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Avann, Orpha C. 1932-1946

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January 5, 1932.

Mrs. Orpha C. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

Thank you for your letter of December 29. I have recently had letters from both Monona Cheney and Ruth Stahl. Miss Cheney explains as you have done, the circumstances in regard to her mother's condition and her own reluctance to leave her while she is so far from well. I think, however, she is quite definitely looking to a return to her work in the spring.

Ruth Stahl says that she is distinctly better in health although not yet quite ready to return to China. She thinks she may be in the spring. I hope Miss Cheney can certainly go not later than May 1, but if Miss Stahl is not really well and if a few more months of recuperation would help her physically I should think it might be as well for her to wait until summer, I mean to arrive just in time for the fall's work. However, ~~time~~ will doubtless make clear what is right for both of them. It is evident that the College needs them both. Miss Cheney sent me several letters she had received explaining the situation quite fully. Apparently they need her quite as much for what she can do for the students in social and religious lines as for her actual teaching. Miss Myfanwy Wood is to go on furlough this summer and apparently they are very anxious to have some experienced workers of the real missionary type on hand to carry on what she is doing.

I note that you are planning to go to Atlantic City for the Foreign Missions Conference. I do not plan to go, but do expect to be in New York on Tuesday, January 12. A meeting of the Committee on the Foochow Union Hospital is called for the forenoon of that day, and a meeting of the Trustees of the American College of Sofia, Bulgaria for the afternoon. The Federation is, I believe, meeting in Bronxville, so you will very likely not be in the city on Monday. If you should be, I should be glad to see you. I shall probably spend Monday night in the Prince George Hotel. I am sorry not to go to the Foreign Missions Conference for a number of reasons, but I really do not want to be away from home for so long.

Ever affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

1190

February 10, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

I am wondering whether you are planning to be in New York for the meeting called for February 23 and 24, that those especially interested in the Union Colleges in China may give consideration to the correlated program for the colleges. You will remember that the Yenching Trustees asked the Executive Committee of that body to make a thorough study of the relations of Yenching to the proposed associated Boards for Christian Colleges. I wrote Mr. Garside, asking whether a meeting of the Executive Committee for this purpose might be held just preceding or in connection with the conference of February 23 and 24. He replies that the last word the New York office has had is that President Stuart is planning to arrive in America on the Empress of Canada on March 6 and that as he has some very definite ideas on the subject of the proposed joint Board and Yenching's relation to it he thinks it would be well to have the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Trustees held at a time when Dr. Stuart can be present. Do you think I am right in understanding that the discussions on February 23 and 24 will inevitably center largely around East China problems? It would be interesting and educative for me to listen to the discussions, but it would probably not be vitally important for me to be present. I have been feeling for some time that it would be very desirable for some of us to do some careful thinking in regard to the future of our Yenching College Committee and that we should, if possible, have brought our thinking more or less to a focus before the April meeting of the Committee. If you are coming on to New York for the conference on the 23rd and 24th, perhaps you and Mrs. Williamson and I could think together in regard to our Committee and its work. If we could really do something worthwhile I should feel that an adequate reason for the expenditure of time and money involved in a trip to New York.

Please let me know as soon as you can, first whether you are yourself planning to go and secondly whether you really think it worth while for me to be present.

Always affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

1191

Northwestern Branch

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.

ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.



February 14, 1932.

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

FEB 15 1932

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Ans. *Feb 15/32*
Your letter has just come and I will write at once as I am leaving town for a few days.

I am planning to go to the conference on the 23rd and 24th of this month. I do not think that I am essential at all to that conference, but they have asked me to come and to present the correlated program as it relates to the two universities in the North. I am so thoroughly interested in the correlation and am so convinced that some plan, either this one or another plan of correlation should be put into effect that I have decided to go.

I would be very glad if you and Mrs. Williamson would be there both for the sake of the conference itself and in order that we might do some thinking together about the matter which you have mentioned and which we had just a word about before we left New York the last time we were there together. I think we could profitably talk this matter over now and perhaps after Dr. Stuart comes and the Executive Committee meets and you learn what his ideas are, we could have another meeting just prior to the Yenching College committee meeting to further discuss the future of Yenching College Committee, and have something really definite to propose and discuss in the committee meeting. I think it is essential that some of us think the matter through pretty thoroughly and carefully before anything is proposed.

I haven't looked up trains yet, but I cannot very well leave here until Sunday night, which would give me the evening of Monday in New York. If you and Mrs. Williamson cannot be there as early as that, perhaps we could take Tuesday evening for our meeting. I doubt that there will be a night session of the conference on Tuesday. Let me know if you can when you would like to have our little conference. I will have other plans -- a group of missionaries I must see and a friend, -- but I want to save time for this.

Affectionately yours,

Alpha C. Avann

1192

February 15, 1932.

Mrs. O. R. Williamson
The Wellington
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Williamson:

Mrs. Lee has had a letter from Mrs. Avann this morning saying that Tuesday evening will be the most convenient time for her to have a conference with you and Mrs. Lee.

We are writing Mrs. Avann today that Tuesday evening is all right for Mrs. Lee, and hope that you can meet with them at the Prince George Hotel.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. L.O.Lee

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February 15, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

Mrs. Lee has asked me to write you this morning to say that Tuesday evening will be the best time for her to have a conference with you and Mrs. Williamson. She is writing Mrs. Williamson today giving her this word.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. L. O. Lee.

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COMMITTEE OF
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

of

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

COMMITTEE

MRS. O. R. WILLIAMSON, *Chairman*
The Wellington, Philadelphia

MRS. L. O. LEE, *Secretary*
14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

MR. E. M. MCBRIER, *Treasurer*
150 Fifth Ave., New York

MR. B. A. GARSIDE, *Assistant Treasurer*
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

PRESIDENT ELLEN F. PENDLETON, *Wellesley, Mass.*
Chairman of Budget Committee

MRS. J. M. AVANN, *Chicago*
Chairman of Nominating Committee

PROFESSOR ELIZA H. KENDRICK, *Wellesley, Mass.*
Chairman of Candidate Committee

MISS ALICE KEEP CLARK, *Evanston, Ill.*
Chairman of Promotion Committee

MRS. WILLIAM BOYD, *Philadelphia*

MISS MARGARET E. BURTON, *New York*

MRS. SAMUEL MCREA CAVERT, *New York*

MRS. JOHN H. FINLEY, *New York*

DEAN LUCY JENKINS FRANKLIN, *Boston, Mass.*

MISS JENNIE A. GOULDY, *New York*

MRS. HELEN H. JENKINS, *New York*

MISS MARION A. KENDALL, *Cambridge, Mass.*

MR. ERIC M. NORTH, *New York*

DEAN MABEL M. ROYS, *Aurora-on-Cayuga, N. Y.*

MRS. F. LOUIS SLADE, *New York*

MRS. ROBERT E. SPEER, *New York*

MR. FRANKLIN H. WARNER, *New York*

MRS. CHARLES C. PARLIN, *Tenafly, N. J.*
Representative of Wellesley College Alumnae

MRS. MURRAY S. FRAME, B.A., B.D., Litt D.D., *Dean of the College*

PEIPING, CHINA

June 24, 1932

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

JUN 27 1932

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Air _____

There are two or three matters I might write you about this afternoon, but I am in haste to get a bit of information about the Chinese young woman about whom you wrote us a few days ago, Miss Nettie Soo-Hoo. I hope that she will prove to be the one we have been looking for this long time to serve as Dean of Yenching and I hope that she will accept the invitation. What I am wanting to know is when she will be leaving the country and how I may get in touch with her should she not be leaving until after October. I am trying to arrange for an international evening for our branch meeting, and would be glad if I could secure her as one of the two or three speakers for the evening. If you know that she is leaving so as to be on the field by the time college opens, should she accept our invitation, then I will not make any attempt to get in touch with her. You probably know her plans.

I have been quite burdened with anxiety over the possibility of failure in securing the amount necessary to insure the Rockefeller grant for our Science Department. I do hope that the last small amount of \$13,000 will be secured. We are having such a desperate time here in Chicago as you doubtless know, that I think everyone is depressed and defeated in the very thought of asking for money. We are all excited today over the run on one of the largest banks down town and the rumor that it has closed its doors. Another of the large banks down town was having the same experience. Thirteen banks in this vicinity have closed within the (7 more today) last two days. With all that has gone before and the rumblings of trouble of all kinds growing out of the economical situation, we are somewhat upset.

I am glad to tell you that when we met as a foreign department in Atlantic City last month we found that our society was in fairly good condition. We were at that time just 10% below in our receipts of what we were at the same time last year.

1195

COMMITTEE OF

I am taking Mother to Ohio in another week to spend a number of weeks. I shall hope to hear from you before I go.

Lovingly yours,

Alpha C. Arant

PEIPING, CHINA

RECEIVED
JUN 27 1932

JUN 27 1932

Dear Mrs. Lee:
There are two or three matters I might write you about this afternoon, but I am in haste to get a bit of information about the Chinese young woman about whom you wrote us a few days ago, Miss Nettie Soohoo. I hope that she will prove to be the one we have been looking for this long time to serve as a teacher and I hope that she will accept the invitation. What I am waiting to know is whether she will be leaving the country in the near future. I may not be in touch with her until she gets to Peiping in October. I am trying to arrange for an international evening for our church meeting, and would be glad if I could secure her as one of the two or three speakers for the evening. If you know that she is leaving as far as the field by the time she gets here, then I will not make any attempt to get in touch with her. You probably know her plans.

I have been quite troubled with anxiety over the possibility of failure in securing the amount necessary to insure the Rockefeller grant for our Science Department. I do hope that the last small amount of \$12,000 will be secured. We are having such a dearth of the here in Chicago as you doubtless know, that I think everyone is depressed and dejected in the very thought of making for money. We are all excited today over the run on one of the largest banks down town and the rumor that it has closed its doors. Another of the large banks down town was having the same experience. Fifteen banks in this vicinity have closed within the last two days. With all that has gone before and the possibility of trouble of all kinds arising out of the economical situation, we are somewhat crest.

I am glad to tell you that when we met as a foreign department in Atlantic City last month we found that our society was in fairly good condition. We were at that time just below in our receipts of what we were at the same time last year.

1196

27849E

June 27, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

Your letter of June 24 is here this morning. I am sorry I cannot give you more definite information about Miss Soo-Hoo. I have written her asking for details as to her home her education and the experience she has had before coming to America, but have not yet heard from her. Neither am I sure as to the time of her sailing. My understanding is that she hopes to reach Peiping in time for the beginning of the School year next September.

Her address is: 515 Cheever Court, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

A call has come for a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Yenching Board of Trustees tomorrow but it does not seem worth while for me to go to New York for it. While I am not sure that the conditions of the Rockefeller gift will be met I feel pretty confident that they will. A letter received this morning from Mr. Garside reports "A generous grant of up to "Gold \$25,000" from the Harvard-Yenching Institute. This as I understand it, reduces the total need to \$10,000 or less and I think there are fairly definite prospects for securing that amount. I am hoping tomorrow to send a check for \$1000 from the income of a fund the American Board holds and which we think may be assigned this year to Yenching.

I am distressed over what you say about the further bank failures in Chicago. I wish you had given the name of "one of the largest banks down town" which had just closed its doors. This is a matter of more than casual interest to me because it may involve the loss of every penny my sister has. I do not wonder in the least that you are all feeling greatly depressed. I do not know that he can do anything, but I am glad to think that General Dawes refused the nomination to the vice-presidency and hope he will get busy with other large business men of Chicago and see if they cannot help to bring about better times.

Mrs. J.M.A.--2.

I am so glad that the W.F.M.S. has come through the year as well as it has. You will understand that your letter has come soon after mine of last Saturday was mailed to you.

Always with love,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

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COPY of letter to Mrs. Lee from Miss Nettie Soo-Hoo.

Cranbrook School
Bloomfield, Mich.

June 26, 1932.

My dear Mrs. Lee:

While attending an Episcopalian Conference here at Cranbrook, I am taking the opportunity to answer your two last letters dated June 20 and 23 in which you spoke of various questions connected with my taking up the work at Yenching.

You spoke of my early background. While not born in this country, I spent much of my life here, having gone through the schools and University before returning to my native land. My family has for years made its home in California, first in San Francisco, then in Oakland and in Berkeley where my father's church work took him. Upon my return to China, I went to Canton Christian College where I was put in charge of the girls, and after a few years there, turned northward to Nankai in Tientsin where I taught English until my coming back to America three years ago. Although I never lost sight of things Chinese while in school, and my mother's inability to speak English made it compulsory to use Chinese in the home, I never acquired that ability to use Chinese which is expected of every one of my parentage. My years of teaching were crowded with many duties so that only fitful attempts could be made to strengthen myself in the use of the language. As a result, I still feel myself inadequate in expression and consider this deficiency a great hindrance in any work I wish to take up. However, my desire to acquire a proficiency soon, emboldens me to accept a responsibility which I hesitated long to take. My hope is that the work at Yenching will allow me some time to achieve this aim, and my desire is that with the work I may grow in the power not only to use the language easily but to administer the many duties well.

As to teaching during the first year, I am not sure how a program can be carried out. I have thought it might help to have a period of observation, during which I might see how things worked at the same time that I studied Chinese alongside with the teaching. But careful weighing over of the matter has caused me to conder if the psychological effect caused by my hesitancy to assume full duties on first appearance might not make all future work difficult or prolong unnecessarily the trials of the Committee of Three. My belief has always been that contacts with students made possible by even one class with them might establish a sympathy and understanding that will do more than a great deal of administrative work. While I am ready to give up the idea of full teaching, I still think that one course will be advisable.

The matter of traveling expenses surprises me. I had thought that with the newly-established single standard for both Chinese and American teachers, there would be no distinction between them. My voluntary return to this country for study should not, in my opinion, draw any line of difference between my proposed trip to Peking and that of any other newly appointed member of the faculty. I am awaiting word from your office concerning this matter, and would appreciate a clarification of this point. The salary in any missionary school being lower than that of a Chinese-established

institution, it will be difficult to see how Yenching raises the standard.

Information concerning my departure will not be forth coming for some time, if Miss Speer is to write from Peking. As yet I have made no arrangements, pending word from those in your staff who handle details connected with such matters. Miss Stahl sails early, I understand, and will probably leave before my plans are fully made.

You will, I hope, pardon me for speaking so frankly about things. I feel that true understanding is most desirable in establishing a basis for mutual helpfulness, and would not be satisfied to see only a part of that in which I feel interested.

I trust that the new duties connected with the office which I am undertaking will be met to the best of my ability, and I need not assure you that I shall be diligent in maintaining that faith which you have expressed in me.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Nettie Soo-Hoo

COMMITTEE OF
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

of

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

COMMITTEE

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The Wellington, Philadelphia

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14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

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Representative of Wellesley College Alumnae

MRS. MURRAY S. FRAME, B.A., B.D., Litt D.D., *Dean of the College*

PEIPING, CHINA

June 29, 1932 RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

JUL 1 1932

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Ans. _____

Thank you for the information concerning Miss Soo-Hoo. In order to save time I will write her. Of course I hope she will be going out for the beginning of school if she is to be the dean.

Speaking of Yenching reminds me of a bit of bad news which I probably should have shared with you before this time. As you know my niece, Miss Cheney, deferred her return to China on account of her mother's condition. Her mother improved during the past year and Monona returned feeling quite comfortable, as did all the members of the family. However, on

the very day after Monona sailed her mother was stricken with paralysis. She was entirely helpless at first, but has been improving gradually and we hope will recover sufficiently to get about. Just how Monona will feel about staying under those conditions, I do not know. When I last heard from her father, my brother, he thought there was no need for sending for Monona. We can only hope for the best. Monona told me that before she left her father assured her that if anything should happen to her mother it would not be necessary for her to come on his account. If her mother should remain helpless I imagine Monona will feel that she ought to be here.

I am very glad to have your encouraging word about the amount of money we are under obligation to procure before the end of the month. I have been very uneasy about it, but have felt that there were people of means and organizations which would not let the matter go by default, especially for a small amount. It seems to me that it is the people who have made investments in this college and other foreign institutions who might be looked to to increase their investment rather than to expect that people who have never been financially interested would now put money into such a project. I really think that the Rockefeller Foundation ought to be very lenient and generous in this instance.

1201

I am very sorry that I spoke as I did about the large banks. We were all rather excited over the situation that was an actual one, but did not necessitate the closing of the bank which I had in mind. That was the Continental-Illinois Bank. There were runs on the Continental-Illinois, the First National, The Central Republic and the Bank of Commerce. The Bank of Commerce closed its doors. I enclose a clipping containing a statement of General Dawes concerning the Central Republic. It does seem that if General Dawes has any extraordinary financial genius, and he certainly has that reputation, that now is the time to apply it to his own institutions and city. I do hope that your sister's interests are *uncompromised*

With love,

Ever sincerely yours,

Opha C. Adams

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October 14, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

I should ere this have told you that the American Board has filled one of its two vacancies on the Yenching College Committee. You have it in mind I think, that both Miss Clark and Miss Kendall have resigned so that there are two vacancies in the American Board representation. One of these has been filled by Miss Margaret G. Rogers of Warwood, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. I do not know Miss Rogers personally, but she is a University of Michigan woman and some of our Congregational women in Chicago speak of her as a person much interested in education as well as in Christian work. I think she is definitely planning to come to the fall meeting of our Yenching College Committee. I wish it might be possible for you to meet her. This may not be feasible before you both come to New York; but in any case, I wanted you to know at least her name. If you can get time I am sure she would appreciate a word of welcome from you as you and she are now the only two Chicago members of our Committee.

I should be very greatly disappointed if anything prevented your coming to New York for the October 27 and 28 meetings and hope that I may surely see you there.

Always affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

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SIX HUNDRED ROOMS EACH WITH BATH

RECEIVED

GENERAL DEPARTMENT

OCT 21 1932

THE MAYO



TULSA

Oct. 18. 1932.

Dear Mrs. Lee-

Your letter has been forwarded to me here where we are in the midst of the General Executive Meeting of our society.

I am planning to be in New York for the meetings on Thurs. and Friday of next week, but as I shall not get back to Chicago until Tues. night, I shall have but a few hours

1204

there. I would be so
glad other wise to make
Miss Rogers acquaintance
before leaving Chicago.

I shall send her a
little note from here.
Thank you for writing
me about her.

It will be so nice to
see you again.

Affectionately yours.

Ophelia C. Brown

October 29, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

I am back at my desk this morning feeling a little like the day after the party, but also that we had two very worthwhile days of meeting together in New York.

I am enclosing the American Board's Annual Meeting program as I promised. I want also to call your attention especially to the fact that the term of the two W.F.M.S. representatives on our Yenching College Committee has expired, or is very soon to expire. According to the showing on our lists, Miss Gouldy's term of service came to an end in 1931, presumably in April as that was the time of our Annual Meeting. Dean Franklin's term expired in 1932.

I assume that the W.F.M.S. will wish to continue these two representatives rather than to appoint others. Will you see that the necessary action is taken by your Board? Is your understanding the same as mine that Boards appoint their representatives for a term of three years?

I hope you may get a little rest on your way home.

Always affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

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Northwestern Branch

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.

ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.



Nov. 3, 1932.

RECEIVED
CORRESPONDENCE DEPARTMENT

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

NOV 5 1932

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Ans. ~~Nov. 12/32~~

Your letter came this morning with its enclosures. Thank you so much for sending me your program. I have not had time yet to more than casually glance it over, but I recognized it as a high grade program.

In regard to the representatives of our board on Yenching committees, according to our by-laws the representatives of boards serve for a period of three years. As our society has so many representatives on college boards, it has been our custom and still is to name the representatives annually. The same ones who represented us last year were reappointed with the exception that Mrs. J.K.Cecil, 440 Melville Ave., Palo Alto, Calif., takes the place of Mrs. Snudden.

I had a very, very full day on Saturday, but a very worth while one. I left New York at four o'clock and had a good rest that night. I stopped in Indiana to spend Sunday with some friends and came on home Sunday evening. I have not had any time since to rest, but hope now to be able to catch up a little after the strain of a month in meetings.

With love,

Ever sincerely yours,

Ophele Avann

1207

November 12, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

This is just a line to thank you for your letter of November 3 and to tell you that we are putting Miss Gouldy in the 1934 class and Dean Franklin in the 1935 Class of membership in our Yenching College Committee.

I am wondering if you are planning to be in New York for the meeting on the report of the Appraisal Commission November 18 and 19. I am not going for those meetings but do hope to attend the Foreign Missions Conference in December. A number of the American Board officers will be in New York for the meetings in regard to the Report. I am wondering if you seem to feel what we here are feeling, that the fall months always strenuous have been a little more so than usual this year.

Always yours with love,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

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Northwestern Branch

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.



ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.

November 16, 1932.

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

NOV 18 1932

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Thank you for your letter of November 12th. No, I am not going to be at the Appraisal Commission meeting on Friday and Saturday of this week. I would like very much to be there, but it is out of the question. Whether I shall go to the Foreign Missions Conference in December is not yet certain. I may. If so, I shall be glad to see you there.

You are wondering how I feel about these fall months being more or less strenuous than usual. I have been saying right along that they seem unusually crowded. I am quite certain that I have felt a more decided reaction from the long strain than I ordinarily do.

I told you while we were together in New York that Miss Cheney would be coming home. After I saw you, but before I left New York, I received a cable saying that she would be arriving on the Empress of Asia on November 21st. I am very, very sorry that it seemed necessary for her to come. I do not know what the future will hold. We can only wait and see.

With love,

Ever yours sincerely,

Ophelia C. Avann

1209

November 29, 1932.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

I am so grateful to Miss Cheney for the fine letter she wrote on the steamer and mailed on her arrival in this country. It seems such a pity that she cannot continue her work in Yenching but one can only appreciate her desire to be with and serve her parents while they need her. I am wondering whether you have any clear judgment as to whether or not she is likely to be needed at home for a long time? What of her father in case her mother should pass away? I take it there is nothing for us to do just now in the line of finding a substitute or successor as she says that she has been able to make satisfactory arrangements for her work in the College. My point is that we do not want to lose a woman like Miss Cheney from the College staff unless it is absolutely necessary.

Very cordially yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk

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Northwestern Branch

RECEIVED
DECEMBER 16 1932

DEC 16 1932

Ans. McK 11-

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.



ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.

December 14, 1932.

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

I have two letters before me from you that are unanswered. Let me say a word in reply to the first one which was concerning Miss Cheney. It also enclosed a reply from Mr. Bowman to the letter of appreciation and remembrance that we asked you to write him. It is a very nice letter. He is a very nice man and I often think that some time when I am down town I will drop in to see him.

Now to answer your questions concerning Monona. At this time I am unable to say anything about how long it will be necessary for her to stay at home. The future seems to be all hazy for her. Her mother has been improving very slightly all along, but is still confined to her bed and perfectly helpless. It seems improbable that she can recover, but no one can say, not even a physician, how long she will live. If she should pass away I think it will not be necessary for Monona to stay on account of her father. At least her father assured her before she went away that if anything should happen to her mother it would be entirely unnecessary for her to come on his account.

No, I think there is nothing for us to do about finding a substitute or successor for her. In a long letter which came to me from her yesterday she spoke of a talk that she had had with Dr. Stuart before she left about the history department. His reply was that he would like us - the W.F.M.S. - to keep her on our list and let them have the money for other purposes. When Monona told him that that was not our policy, he still said that he preferred to wait for her return. Here I quote a sentence from her letter. "The truth is, they are not needing another history teacher. He said that was my 'excuse' for being there". Dr. Stuart has more than once said to me when we have discussed Monona, that he would want her there even if she were not doing any teaching. Now, of course, I am saying this to you which I would not say to many others, and I would not want you to depend upon this for any action of the committee. You would better learn from Dr. Stuart himself, whether or not he desires someone in her place, should she be kept at home indefinitely.

I might share with you another matter concerning which she speaks and that is the possible dropping of the kindergarten department on account of the general cuts, which would mean, of course, that Tseng Hsiu Hsiang would be dropped. Monona says that she is becoming so valuable to the college that she thinks it would be very worth while for the W.F.M.S. to help to keep her there should it be found necessary to take someone else into our quota. She speaks also of Miss Burtt as being exceptionally fine. She thinks there should be

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some way to keep her on. She says that Miss Burtt is thinking of asking connection with a mission and if she does she would be a fine one for us to take. Just what we could do about either one of these cases in the event that Monona is detained at home quite indefinitely, I do not know, but at this time I think there is nothing ~~definite to say to do.~~

Now concerning the other matter, that of the Foochow Christian Woman's Industrial Institute. I have had a personal letter from Miss Wolfe as well as the one written to both of us and enclosing copies of the minutes of the Board of Managers and the constitution and a copy of the letter written to Mrs. Wilcox. How I wish I were going to be at the Foreign Missions Conference for the reason that we might talk this matter over as well as for other reasons, but I am not going this year. Perhaps I have not studied all this material sufficiently to understand just what will be left we we turn over to the Christian Herald Industrial Missions the industrial part of our Institute, or is it only the agricultural part, as you state in one paragraph of your letter. In another paragraph you speak of giving over to the Christian Herald Industrial Missions, the responsibility of the industrial work of the Institute. Just what part of the program would be left and where would it be housed? You see I do not know whether you have in mind to turn over all of the property that Miss Hartwell acquired, to the Christian Herald Industrial Missions, or whether it is in your thought and others that a part of that will be retained in which to carry on some features of the program now being carried out. The needle work part of the program used to be cared for in the Jean Adams property. Later that seemed not to be feasible and that property was rented and that part of the proceeds not needed for upkeep, etc., was turned over to the school. That and other property, as you will recall, was left to the W.F.M.S. by Miss Adams, and in the agreement the house which she had used for industrial work was to be used by the Union Woman's Industrial Arts School for ten years beginning in October 1926.

Personally I would be quite willing to concur in your proposition to turn the property of the Foochow Christian Woman's Industrial Institute over to the Christian Herald Industrial Missions, for I can see no hope of increasing our support of the institute nor developing it as it should be. I would like to write to some of our missionaries in Foochow about the matter and would want to understand a little more clearly than I do, all the implications in the proposition.

I would hope that if you can do so you would get what information you can from the office of the Christian Herald Industrial Missions while you are in New York and if any of your correspondence makes it clear to you just what part of the work of the Institute the Board of Managers expects to retain, I will be grateful to you for that information.

I am sending no Christmas cards this year. May I take this opportunity to express my wishes for a Christmas of good cheer and deep significance for you.

Affectionately yours,

Alpha C. Avann

Northwestern Branch

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.



ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.

RECEIVED February 16, 1933.
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

FEB 20 1933

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Feb. 21/33

I was just about to write you and now your letter to the members of Yenching College Committee of February 14th is here, so I can answer it and also make the inquiry that I had in mind.

Concerning the date which has been scheduled for our College Committee, viz., Thursday morning, April 20th, that seems to be quite all right and certainly should give us ample time for the small volume of work that we now seem to have to handle. I hope we can meet in a room at the Prince George Hotel.

I was much interested, of course, in the two letters from Dean Ssu-Tu. I suppose we can wait for any discussion of these matters, viz., the possibility of arranging for living quarters for the doctor in the infirmary, and concerning the pool in the Boyd Gymnasium, until we come to our meeting.

The matter I was intending to take up with you is whether or not there is anything for the Nominating Committee to do before we come to our meeting, i.e., is it necessary to make any change in our official group, including the chairmen of committees. I cannot see anything unless we desire to make some change in the list of committee chairmen. I should, I suppose, investigate for myself the matter of coopted members on our committee to discover whether that type of membership is complete or not. Perhaps you can tell me without effort. In other words is there any suggestion you wish to make in regard to the work of the Nominating committee? If so, I will be glad to have them before taking up the work with the committee.

There is another matter that perhaps I should take up with Dr. Kendrick instead of with you, but it will do no harm to speak of it here. I have in mind a young woman who is qualified as a physical director and who would be a very desirable person I think to have on our staff. She would consider going for a three year term. I must pass this word on to Dr. Kendrick. I had some inquiry from her some time ago.

Miss K.

Lovingly yours,

Ophal. Avann

1213

February 21, 1933

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

I am very glad to have your letter of February 16. I think the discussion in regard to the questions raised by Miss Ssu-tu's letter can wait until our meeting on April 20. I am not sure that we ought to wait so long about final approval of the plans for the infirmary. At our last meeting, the Committee did give formal approval to the building of an infirmary, but as the estimated cost as now given us is considerably more than we had in mind at that time, I have written Mr. Garside asking what our surplus fund amounts to and whether he thinks the field may proceed with the building of the infirmary without further authorization from our committee. Should he think something further necessary, we must either wait until the April meeting or try to get a judgment by correspondence vote. I suppose our judgment will be passed very largely on the amount of money that is available and that I shall hope to know when Mr. Garside replies to my letter.

You ask whether there is anything for the Nominating Committee to do before coming to the meeting. I have just looked up the actions taken in regard to coopted members and it appears that Mrs. Speer and Mrs. Slade were coopted in 1931 for a period of three years. There is, therefore, no action needed in regard to their re-election at the coming meeting. Mrs. Cavert's term apparently expires the coming April, so her name should be present for re-election unless the Nominating Committee thinks it wise that a change be made. I see no reason for changing the chairmen of any of the standing committees as each one is now doing her work admirably.

One change will need to be made at this meeting in the officers of our Committee. It is a personal matter and I had it in mind to write you very soon on the subject, even had your letter not come. You

1214

Mrs. Avann --2

know, I think, that my step-daughter and her family from Constantinople have been with me this year since last August in Auburndale, also that my daughter passed away just before Christmas. There are two children, a girl and a boy. The girl is sixteen and it will doubtless be best for her father to leave her in America in school when he returns next summer. Professor Estes is the Head of the Music Department in Robert College and the question of the maintenance of his home is now naturally one on which he has been thinking. He has asked me to go back with him and little Charles, that the home may be kept together. I am within two years of the retiring age and should be withdrawing from my work for the American Board ere long in any case. In view of the real need for what I can give to the family and in view of the change that would be coming before long, I have decided to go. We will leave for Constantinople early in August. This, of course, means that I should not again be re-elected as Secretary of the Yenching College Committee. The Nominating Committee, therefore, should face the question of finding a Secretary.

There is, as I think you know, at present a vacancy in the American Board quota of representatives on our Committee. I am thinking that it would be a very good thing for the Board to appoint Miss Helen Calder to that position. The one of the China colleges in which she is most interested is naturally Ginling, but she has a background of knowledge and information about China in general that would serve her well in working also for Yenching. I am telling Mrs. Williamson of this thought of mine and unless you or she have some other suggestion to make, I am hoping that Miss Calder can be appointed to membership on our Committee at the next meeting of the Prudential Committee of the American Board which occurs on March 14. The vacancy my withdrawal will make is in the Trustee representation on the Committee. I am not sure what the American Board should do in this matter. We have been trying for more than a year to fill the vacancy in the Trusteeship made by Dr. Barton's withdrawal. For this position Dr. Stuart nominated a Mr. Cowling, a member of the Ford Company in Detroit. He has expressed his interest in the work but has not definitely given his word to serve. We will try again to bring him to the point of decision and will give further thought to the question of another Trustee. Other things being equal my successor should, I suppose, be a woman.

I am much interested in the possibility of the W.F.M.S. providing a director of physical education. I hope you have written Miss Kendrick on that subject.

It was good to have a wee glimpse of you that Saturday in Chicago, but I wish we might have had a longer time for visiting.

Affectionately yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee)

L:b

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Northwestern Branch

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

MAR 8 1933

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.



ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.

March 6, 1933.

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

I very much appreciated your good long letter of February 21st and would have replied promptly but for the fact that I was waiting to hear from Mrs. Williamson to whom I had written also about the work of the nominating committee. I still have no word from Mrs. Williamson, and am a bit troubled about it. Of course it is possible that the letter went astray and it is also possible that she may be away which would delay her getting the letter.

I am now writing to return the vote you submitted to the committee on using balances in hand for the extra amount which they say will be necessary to complete the infirmary. You will find the vote enclosed.

Now to return to your earlier letter. I did know that your daughter and her family were with you in Aurburndale, but I did not know that your daughter had passed away just before Christmas. I am so sorry. I appreciate the position in which the father is placed with his two children, especially the little boy who needs the care of a mother in a home. I have mixed feelings as you might guess about your giving up your work and going to keep Professor Estes home and care for him and little Charles. Under all the circumstances I suppose you have made the right decision. That makes it none the less difficult, however, to give you up from the work in which we have been so long associated. There is no one on the committee who would be so much missed and who could be so illy spared as you, but since we must make some other provision, it will, of course have to be made. I have given the matter some thought and do not find it easy to come to a conclusion as to who would be the best one to take up your work. I will, of course consult with Mrs. Williamson about that.

I, too, have been going over the list of co-opted members. Mrs. Cavert's term does expire in April. I may say confidentially that there is a question in my mind about continuing her for it hasn't seemed to me that she has been especially interested nor has she made much contribution. She is a most capable woman and her experience before her marriage, it would seem, would have qualified her well for membership on this committee. I do not know just how the matter can be handled. Perhaps if we ask her to take some responsibility she would be willing to take it and would then be more useful on the committee. It has been a disappointment to me that she has not identified herself more closely with us and made a larger contribution to the committee work. Do you think of anyone whom it would be desirable to bring on to the committee, should we decide to leave her off? I certainly think that your successor as a member of the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Prudential Committee,

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should be a woman. Miss Calder would be a very able member of the Board of Trustees, and I trust will be chosen. Would it be your thought that she would make a good secretary? I am very sure that she would be a very desirable successor in your office.

I shall look forward to seeing you in New York in April with more than usual interest if this is going to be our last visit for some years to come.

With love,

Sincerely yours,

Ophelia C. Adams

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March 10, 1933.

Mrs. J. M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 6. You have probably heard from Mrs. Williamson before this if not I am sure you will hear soon. I know she has questions relating to Yenching and particularly to the secretaryship much on her mind. I note your suggestion that Miss Calder might "make a good secretary." I recommendation is going to the Prudential Committee of the American Board at the meeting which will occur next Tuesday March 14 that Miss Calder be made one of the representatives of our Board on the Yenching College Committee. I have no doubt that the action will be favorable. This action does not however make her a Trustee. The question of filling the vacancy which will be made on the Board of Trustees when I withdraw is another question which will not naturally come up until I leave. If it should then seem best to nominate Miss Calder as a Trustee that could be done and it would then be incumbent upon the American Board to provide another representative on the Womans College Committee. In regard to the secretaryship, Mrs. Boyd suggests that some one in the office at 150 fifth avenue could keep and circulate the minutes. That is I think, quite possible, but I do not conceive of the keeping of the minutes as the primary function of a secretary of the Yenching College Committee. I have always supposed that her chief responsibility was to keep in close touch with the College itself and to act as the medium of intercourse between the College and the Committee in this country. The person for this task should naturally have a considerable background of information and interest. Were it not for this I should think it possible for some one of the newer and younger members of our Committee to qualify for the position. Another thought that occurs to me is that if the responsibility for all correspondence and for keeping records centers in the office at 150 Fifth Avenue the responsibility of the Yenching College Committee and consequently the interest of the Committee will almost inevitably gradually wane. Possibly a movement in this direction is inevitable in any case and even right. We should however, without doubt recognize and weigh such a

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Mrs. J.M.A.--2.

possibility.

One thought that occurs to me is that some one else might be elected as Chairman of the Committee and Mrs. Williamson be put into the secretaryship. In that case the Committee would I should think need to provide for her a certain amount of clerical work. The Womans College filing case would also presumably be shipped to her. This in itself may not be feasible as she lives in a hotel and I judge has not a large amount of space. I am sure that you and Mrs. Williamson will be able to find the right solution. You are planning to reach New York in time for the meeting of the Associated Boards are you not? It will be good to see you and I think we can undoubtedly find opportunity for conference as may be necessary before the committee comes together on the morning of the 20th.

Always lovingly yours,

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

EBL:dsk
P.S. Apparently I have never replied to or even acknowledged the receipt of your letter of December 14. I especially appreciate what you write about Monona Cheney. I hope she may surely be able to return some time to Yenching as I agree heartily in the judgment that she would render a very valuable service even if she did not have any or much of any class work.

Nothing has come to me direct in regard to the possibility of dropping the kindergarten department or to letting Miss Tseng Hsiu Hsiang go. I should be very sorry for the College to lose Miss Tseng and my general impression is that it would be a real loss to discontinue the kindergarten. If you get further light on this subject will you kindly share it with me?

12 19

COMMITTEE OF
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
of
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

MAR 20 1933

COMMITTEE

MRS. O. R. WILLIAMSON, *Chairman*
The Wellington, Philadelphia

MRS. L. O. LEE, *Secretary*
14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

MR. E. M. MCBRIER, *Treasurer*
150 Fifth Ave., New York

MR. B. A. GARSIDE, *Assistant Treasurer*
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

PRESIDENT ELLEN F. PENDLETON, *Wellesley, Mass.*
Chairman of Budget Committee

MRS. J. M. AVANN, *Chicago*
Chairman of Nominating Committee

PROFESSOR ELIZA H. KENDRICK, *Wellesley, Mass.*
Chairman of Candidate Committee

MISS ALICE KEEP CLARK, *Evanston, Ill.*
Chairman of Promotion Committee

MRS. WILLIAM BOYD, *Philadelphia*

MISS MARGARET E. BURTON, *New York*

MRS. SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT, *New York*

MRS. JOHN H. FINLEY, *New York*

DEAN LUCY JENKINS FRANKLIN, *Boston, Mass.*

MISS JENNIE A. GOULDY, *New York*

MRS. HELEN H. JENKINS, *New York*

MISS MARION A. KENDALL, *Cambridge, Mass.*

MR. ERIC M. NORTH, *New York*

DEAN MABEL M. ROYS, *Aurora-on-Cayuga, N. Y.*

MRS. F. LOUIS SLADE, *New York*

MRS. ROBERT E. SPEER, *New York*

MR. FRANKLIN H. WARNER, *New York*

MRS. CHARLES C. PARLIN, *Tenafly, N. J.*
Representative of Wellesley College Alumnae

MRS. MURRAY S. FRAME, B.A., B.D., LITT D.D., *Dean of the College*

PEIPING, CHINA

March 17, 1933.

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Thank you for your letter of March 10th. I am glad to learn that the Prudential Committee is planning to give Miss Calder a place as a representative on our Yenching Committee. I see by the date mentioned in your letter that it is already done. If, after you leave, she should be made a member of the Board of Trustees, that will be very fine.

I had thought some of Miss Calder as a possible secretary, but it has occurred to me that if Miriam Boyd is free enough from family responsibilities, she would make a very good one. She is familiar with Yenching and is capable and would be faithful and efficient, I am sure. It is fine to use one of the younger women too. Strange to say, in a letter which I have just received from Mrs. Williamson she tells me of a conversation she had with Miriam's mother. From that I judge that Miriam has time to devote to some outside activities. She has been taking a course at Columbia, but is finishing that now and I would not be surprised if she would be willing to take this. Do you not think that would be a satisfactory solution to our problem? I shall keep it under consideration for a while before saying anything to the other members of the committee.

How lovely of Mrs. Speer to invite us to her home on the evening of the 19th. It will be delightful to spend an evening in her home and it will be helpful to see Miss Boynton's pictures and to hear Mr. Clark on present conditions in China. Will you be arriving in New York on Monday, or not until Tuesday morning? I expect to get in some time on Monday.

With love,

Ever sincerely yours,

Ophelia C. Adams

1220

March 20, 1933.

Mrs. J.M. Avann
4949 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Avann:

I am very glad to have your letter of March 17 which gives in brief the result of your further thinking on the subject of the secretaryship for our Yenching College Committee. I very much like the suggestion that Miriam Parlin be asked to take the position. I had thought of her and had thought she would do the work excellently, but my impression had been that she was pretty well tied with her small children. Do you think that in case she should undertake this work the Committee should agree to provide her with some stenographic help? Also should the filing case be sent to her or should it go to the office at 150 Fifth Avenue? These are of course details. You have probably ere this raised this question with Mrs. Williamson. If you and she think best I hope you will take the matter up actively with Miriam herself.

A letter received this morning from Mrs. Finley tells me that she would like to have the women members of our Committee come to her home for a buffet supper at 6:30 on the evening of April 19 before we all go to Mrs. Speer's at 8. This also is a happy thought is it not? I understand that Mrs. Finley is sending out her own invitations.

You ask what day I expect to reach New York. I hope to arrive shortly after noon on Monday, but I shall probably not be at the Prince George until some time Tuesday forenoon. I am to share in a conference between representatives of the American Board, the M.E. General Board and the W.F.M.S. on the general work in Bulgaria Monday afternoon. My thought has been that I would then go out to my brother's in Maplewood, New Jersey for that night. I judge the Associated Boards are not likely to hold an evening session so we of the Yenching College Committee could have Tuesday evening for any preliminary conferences that may seem desirable.

Always affectionately yours,

EBL:dsk

(Mrs. Lucius O. Lee.)

1221

COMMITTEE OF
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
of
PEKING UNIVERSITY

COMMITTEE
MRS. J. M. AVANN, *Chairman*
4949 Indiana Avenue, Chicago
MRS. L. O. LEE, *Secretary*
14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.
MR. LOUIS A. BOWMAN, *Treasurer*
American Trust and Safe
Deposit Company, Chicago
MRS. CHARLES K. ROYS, *New York*
Chairman of Building Company
MRS. O. R. WILLIAMSON, *Chicago*
Chairman of Finance Company
MRS. ALBERT A. LYMAN, *Brooklyn, New York*
Acting Chairman of
Candidate Committee
MRS. WILLIAM BOYD, *Philadelphia*
Chairman of Promotion Committee
President ELLEN F. PENDLETON,
Wellesley, Massachusetts
MRS. GEORGE M. CLARK, *Chicago*
MRS. JOHN H. FINLEY, *New York*
MISS JENNIE A. GOULDY, *New York*
FRANKLIN WARNER, *New York*
WILLIAM P. SCHELL, *New York*
ERIC M. NORTH, *New York*

MRS. MIRIAM BOYD PARLIN, *New York*
Representative of Wellesley College
Alumnae

MRS. MURRAY S. FRAME, B.A., B.D., *Dean of the College*
PEKING, CHINA

April 5, 1933.

RECEIVED
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

APR 8 1933

Mrs. L. O. Lee,
14 Beacon St.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Your letter of March 20th came some time ago, and although there is nothing of special importance for me to write about this morning I will drop a line to say that the sentiment and opinion concerning having Miriam Parlin as our secretary is quite favorable. I have communicated with Mrs. Cavert and find that she will be very pleased to continue as a member of our committee, and hopes and promises to be more actively interested.

I expect to be in New York on Monday morning and hope to be in the conference on the general work in Bulgaria that afternoon.

Mrs. Finley's invitation has been received and accepted. What a rich day and evening we are having on the 19th.

With love,

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Avann

1222

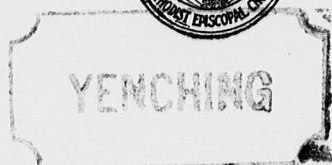
Northwestern Branch

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. FRANK E. BAKER
719 EMERSON STREET
EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A.

ASSOCIATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MRS. J. M. AVANN
4949 INDIANA AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.



2026 Orrington Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

April 26, 1935

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Mr. A. B. Garside
Executive Secretary of the Associated Boards
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Mr. Garside:

As chairman of the nominating committee for the Yenching College Committee, I have been working on the problem of finding a successor for Mrs. Williamson as the Chairman of our committee. In my correspondence with the other members of the committee, several women have been mentioned as possibilities. Mrs. Finley seems to be the one most favorably mentioned by all and I have written to Mrs. Finley, asking her whether she will consider taking the chairmanship. I know that she has many interests and carries many responsibilities, but I would be glad if she would be willing to add this. After all she would not be adding so much to what she already carries for Yenching and the Associated Boards, for she is on a number of the committees. In case she does not think she can do it, we must have someone else in mind. One of our women has mentioned Mrs. Slade as desirable if she would take it. I do not know Mrs. Slade well enough to express any judgment in the matter, and that is the occasion for my writing to you. Do you know her and if so, do you think she would make a good committee chairman?

Of course, anything that you say I will regard as confidential and would be glad to have you hold all that I am saying in the same way.

I have thought that it was very desirable at least to have a chairman who lives in New York or near enough to come in frequently for this committee work. My first thought was to ask President Pendleton since she is giving up the presidency of Wellesley. She was very favorably mentioned by other members of the committee also, but on the whole it seemed most feasible to offer the place to Mrs. Finley. I am afraid she will think she should not take on this additional work and in that case we must turn to someone else.

Very sincerely yours,

J. M. Avann

Mrs. J. M. Avann

OCA:WK

1223

Northwestern Branch



April 20, 1935

3038 Carleton Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

Mr. A. B. Garfield
Executive Secretary of the Associated Boards
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Mr. Garfield:

As chairman of the nominating committee for the Yearning College Committee, I have been working on the problem of finding a successor for Mrs. Williamson as the Chairman of our committee. In my correspondence with the other members of the committee, several women have been mentioned as possibilities. Mrs. Finley seems to be the one most favorably mentioned by all and I have written to Mrs. Finley asking her whether she will consider taking the chairmanship. I know that she has many interests and carries many responsibilities but I would be glad if she would be willing to add this. After all she would not be adding so much to what she already carries for Yearning and the Associated Boards, for she is on a number of the committees. In case she does not think she can do it, we must have someone else in mind. One of our women has mentioned Mrs. Glade as desirable. I do not know Mrs. Glade well enough to express any judgment in the matter, and that is the occasion for my writing to you. Do you know her and if so, do you think she would make a good committee chairman?

Of course, anything that you say I will regard as confidential and would be glad to have you hold all that I am saying in the same way.

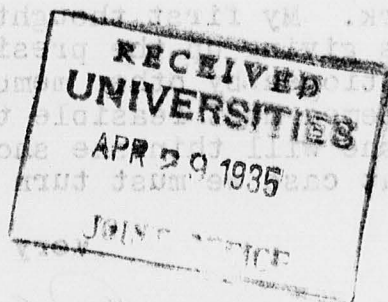
I have thought that it was very desirable at least to have a chairman who lives in New York or near enough to come in frequently for this committee work. My first thought was to ask President Hendrick since she is in the presidency of Yearning. She was very favorably mentioned by the members of the committee also, but on the whole it seems to offer the place to Mrs. Finley. I am sure that she would not take on this additional work and in the case must turn to someone else.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Mrs. J. M. Avorn

Mrs. J. M. Avorn

UO:WA



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Vertical markings on the right edge of the page, including the number '2' and other symbols.

YENCHING

May 3, 1935

Mrs. J. M. Avann
2026 Orrington Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Avann:

I have your letter of April 26th, raising various questions growing out of your responsibilities as chairman of the nominating committee of the Yenching College Committee.

It seems to me that both Mrs. Slade and Mrs. Finley have particularly fine qualifications for the chairmanship of the Yenching College Committee. Within recent weeks the Presbyterian Board has elected Mrs. Finley as Mrs. Williamson's successor on the Yenching Board of Trustees, so she will now be a member both of the Board and of the Woman's Committee. She is thoroughly familiar with the work here at the home base, takes an active interest, and lives within two blocks of our office. The only difficulty we may encounter is that she is so busy with her Y. W. C. A. duties and her other responsibilities that she might be reluctant to accept this additional task. I believe, however, that you could persuade her to accept - and I know that if she does she will discharge her responsibilities faithfully.

I do not know Mrs. Slade quite so well, and she has not heretofore been quite as active in our Yenching affairs, so it is a little difficult to form a judgment as to her qualifications for the office. She is, however, a very fine and competent person, and it would be an extremely valuable asset if we could encourage her to take an active and enthusiastic share in the work of our Yenching group here in America.

Of course, President Pendleton would be an admirable Chairman of the Committee. She has long been one of our most faithful and enthusiastic workers in the interest not only of Yenching, but our other China Colleges. While we probably could not expect her to come down from Boston for all of our meetings, the Yenching College Committee might appoint an effective Vice-Chairman who could serve whenever President Pendleton could not be with us.

Looking forward to seeing you within the next fortnight, I am,

Very cordially yours,

BAG:HV

1225

COMMITTEE OF
YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

of
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

MRS. MURRAY S. FRAME, B.A., B.D., Dean of the College
PEKING, CHINA

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FRANKLIN H. WARNER, *New York*

MRS. CHARLES C. PARLIN, *New York*
Representative of Wellesley College
Alumnae

2076 Ovington Ave.
Evanston Ill.
Mar. 21. 1936.

My dear Mrs. Mc Millan -
Your letter
of the 19th. reached me
yesterday.
I am pleased to know
that you are all con-
cerned about the approach to Mrs.
Keege and are giving it your best
thought. I have thought all along that
it might be well to have some one from
the organization accompany me even
for the first approach. I would be
very glad to have you go with me if
and when the call can be arranged.
My plan has been to see Mrs. Keege
on my way to the annual meeting.
I can spend a few days in Detroit
with friends and was just on the
point of writing Mrs. Keege to learn
when she could see me before making
definite arrangements for my trip.
It would not be possible, I think, for
me to go to Detroit immediately following
(over)

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the meetings.

I will write you again after
I have heard from Mrs. Keuge

Sincerely yours -

Cypha C. Brown.

P.S. It has just occurred to me that
perhaps Mr. Hedrick may think, but
hesitates to advise, that the matter
can be handled just as well or
better without my assistance. If
so, please do not think for a moment
that I would have the slightest
feeling about it. I am interested
only in the best result for Yenching
that can be achieved from this
source. o.c.a.

P.S. no 2 - A letter from Mrs. Parkin has
just come. It is written on Yenching College
Comm. Stationery. May I suggest that
a bit of this stationery for use in
writing in the interests of the college
on the part of members of the com.
might be a good idea. o.c.a.

1227

COMMITTEE OF DIRECTION
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MRS. EVELYN RILEY NICHOLSON
MRS. W. H. C. GOODE
JESSE L. MURRELL

The Million Unit Fellowship Movement

Bishop Frederick T. Keeney, Director
W. E. Shaw, Secretary-Counsel

740 RUSH STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MRS. J. M. AVANN
DIRECTOR WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

AUTHORIZED BY THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOR THE INSPIRATION
AND RENEWAL OF PER-
SONAL DEVOTION TO
THE IDEALS, LIFE, AND
SOCIAL STANDARDS OF
CHRIST AND TO THE
WORLD MISSION OF HIS
CHURCH

November 30, 1938

Mrs. T.D. Macmillan
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mrs. Macmillan:

I have in my file two unanswered letters from you. The first was a note accompanying a copy of that fine leaflet put out by the Associated Boards. I appreciated greatly having you send me one so promptly in advance of the general distribution. I had it in mind to ask you to send me a few copies which I thought I could use. However others came to me before I got around to do that and I think I do not need any more.

Your second letter of November 18th tells of the meeting held in New York of the Yenching College committee. I am glad you had so fine a meeting and glad for the new members which have been provided for the committee.

I certainly agree that you decided wisely in asking Mrs. Pratt to go on for the meeting. My experience is that one does not function well as a committeeman without the help in various ways that attendance upon committee meetings gives one. Mrs. Pratt is a fine young woman and should develop into a very good worker.

There were other meetings going on in New York about that time in which I should have been. I probably would have gone had I known of this meeting of the Yenching College committee.

Yes, I have seen Mrs. Thurston. She called at my home and we had a very nice visit and conference. I am hoping to put her in touch with a friend who is deeply interested in China who has no connection with any of our college work thus far. She is a member of the Friends of China organization and has invited me to the luncheon to be given next Monday by that organization. I am hoping that Mrs. Thurston will be there.

Very sincerely yours,

Ophe C. Avann
Mrs. J.M. Avann

A.W

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March 8, 1939

Mr. George G. Barber
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Barber:

It was very thoughtful and very kind of you to send me the souvenir program of the dinner honoring Mr. McBrier. It is a lovely program and I am sure that the occasion must have been a very delightful one to you all. I am so glad that this was done for Mr. McBrier. He certainly deserves any recognition that we could give him.

Thank you too for enclosing the clipping from the editorial page, which gives such an appreciative editorial of him. I had not seen it and am glad not to have missed it.

I appreciate your feeling of solicitation on my behalf, but am glad to tell you that I have entirely recovered and am happy to be back in my office again.

With very best wishes and cordial regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Ophe C. Avann
Mrs. J.M. Avann

A.W

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COMMITTEE OF DIRECTION
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December 27, 1939

Mr. E.M. McBrier
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. McBrier:

Please accept this small check for \$25.00
from me and credit to the Yenching Women's College Endow-
ment Fund. I wish I could do more.

Mrs. Pratt will send her pledge soon.

We are planning to put our heads together soon in an
effort to secure some gifts.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

Oppha C. Avann
Mrs. J.M. Avann

A.W

RECEIVED ATTENTION
DEC 29 1939
E. M. McBRIER

1230

C
O
P
Y

December 29, 1939

My dear Mrs. Avann:

Thank you so much for yours of December 27th, enclosing your check for the Women's College Endowment Fund. Our receipt is enclosed. This will be reported to Mrs. Moore, Chairman of the Promotion Committee, and I am sure she will appreciate your contribution.

As I said to you when I met you in Detroit, I hope that some of the Chicago people will lead off with a substantial gift. Unless this is done, in order that the later gifts may be inspired by the size of the gifts of other contributors, I am fearful that the aggregate of gifts from Chicago will not compare with those that are being made in New York.

We have in New York, the following -

Mrs. Maurice T. Moore	\$2,650.00
Mrs. John H. Finley	1,000.00
Dr. William J. Thompson	1,000.00

Under the inspiration of these gifts, and the challenging gifts totalling \$47,000, there have been already secured quite a number of other gifts, of smaller amounts; but in every instance without doubt, the smaller gifts were anywhere from two to five times as large as they would have been had not the ladies first of all, secured these larger gifts, which served as an inspiration for others to step up the amount of their contributions.

This is why I endeavored to impress upon you the necessity of getting some large gifts to start off your Chicago list; and these gifts will never be obtained by writing letters. All of the gifts secured by the ladies here have been through personal interviews.

Thanking you for your helpful cooperation, and wishing you the best of success, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. J. M. Avann
2026 Orrington avenue
Evanston, Illinois

(Signed) E. M. McBrier

1231

*Mrs.
Moore*

*Helen
H. Moore*

January 2, 1940

Mrs. John H. Finley
Mrs. Maurice T. Moore
New York City

Dear Mrs. Finley and Mrs. Moore:

When I was in Detroit three weeks ago, I met Mrs. Avann. We talked about the campaign of the Women's College Committee to raise \$70,000. She seemed quite enthusiastic. I took occasion to suggest to her that, if the Chicago ladies gave their proportionate share, the method of starting the work was all important; and that two factors would largely determine their success:-

First - Securing large and inspiring gifts at the beginning of their activities.

Second - Seeing individuals personally, rather than merely writing letters.

I felt it was necessary to emphasize this, knowing what I do about the methods employed by the Chicago group in the past.

Mrs. Avann has sent her check to me, and it was in order for me to acknowledge receipt. I took occasion to again stress these two points to her, hoping the suggestions might bear fruit.

In order that you may know what I wrote, and follow up same as you deem best, I am herewith enclosing copies of her letter to me, and my reply.

Most sincerely yours,

Encls.

E. H. Moore

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COMMITTEE OF DIRECTION

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Yenching W. C. C.
April 3, 1940

Mrs. Maurice T. Moore
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mrs. Moore:

This is rather a late date to be acknow-
ledging receipt of the Yenching booklets which you sent early
in March, but better late than never.

I certainly do like the booklet. I think it attractive
and charmingly written. I have used a number of them and
hope eventually they may bring some tangible results. In
spite of all the interest and sympathy there is among people
in this country for China, it is certainly very difficult
to extract money from people for a purpose like this.

Mrs. Pratt of Hinsdale, Ill., who is a member of the
promotion committee, and I, have had quite a bit of corres-
pondence and a meeting or two concerning promotion here in
Chicago. I have left the initiative with her, where it
rightly belongs. I do not know what will come of our con-
ference and planning, but I hope that we will be able to add
something to the \$15,000 which a month ago you said was
necessary to insure the conditional \$47,000. We must get it,
and I believe we will.

Very sincerely yours,

Opha C. Avann

Mrs. J.M. Avann

A.W

1233

July 23, 1940

My dear Mrs. Avann:

You have probably already received intimations that by the first of July, we had secured in cash and pledges the \$23,000 needed to meet the conditional endowment pledges for \$47,000, and thus to round out the \$100,000 endowment unit for the Yenching Women's College. We hope to have during September a meeting of the Yenching College Committee, at which a detailed report can be presented.

Mrs. Finley, Mrs. Parlin and Mrs. Moore are all away from the city just now, so I am writing you in their behalf to give you this good news, and to thank you for all that you did, both through your own gift and through enlisting the support of others, to make this undertaking a success. We know that Miss Speer and all of her assistants on the Women's College staff are gratified and encouraged by the success of our efforts to provide increased income and security for the work of the College at a time of special difficulty both on the field and here in America.

Very cordially yours,

B. A. Garside

Mrs. J. M. Avann
2026 Orrington Avenue
Evanston
Illinois

1234

202 A Glenwood Ave
Lorain New Jersey -
January 7, 1946

Mr. E. M. McBrier - Pres. A.B.C.C.
150 Fifth Ave, New York, N. Y.
Dear Mr. McBrier -

Please accept
the enclosed check - a mere "widow's
mite" for Yuching. I am sorry
it cannot be a larger one.

Yuching rates, and desperately
needs their help, able patron
on its Board(?) or Committee
as well as a multitude of new
friends. I hope we may find
them -

Sincerely Yours -
Ophelia C. Coan

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