 369 students. Delta Kappa Epsilon led the other fraternities with a perfect record of 49 pledges, amounting to $58.50.

The results of pledging in the other houses is as follows: Eclectic, 27 pledges, $42.00; Psi Upsilon, 35 pledges, $32.50; Sigma Nu, 23 pledges, $22.75; Chi Psi, 35 pledges, $42.00; Delta Upsilon, 26 pledges, $31.50; Ivy Club, 2 pledges, $6.00; Sigma Chi, 36 pledges, $38.50; Beta, 20 pledges, $28.00; Delta Tau Delta, 25 pledges, $32.50; Phi Sigma Kappa, 17 pledges, $16.45; Alpha Delt, 33 pledges, $35.75; six pledges were received from Foss House, totalling $6.25. The co-operation of all the undergraduates is requested in bringing the campaign to a successful close to-morrow noon.



President Joseph Beech, '99

"JOE" BEECH TO SPEAK IN THEATRE TO-NIGHT

Campaign For Ambulance Funds Will Continue Through To-morrow.

Dr. Joseph S. Beech, '99, President of the West China Union University, will lecture to-night in the '92 Theatre-Rich Hall, on the subject, "To the Roof of the World." He delivered the same lecture recently before a gathering of two thousand guests of the National Geographic Society in Washington and was enthusiastically received. "Joe" Beech has always been one of the most popular speakers on the Wesleyan campus, where he has appeared a number of times.

The drive for funds for the ambulance which Wesleyan is planning to present to Dr. Beech started to-day and will continue through to-morrow. The amount necessary to purchase the ambulance is $1800, of which more than half had been collected or pledged before the campaign started. Wesleyan has always been generous in its support of the work which Dr. Beech is doing in China, and the men on the committee in charge of the drive for funds are asking for the hearty support of the undergraduates in this undertaking.

The ambulance will be a typical Wesleyan product. It will be a Model A Ford, painted in Wesleyan colors, purchased with donations from Wesleyan men, and used in Wesleyan's missionary enterprise. It will fill a long felt want in the West China University.

AMBULANCE WILL BE SHIPPED TO CHINA

Wesleyan Men Raise Funds for Vehicle to be Used by Three Hospitals.

A Ford ambulance costing $1,800 was driven about the streets of Middletown today bearing a banner which read: "Help send me from Wesleyan to West China." Wesleyan students have agreed to raise the money needed to defray the purchase expense. A Chinese Wesleyan student was a passenger in the car in its run about the city.

At Wesleyan chapel this morning the students were addressed by Dr. Joseph Beech, '99, who has been in China since graduation. He will return to his field this summer. He is president of the West China Union university at Chengtu. This institution has charge of three hospitals and the support comes from mission boards of Great Britain, Canada and the United states. Wesleyan university is one of the contributors.

Chengtu is located about 1,800 miles west of Shanghai. The ambulance seen here today will be the first to go into that section of the Chinese empire.

Middletown Press
April 16, 1931

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April 16, 1931

WEST CHINA TRANSFER

WHAT OUR NEIGHBORS ARE DOING

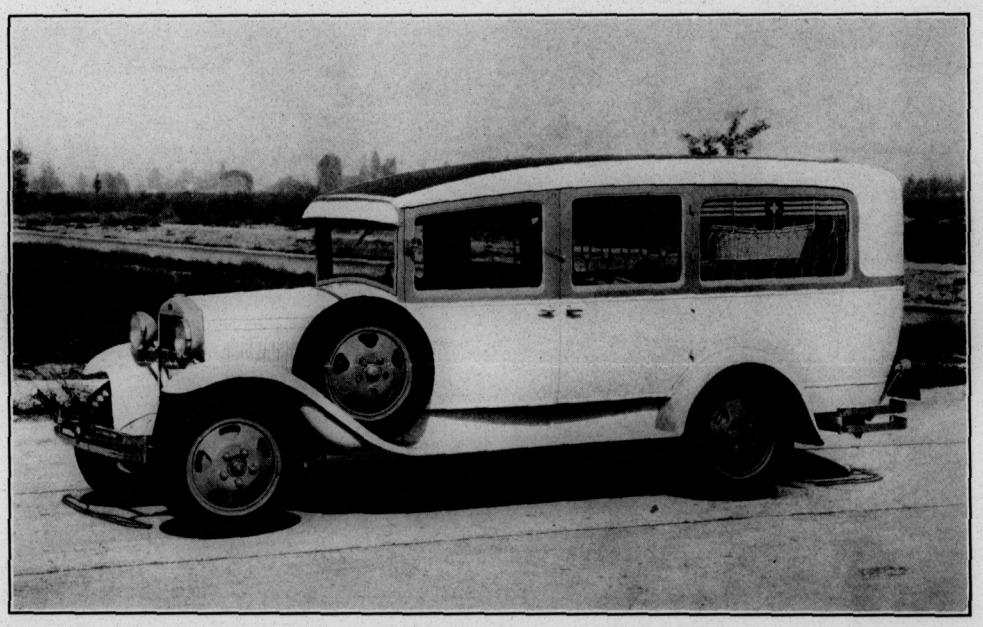
1.	Williams-in-China—support of Alfred H. Holt, '20	$1500.00
2.	Amherst-in-Doshisha (Japan)	1800.00
3.	Penn State-in-China—support of a Penn State Alumnus	1800.00
4.	Princeton-in-China—support of worker at Yenchung Univ.	3000.00
5.	Yale-in-China—support of Yale Graduates	5750.00

N. B. In addition to the work in China and Japan, the above colleges also give to other foreign work. Last year Penn State sent a gift of cattle to their Agricultural College at Lingnan University. Princeton gave a boat, "The Princeton", for work of an alumnus missionary along the coast of Alaska. Yale gave $1500. to the work of Dr. Grenfell and Yale students in Labrador.

WHAT WE HOPE TO DO

6. Wesleyan-in-West China—Will you help send this Ambulance to help the work of our alumnus, President Joseph Beech?

Cost $1800.



N. B. While the stock color of this ambulance is gray, it is our hope that our gift to West China will bear the college colors, and be known as the Wesleyan Ambulance.

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RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
APR 23 1931
JOINT OFFICE

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WEST CHINA

October 3, 1932.

WEST CHINA AMBULANCE ACCOUNT

TRANSFER

I. Receipts

October 24, 1931	- Wesleyan University through M. E. Board	$1,775.00	
December 18, 1931	" " " "	369.78	
February 25, 1932	" " " "	300.00	
April 22, 1932	" " " "	200.00	
August 2, 1932	" " " "	192.85	$2,837.63
October 26, 1931	- First Methodist Church, Montclair	280.00	
November 4, 1931	" " " "	20.00	300.00
October 24, 1931	Athhur V. Davis		500.00
November 4, 1931	E. M. McBrier		100.00
			$3,737.63

II. Disbursements

November 7, 1931	- Ford Motor Company	$1,814.84	
" " "	" " "	16.00	$1,830.84
October 21, 1931	- Advanced to Dr. Beech on Ambulance Acct.	200.00	
February 15, 1932	Draft #1017, Share of ambulance expenses	644.16	
August 16, 1932	" #1027, Ambulance Fund	500.00	1,344.16
			$3,175.00

Balance on Hand:-

Arthur V. Davis	$500.00	
Other sources	62.63	562.63
		$3,737.63

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1932

(NOTE.- The original of which this is a copy was written to Wesleyan University faculty and students.)

The Romance of the Wesleyan University-West China Ambulance.

Like many another romance it has a touch of adventure and affection back of it. Thirty-three years ago the students of Wesleyan began "a nickel-a-week" enterprise for Christian foreign missions. It has never stopped. The first contributions helped to send Fletcher S. Brockman to China. Two years later the students' committee wrote "Joe" Beech '99, who was then in West China, (and is here now)asking if he could use the six hundred and seventy dollars they had collected. Could he? Rather! For he had forty poor boys in his Chungking Boys' School, no mission funds available, his own earnings consumed, and no homes to which the large majority of the boys could go when the last bowl of rice was served. That is how the romance began.

After the Chungking Boys' School, came the Chengtu Methodist College, and then, the West China Union University, each of them adopted as the child of Wesleyan. In addition to the yearly contributions of the students and the faculty, and the gifts of alumni and others at commencement, Neuman '95, Yard '95, Larkin '18 gave valuable years of service here, Neumann being supported by Theodore Richards '88 and Larkin by the faculty abd student contributions. Alexander M. Atherton, '97, whose name in the Alumni Record is marked (*) lives on here in the spacious and beautiful memorial building given by Frank C. Atherton '98 and the Atherton family. From this same source other gifts have come and are continuing like the student gifts each year. President Raymond served on the organizing committee of the university and assisted in formulating the constitution. Professor Rice followed him as a member of the Board of Governors, serving with that same devotion and ability that have endeared him to Wesleyan. President McConoughy now fills the vacancy occasioned by his death. This brings us to the Romance of the Wesleyan Ambulance,for President Mc Conoughy remarked, "Interest in Wesleyan would be stimulated if we had a specific project." That project was given in the call for $1750. for the purchase of a West China ambulance, needed to serve the hospitals associated with our Medical-Dental College.

On the morning of October 16, 1930, a sample Ford ambulance blocked the approach to the Wesleyan Chapel. A large banner covered it, inscribed, "Send me to West China." That morning the story of its need was told, and at noon subscriptions were solicited in all the "Houses". By two that afternoon Professor Herron reported that $1100. had been subscribed by the faculty and students. He said: "You can order your ambulance, we will pay the $1750." They did. But I didn't order. I saw another bill that must be met before the ambulance reached the West China campus, and that bill exceeded the cost of the car in America, plus trials and difficulties that the dollar sign could not express. How that account was met is another chapter.

The story of the Wesleyan ambulance was told to Mr. Edsel Ford. He paid for the transportation to Shanghai. It was repeated to a friend in New York. He paid for all the extra parts and more. It was just referred to at the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Montclair, N.J. and $400. came. Encouraged to this degree, I visited the Ford general offices and ordered the car and equipment and started for China. The ambulance, shipped from Edgewater, N. J. via Panama, was well on its way before I passed the Golden Gate.

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Customs, taxes and surtaxes, delays and impositions stretch out like hurdles that the carrier of merchandise must mount and surmount if his destination is the far interior of China. I approached Shanghai in a hopeful mood that the 33% automobile customs charge could be escaped. The car complete and the transportation to Shanghai amounted to about $2100, upon which about $700 might be claimed. When I arrived the government had fallen, there was no minister of finance to whom I could appeal. Later, when one was appointed, he "knew not Joseph" and could not be found. The Chinese Superintendent of Customs declared he knew me, although I did not know him. He wrote a letter to the Commissioner of Customs asking that official to pass the ambulance free of duty. "I would like to " said he, "but can do so on the Finance Minister's order only." He lifted the palms of his hands is a gesture of despair. "Who is the minister and where can I find him?", I asked. Phone messages gave us the wrong address, but by chance I stumbled on to the right one. He was not there, but his friend and my friend were there. The next day the Assistant Minister presented me with a large seal-covered envelope with the request that it be presented to the Commissioner. That official, glancing over the Chinese document, remarked "Never saw anything like this before, but your ambulance is free of customs charge and surcharge."

Two days later, at the Ford headquarters, I had my first look at the ambulance. It was a far more beautiful car than that shown at Wesleyan. The Wesleyan colors encircled it, a cardinal cross with the Wesleyan seal in bronze was on each side of the car, the main colors being very delicate green and grey. "There is nothing like it in Shanghai. It excels anything the Ford Company has exhibited", said the representative. The China Press man had learned of its arrival and was there with camera to get the picture and the story. A half-page photograph and the story of the Wesleyan Ambulance was on the front page of the next Sunday edition.

When I climbed aboard the Yangtze Rapids Steamship "I-fung" in the early mists of the next morning, Sunday, January 17th, I found the ambulance on deck in need of a friend. It had one near by for the remainder of the long journey of 1750 miles. Nuts were tightened, removable parts were removed and every effort made to preserve it intact. Remember this was the first ambulance seen west of Shanghai. Many of the passengers and laborers at the ports of call fondled it to such an extent that the newly painted Chinese characters began to disappear. The nickeled objects were kept bright, and some muttered as they caressed "Who wouldn't be sick to get a ride in this." Such was the affectionate reception along the way.

The great floods of the Yangtze had passed out to the sea leaving little evidence of their visit except in wreckage and silted channels. Shallows and constantly shifting channels made progress slow. The "I-fung" dropped anchor at Ichang, 1000 miles west of Shanghai, Sunday morning, January 31st. From the American gunboat anchored at this port we received our first information of the outrageous attack on Shanghai and the wanton destruction of life and property. The Ichang officials had the news and were fearful lest a similar fate awaited their city from the two Japanese gunboats anchored there. Troops were moving, but not toward Shanghai, and so far as is known we still have our full quota of more than 500,000 soldiers in this province. Students have agitated, special editions of daily papers have been hawked on the streets, enlistments have increased and the "goose step" shakes the earth on every vacant lot that soldiers can commandeer. Our university campus has had thousands of these soldiers and our students have petitioned

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that they move to Shanghai. Like the poor, they are still with us. It is a long way from Szechuen to Japan. - We return to the ambulance.

There was only one steamer on the Upper Yangtze, at this stage of water, that could take the ambulance on its decks. The "I-fung" drew too much water and lacked the power to go beyond Ichang. It lowered the ambulance to a flat boat and departed. Eight days thereafter it was safely on the top deck of S.S. "Chichuen" when she lifted anchor and headed for the gorges and rapids of the Upper Yangtze.

During those eight days the ambulance had had its own troubles. Buried under a foot of snow on the flat boat anchored in mid-stream, it looked the victim of circumstances that it was, when a few days later it was hauled aboard the steamer. Having no crane we built a gangplank from the flat boat to the "Chichuen" top deck. This w? propped up by bales of cotton on other boats between the steamer and the flat boat. The car was next man-handled toward the gangplank and the forty man power push-pull started. When fully on the 25 foot climb the cotton braces began to topple and one hind wheel crashed through the plank. The pushers and the brace-holders took that for a signal to depart. The rope to the deck and the broken plank saved it from a bad retreat. A wind-storm, rough water that started each boat rocking in its own uncontrollable fashion made propping a difficult and somewhat dangerous task.

"Let it down", yelled the crowd."Pull it up", I cried, for once down, I feared it would stay down for many a day. It was ticklish business as the crowd of coolies pushed, pulled and held props in place. But groaning in discordant unison they lifted it a foot, then another, and it was on its way. I got my first look at the bottom of the car as it went overhead. It did not look like the admired Wesleyan ambulance from that place of vision. I felt so fine and bteathed so freely as it went on deck that tips were akin to thanksgiving.

Astride of the deck, shielded from soot by a tarpaulin that enveloped it, the ambulance danced its merry way over the Yangtze rapids, and at the end of the fourth day was tied up at the wharf at Chungking, having made over a hundred miles a day. Here and beyond tax stations are as common as gas stations on an Americam highway. A motor car agent informed me that over $3,600 in silver currency would be required for taxes from Chungking to Chengtu. His estimate was too low. Another tax had been added that brought the figure beyond $4,000. This was equivalent to U.S. $1,000. Fortunately I was in the land of my friends. "Robbers", some call them, when these taxes are encountered.

I told the story of the Ambulance to the Marshall of the 21st Army, who governs the southern half of the province and has an army of more than 120,000 men. He placed his seal on an order to pass free through all his territory. By way of recompense I treated him to a ride in the ambulance which had been pulled up the steep cliff by the Ford agent in the city. I dined with another official whose station must be passed. His signature and seal to the order was the first course of the meal. Two passes came from the commanders of the 24th and 28th armies in response to messages to Chengtu.

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These passes covered the ambulance, and eleven pieces of baggage and freight that would have cost in taxes another sum of about $350 American money. They saved a vast amount of trouble also. Stopped by officious tax gatherers and soldiers, they saluted instead of haggling, when the orders were opened to their gaze. When we got upon the highways, the road commissioners, whose joy it is to collect road taxes, had "no words to say". The ambulance costs in America were equalled by the taxes forgiven. It was a gracious act for the Finance Bureau to pass the ambulance in Shanghai when money was their greatest need. It was an indication of a friendly attitude that deserves more than a passing notice that the Szechuen officials let us through their many stations. Friends to noble endeavors are not confined to one side of the Pacific.

After the ambulance had been lowered down the steep Chungking cliff by an army of coolies, it next rested on a junk that was pulled up stream for eight days by trackers to the town of Tunglan, the southern terminus of the Chengtu motor road. Here the 24th army tax station and several flights of stone steps had to be surmounted before we could reach the road.

The tax station was easy, its personnel courteous. The steps were difficult and not without danger to the car. We resorted to ropes and an army of coolies - the method used to get it up the gangplank of the "Chuchuen", off that steamer at Chungking and up and down the cliff at Chungking. It did not work at Tunglan. Coolies distributed along the flights of steps grasped the cable and took a running start. The Chinese driver who had come from Chengtu to drive the car there, stepped on the gas. It responded to this double in an unexpected manner, reared up like a frightened horse and plunged ahead. The pullers near the car scrambled for safety. Those at the top continued to run. It had to be full speed ahead now for the man in the car. Bang, clash, it went into the succeeding flights. Scraping at the rear, rearing at the front, it raced its way to the top and landed on the highway. No proving ground ever treated a car like that ambulance was treated, and we demonstrated that we might use the attic for a garage. Aside from damage to the rear step. it was safe and sound. The populace and soldiers ran from both ends of the town to get a look at it. I acted as riot squad and pushed them away from it, saying, "This is a sick man's car, get off ." The commissioner of roads joined the crowd and announced that a heavy car like that could not go over the road. Three days of rain before, and another after our arrival, determined that we must at least wait. The commissioner became friendly. stored the ambulance in his garage, dined us, and presented us with a free road pass. Tales of "seas of mud" caused us to decide to make two trips in order to transport our baggage to Suining. We refused friends a ride, insisting that our load was too heavy, and were in the act of bidding farewell when a military officer arrived. He begged to go with us, we begged him to take the next day's bus. He pleaded haste and urgent duties. Unwillingly we capitulated and told him to get aboard. He, turned out to be two, for a wife appeared. Then he turned out to be three, for she had a son. Another look and "he" had become four for his soldier guard was in the ambulance. That look was vocal. "Oh, he must go along to protect me," said the officer. "I'll protect you",I replied."But my revolvers!" he retorted. "They may ride",I conceded, "but the guard walks". He did, and the wife was custodian of the weapons. Such is life with an auto and an inch of spare room, for favors are the lubricants of the road. Three trips, 130 miles, consumed the whole day, and gas a plenty.

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The Wesleyan Ambulance 5

The next day was spent at Suining, a flourishing city burdened with thousands of soldiers. By unboxing our freight it was possible to get all our goods in the ambulance. "Too heavry, look at that tire", said the driver. "Free air" remedied that manifestation. Then came the road commissioner with a free road-pass, and with him came the sister of the commanding general of the city who wanted a free ride. We accepted the pass and successfully declined the lady.

By noon we had passed over the worst section of a muddy and bumpy road that tested the springs adjusted for ambulance uses, and were negotiating with ferry-men to carry us across the river at Kienchow. Five men, $2.00 and a big flat boat did the business. Stopped by the soldiers, we served notice that we had the freedom of the road and the country, and were soon on the last fifty mile lap of our journey from Detroit to Chengtu. This road was in excellent condition. The section over the mountain bordering the Chengtu Plain is a tribute to the builders. The run down to the Plain was an experience to be remembered. Our top-heavy load called for governed speed and for caution in rounding the many sharp turns. The driver had a minus quantity of it. We overtook a fine family sedan running on its rims. It would not hear us, it did not see us, but it always swerved toward us when we aimed to pass. "Lu tsu" would translate our American term for that type, but it would be lost in Chinese.

Villages multiplied as we neared Chengtu. Barrows, rickshaws, buffalo-cows, foot passengers, and companies of soldiers called for incessant blowing of our horns. It looked like circus day with the country-side all in the highway as we approached the East Gate suburb. "Slow", I called to the driver. He replied with more gas and more noise. I worked the siren. The crowd split like the opening gates of a canal lock as we rushed ahead. The East Gate guards halted us and that jammed the traffic in both directions. We felt for the pass, but before we could produce it, the University Chinese characters, "Hwa Hai", on the sides of the ambulance sufficed for us to get on.

Sidewalks are in the middle of the roads in this populous city. So we continued through the city as we had approached it, and on through the South Gate to the University Campus, arriving at 5:30 P.M., March 3rd, just 15 hours ahead of the telegram I had despatched early that morning informing the University when we expected to arrive.

The ambulance was promised at Wesleyan, October 16, 1931, the order was placed at the Ford Dearborn office, October 24th, and the car was shipped from Edgewater, November 9th. It arrived in Shanghai January 14th, left January 17th, and arrived at Chengtu on March 3rd, 1932, just in time to convey for the first 150 miles on his homeward journey to Canada a member of our staff who was afflicted with cancer. Radium and apparatus for deep x-ray therapy we do not have in this part of the world, so treatment could not be given here.

On its return it was exhibited at the home of the Commander of the 28th Army, and driven through the city with him as a guest. The story of the Wesleyan Ambulance was told to the student body at the Sunday evening chapel service and continued at the Wednesday assembly. It blocked the approach

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to the chapel in much the same fashion that the sample car stood before the Chapel of Wesleyan. It made the rounds of the city hospitals, was visited by the Mayor and other officials; the former remarking, as he was invited to take a ride, " I hope to keep out of that car."

It is now in the keeping of the Hospital's Board, who have written their thanks to Wesleyan through President McConoughy. It is not enough that I should have shared in that expression, I take this opportunity to salute the Old College in genuine appreciation, and quote from the Hospital's Board resolution the statement of our hopes for the first ambulance in the interior of China, the "Wesleyan University-West China Ambulance": " The ambulance increases the opportunities for service of the hospitals and their various staffs to a very marked extent over the whole province. It gives a broader basis to the applied field in our work of medical education." As I write these words the ambulance is on a mission of great urgency. Four boys, in the school for missionaries' children here, were bitten by a dog that later examination revealed had hydrophobia Anti-toxin was telegraphed for to Shanghai, to be sent to Chungking by aeroplane. Time may be life in this case, and the ambulance may prove to be the saving element. The ambulance, the boys, and the doctor are racing to Chungking.

/s/ JOSEPH BEECH

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BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

WEST CHINA

May 12, 1937

Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Attention--Mr. C. A. Evans

Dear Mr. Evans:

You will find enclosed our check #7442 for $750.00 covering designated gift received during the month of February 1937 from Wesleyan Christian Association, Middletown, Conn.--per:- Delton L. Scudder, Middletown, Conn.

This gift was remitted for Chengtu--West China for the following purposes:--

$350.00---Scholarships at West China University under direction of Joseph Beech.
$400.00---Bed in Hospital at West China Univ. under direction of Joseph Beech.

Sincerely yours,

K. MacKenzie

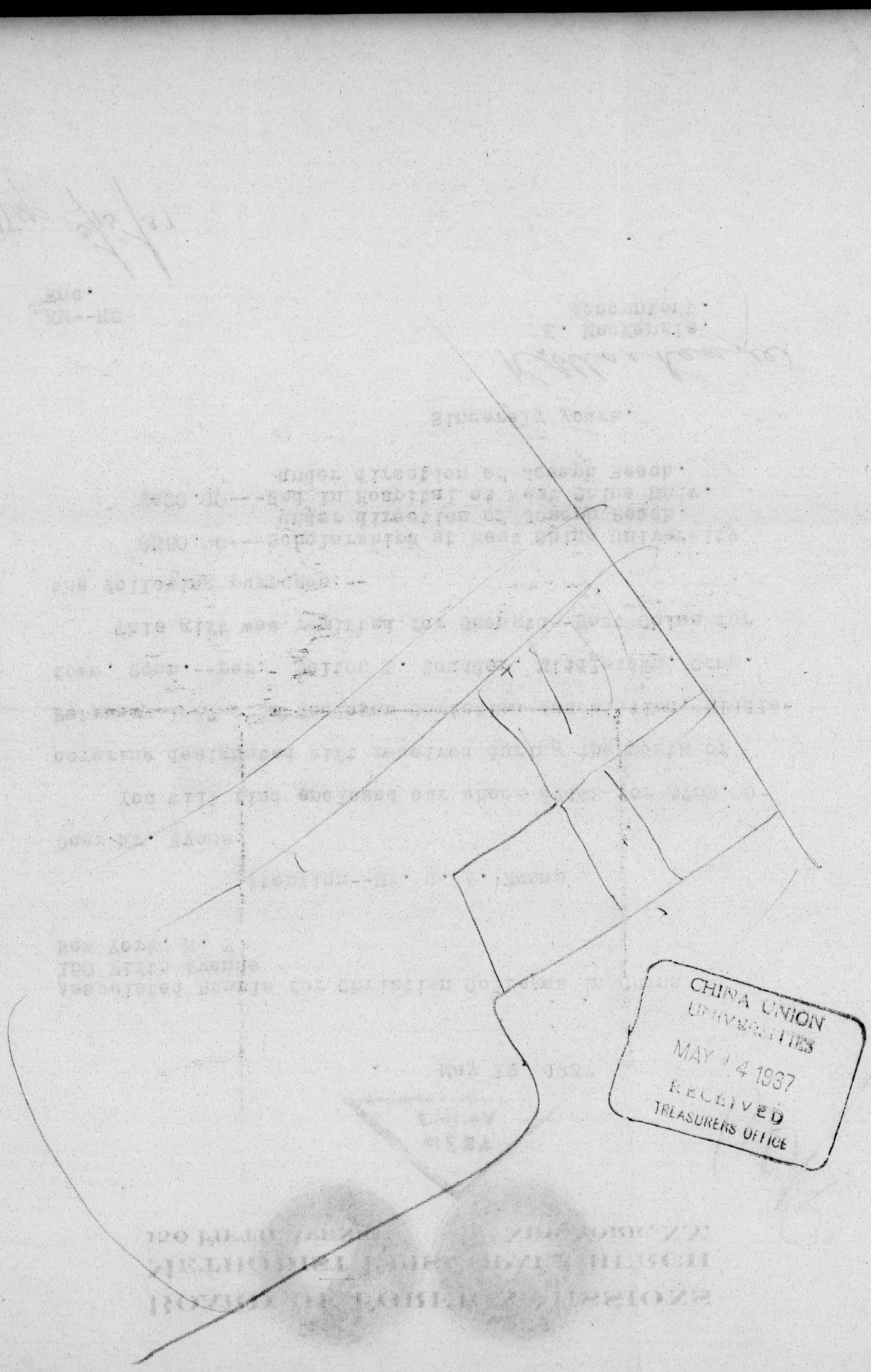
K. MacKenzie,
Accountant.

KM--HO
Enc.

Dep. 5/15/37

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CHINA UNION
UNIVERSITIES
MAY 14 1937
RECEIVED
TREASURERS OFFICE

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

fub

July 1, 1937

Mr. C.A. Evans, Asst. Treas.
China Colleges' office
150 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

WEST CHINA

My dear Mr. Evans:-

We have just received a letter signed by Delton L. Scudder of the Wesleyan University Christian Association, Middletown, Conn., which we quote in full as follows:-

> "I should like to request you, on behalf of the Wesleyan Christian Association, to allow Dr. Beech of West China Union University to use or to invest the money which we forwarded to you earlier this year - Feb. 18 - in any manner he sees fit. More specifically, this request bears reference to a possible deposit of $350. in a Chinese bank in China. The other portion of this sum, we understand, will be used for scholarships at Chengtu. Kindly notify Dr. Beech that this request has been made."

This $350. referred to is part of the remittance from the Wesleyan Christian Association, which was sent on to you in our check #7442, May 10, 1937. Dr. Beech, in a conversation with me, April 22, 1937, informed me that in the future, any money that comes in designated for him is to be sent to your offices. And so, we are presuming that you will take care of any requests such as the above from Delton L. Scudder.

Very truly yours,

C. R. Woodruff
Department of Designated Income

CRW:A

ALDERSGATE—MAY 24, 1738.
"THIS DAY IN THE LIFE OF JOHN WESLEY MEANT MORE TO ENGLAND THAN ALL HER VICTORIES UNDER PITT."—LECKY. THE HISTORIAN.

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