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Blair, Mary Barbour  
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April 24, 1935

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blair:

Please accept this grateful acknowledgment of your third payment of \$500. on your pledge of \$2,000 to Yenching University for the Natural Sciences Endowment. Our official receipt is enclosed.

We realize that it is not always easy for our friends to fulfill their pledges during these continued years of financial depression and we therefore appreciate every additional payment received. On behalf of the Board of Trustees permit me to express again our sincere thanks.

Very sincerely,

N. Gist Gee

NGG:HW

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FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
56<sup>11</sup> STREET AND THE LAKE

April 10/36.

Dear Mr Barber,

I should like to hear about China from Dr. Young when he is in Chicago the week of April 19<sup>th</sup>, but unfortunately shall be absent in Florida till about the end of the month.

I hope that all goes well thru vicissitudes of the Jap occupation.

Very sincerely,  
Mary Barbours Blair

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0954

June 5, 1938

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Blair:

Mr. Stephen Tsai wrote us in regard to your very generous promise of \$500.00 toward our Yenching University needs. We have this additional evidence of your interest and affection for Yenching and all the ideals for which this university stands. You have been a consistent friend and generous donor to Yenching University for many years. Of course you know that while I am interested in all of our Christian educational work in China, Yenching has been the center of my personal interest and I also have made my largest gifts to that university.

I think the last time we met was on the trip to the Great Wall. It was a pleasure to meet you there. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you again soon and particularly desire to show you a set of lantern slides which I have recently received from Yenching.

I have just returned from San Francisco where for three weeks I have been cooperating with Mr. Arthur Rugh, who has been teaching at Yenching for the last four years and has also been interested in the religious activities on the campus. Mr. Rugh has been doing some fine work for our universities in California. It was my pleasure to cooperate with him and with two large groups of leading educators there. I showed the slides on two occasions and the people seemed very interested in them. They are, at any rate, very beautiful slides and make one homesick to visit Yenching again.

Thanking you sincerely for your promise to Mr. Tsai and appreciating your continued interest and help, I remain

Most sincerely yours,

E. M. McBrier

EMB:FG

0955

June 18, 1936

Dear Mrs. Blair:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of April 10th written just as you were leaving for Florida. I am sorry, of course, that Dr. Young, American representative of Yenching, missed you when he was in Chicago the week of April 19th, but I hope you had a good time in Florida.

I have just been going over the long list of your generous contributions to Yenching and it certainly speaks in a very forceful way of your interest in that school. I sometimes wonder if we have ever had a better friend than yourself. I remember also how deeply concerned you have been at times over the political disturbances of China and it would certainly be ignoring the facts in the case if we did not take cognizance of them. In the broader aspects of the situation, however, there has been from the beginning, and is still, a profound faith in the ultimate triumph of the intelligent leadership of that country. More than 50% of the men in whose hands the leadership of China is today vested have at one time or another come in contact with these mission schools and persons best qualified to know are enthusiastic in their praise of what Americans have done in these Christian institutions of learning.

Some months ago when Dr. Stuart was in America, there was some apprehension least the Japanese might adopt rather strong measures in North China which might affect Yenching but recent events make it quite apparent that any restrictive measures adopted toward Yenching would apply to all schools in China since the whole of that vast country during recent days seems to be embroiled in any action which may be taken against Japan. To illustrate, Dr. Henry, president of Lingnan University at Canton, was in our office the other day and in conversation with him he assured me that they were as much concerned in southern China as we are in the north as to what the eventualities may be. In other words, it resolved itself into this: that all of the American founded schools in China will be involved in any policies which may eventually pertain in China. To us it seems wholly unthinkable that Japan should adopt any measures which would alienate her from American goodwill. Moreover, Yenching is chartered under the laws of the State of New York and most of the schools in which Americans are interested have charters originating in this country. This fact, we believe, would be a strong factor in determining the attitude of Japan toward them.

We find some satisfaction also in the thought that Great Britain is interested in some of the missionary enterprises of China, to say nothing of the trade treaties which exist between the various countries involved. It seems quite evident to us now, with China bracing up and adopting certain belligerent attitude toward Japan, and with international pressure being applied

0956

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair

June 18, 1936

through diplomatic channels, that the situation is materially improved. All members of the American Board of Trustees of Yenching have contributed repeatedly to that work and some have given in very substantial amounts. Mr. McBrier, our treasurer, who serves without pay, has given more than \$250,000 himself. Others have given according to their ability. I only mention this by way of confirmation of what I have just said, namely, that we have absolute confidence in the perpetuity of the school and in its increasing importance as a medium, not only of Christian influence, but of international amity.

In a letter from Dr. Stuart, two days ago, he assured us that harmony prevailed upon the campus and that all the work was going forward in a most satisfactory way. The enrollment is more than 800 at the present time.

In a letter from Mr. Arthur Rugh, honorary lecturer in the School of Religion, which I just read this morning, he speaks enthusiastically of the increasing influence of Christ upon the campus.

No one knows better than yourself some of the difficult times through which we have passed in building and financing Yenching. Times almost without number you have been a sort of rock to our courage and faith. We have accepted the trust you have imposed upon us in directing the channels of your Christian philanthropy where they would accomplish the most good in this particular case. We have tried steadfastly to keep faith with you and I think we have done so. In the development of our own American history we have to recognize that our schools passed through very trying periods but in the end they were the means of stabilizing our thought and giving us the required leadership, which has brought us into our present strong position as a nation. It is not otherwise in China, or any country that is from time to time in the throes of social and political upheavals, but the church and the school will always remain as a potent factor in achieving a worthy destiny. At Yenching today there are missionary teachers and a great school, established largely through the benevolent Christian impulses of American people. Missionaries and others whose lives have been closely identified with any epochs in civilization have displayed great qualities of courage. We who remain at home believe that we can be no less imbued with those high principles than are they. We propose to stand by them.

Despite drastic reductions in salaries and budget items amounting to approximately 50%, our Board of Trustees finds itself this morning in a critical situation as we face current obligations due July 1st in the amount of \$10,000 and to meet this emergency we have personally given to the limit of our ability. We are, therefore, faced with the necessity of appealing to you again to come to the rescue, if you can. You have frequently given in amounts of \$1000 and more with scarcely a suggestion from us and we are disposed to leave the matter entirely in your hands, knowing that your long period of giving, your interest in the school and your impulses to generosity will determine the amount. If cash in the amount which you would like to contribute is not available today, then a letter from you suggesting a date when such an amount would be available, will be of great assistance in tiding us

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Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair

June 18, 1936

over this emergency.

This has been rather a long letter but your long period of cordial relations with this board certainly invites more than a brief note. Later in the year I hope some member of our staff may be in Chicago and certainly we shall ask him to see you but we have no money for travel now and in your case, we think you are quite capable of making up your own mind without a personal visit just at this time.

In grateful appreciation of your continued friendship, I am,

Sincerely yours,

President, Board of Trustees

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago, Illinois

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Hotels-Windermere  
Chicago



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
56TH STREET AND THE LAKE

Dear Mr Barber:

June 24/36

Your letter received  
yesterday on my return from Florida.  
And I am under obligation for  
\$5000, which completes my pledges  
of \$2000 made five years ago, in '32.

All these articles I read about  
the Japs in China - beginning  
with "Tanaka's Report" in 1929 -  
make me very anxious for the  
actual safety for my friends at  
Yenching - the Loo and also  
Miss Doris Cummings. Are  
they in danger? Can they get  
away?

With best wishes,

Sincerely

Mary Barrow Blair



June 26, 1936

My dear Mrs. Blair:

I wish to thank you for your letter of June 24, together with your check for \$500.00, which arrived this morning and brought us good cheer. I am enclosing our official receipt in that amount. This is the final payment on your pledge of \$2,000 made in 1932.

Upon behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish to thank you sincerely for this gift and for your continued loyalty to China and to Yenching.

As for the safety of our missionaries, the Lows and Miss Cummings and others, we have no fear that any misfortune will befall them. In the first place, we do not believe that Japan will institute any aggressive measures which will bring her into conflict with American interests, and, secondly, even though she should take such an unwise step, she will most certainly do nothing that would bring harm to any of the missionaries.

As I indicated in my letter of June 18th, we believe that everything will come out all right and we are accordingly going ahead with our plans to raise a \$3,000,000 endowment for Yenching within the next three to five years, thus insuring her against financial uncertainty. Despite temporary difficulties, China will eventually maintain her supremacy in the Far East and in giving her the leadership required for that new area, Yenching is bound to play an important part.

Thanking you again for your friendship and your gift, I

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Sincerely yours,

President, Board of Trustees

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Winkhamer West  
Chicago, Illinois

Encl.

0960



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
56TH STREET AND THE LAKE

**Hotel Windermere**  
Chicago 1938  
JUL 20 1938

Yenching University,

Enclosed please find  
my cheque for the \$500. I pledged  
when Mr Tai was here  
in Chicago.

Have the jobs made  
any trouble or any threats to  
Yenching?

Are the Americans  
there (like Mr D. D. Cummings)  
in any danger?

Sincerely

May Barbara Blair

Windermere Hotel

July 16/38

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July 20, 1938

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Blair:

We wish to acknowledge with sincere thanks your generous contribution to Yenching University.

This is a still further evidence of your continuing interest and generosity to the institution we both hold in high esteem, and to the work which our President, Dr. J. Leighton Stuart, is doing there.

You inquire about the Japanese. They have not interfered with the work in Yenching in any way that would prevent the functioning of the university in the normal manner. We had a fine enrolment this last year, about 680 maximum, I believe. This is not so large as we have previously had, still it is about all we could handle under the circumstances. We have had rather too many students during the three or four previous years.

Dr. Stuart has had a time of great strain but has maintained a consistent policy, and in doing so has commanded the respect of the invaders. Naturally they are suspicious of everything, and this causes a great deal of tension.

We do not believe that any Americans are in personal danger. It would seem that the Japanese are very careful to see that no harm comes to Americans. They apparently have enough trouble on their hands without inviting more.

Again thanking you for your letter and your generous gift,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

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April 12, 1940

Dear Mrs. Blair:

I earnestly hope that you can join with us again this year in our efforts to meet the needs of Yenching University.

You have been a generous subscriber to this institution for a number of years, and you are familiar with the contribution it is making to China during these days of crisis. The University has not only survived the hardships of war, but it has actually enlarged its service to the Chinese people. Its enrollment of students is greater; it is without question one of the most important sources of China's amazing vitality.

In drawing up its yearly budget, the University always counts upon receiving annual gifts from its friends in America. In July of 1938 you contributed \$500 in support of Yenching University. I hope very much that you can renew, or if possible increase, the gift which you made at that time. I assure you I know of no enterprise anywhere in the world where gifts will bear more satisfactory dividends.

Very sincerely yours,

HENRY R. LUCE  
Chairman, Finance Committee

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windemere  
Chicago, Illinois

0963

Y.M.

May 8, 1940

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
West Windmere Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blair:

In Mr. Luce's behalf, we wish to acknowledge and thank you for your generous contribution of \$500.00 for the special needs of Yenching University. The formal receipt is enclosed.

You will be glad to know that an encouraging response is being given the needs of the University at this time by the consecrated givers of America. There never was a time in the history of this institution when it was contributing as definitely to the upbuilding of China as at present.

Very sincerely yours,

Treasurer

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July 24, 1940

My dear Mrs. Blair:

July has brought me the pleasure of writing to you that final success has crowned our effort to complete the \$100,000 endowment unit for the Women's College of Yenching University on the date set by the donors of the large conditional gift of \$47,000.

We are particularly grateful to you for your generosity in sending your pledge for \$500.00, payable August 1st, toward the completion of the fund. Your gift arrived just as the campaign was closing, and was one of the very important factors which enabled us to complete our objective within the time limit. We know that you will continue to watch the progress of the Yenching Women's College with that glow of proprietary interest which can be felt only by those who have taken a part in assuring its future. To the administrative officers and the faculty of the College this undergirding of their task will bring an increase of courage and a certainty in the making and carrying out of plans which will strengthen morale and help vitally in the maintenance of high standards.

Gratefully yours,

(Mrs. John H. Finley)

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago  
Illinois

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YENCHING COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Peking, China

Current Budget 1939-1940 (Women's College Share)—\$4,480.00

\$ ~~XXXXXX~~ payable herewith or before June 30, 1940

Endowment Fund—\$100,000.00

As my part of the balance needed to secure the conditional pledges for the minimum Endowment of this significant College for Women, I ~~will~~ contribute

\$ 500<sup>00</sup>/<sub>xx</sub> payable Aug 1<sup>st</sup> herewith or in installments before June 30, 1940 12/31/40

Mrs M. B. Blair  
Name

7/26/40 W. Windermere Hotel  
Date Address Chicago

Checks payable to E. M. MCBRIER, Treasurer  
Yenching College Committee, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

if balance of needed amt is raised. (OVER)

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0966

July 26, 1940

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
West Windermere Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Blair:

The last American mail brought from our New York Office a complete list of American donors to Yenching University during the past twelve months. In looking through this, I have found your name and cannot resist the impulse to send you a few lines of very personal, if belated, appreciation for your continuing support of our university.

As you are doubtless receiving reports from time to time of our affairs, I shall not make any comment from this standpoint nor as to my own sense of the way in which the value of what we have undertaken is being extenuated by world events. I do, however, want to assure you of the encouragement it has been to me in the midst of our present perplexities to have this evidence of your good will.

I hope that you are keeping in fairly good health. You doubtless hear from Timothy Lew direct. I had a fine visit with him and Catherine when in Shanghai last spring.

With kindest regards.

Very sincerely yours,

JFL

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August 13, 1940

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Eastland Hotel  
Portland, Maine

Dear Mrs. Blair,

Let me acknowledge with special appreciation your latest gift of \$500.00 - this time for the Endowment Fund of Yenching College for Women. Our formal receipt is enclosed.

Surely there has never been a time when Yenching University so deeply appreciated the good will and support of its friends, or made every dollar count for as much, as it does just now.

I enclose copies of two recent letters from Dr. Stuart. I know you will read them with interest. Other letters and annual reports which we have just received from the University also show that Yenching was able to close the work for 1939-40 in a highly satisfactory way. Despite the growing tension in China, every one is hoping that the work of the University can continue to go ahead without serious interruption.

A day or so after Dr. Stuart wrote the enclosed letters he met with a painful and rather serious accident. While riding on horseback through the University campus, his mount stumbled and threw him on his head, resulting in a number of bruises and a slight concussion. But letters written about ten days after the occurrence have brought the good news that he was making a satisfactory recovery in the Peking Union Medical College's hospital, and was expected to be back at his desk within another week or two. Such an occurrence reminds us anew of how indispensable Dr. Stuart is to the well-being of Yenching University in this crisis.

With every good wish for a pleasant summer, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MS  
Enclosures

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DUPLICATE

5-4-33

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ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

Blair, Mrs. Mary Barbour  
Hotel Windermere West  
1642 East 56th St. (Fairfax  
6000)

Contributor

Pledged \$11,000 in 1928-Final payment made 1932.

7,500 in 1928 payable in 3 years

Final payment 2-28-33

1,250 in 1929 while visiting the University

300 in 1930

Pledge ---2,000 in 1932 to Nat. Sci. (\$500 to be paid annually beginning  
May 1933) \$500.00-1940-Apr. \$500.00-1942-Mar.

500 paid 1-6-34

500.00-1940-Aug.-WCE 500.00 - 1944-Mar.

250 sent 1-26-34

1-15-34 BMH asked her for the \$250. she had

500 paid 4-22-35

promised for current expenses.

500 paid 6-26-36

Final Payment on Pledge \$500 - 7-30-38-S. Ts'ai

Information

Mrs. Blair is an ardent admirer of Dr. and Mrs. T. T. Lew of the Department of Religion at Y. U. Dr. Stuart and Dr. T. T. Lew saw Mrs. Blair in Jan. 1928, and secured a pledge of \$11,000 to be paid by 1932, \$5,000 of this to found a psychology laboratory in memory of her father, \$4,000 for a library of psychology. \$1,000 for a library on religious education and \$1,000 for a department library on political science, separate from the main library of the University.

5-4-33

ER

Information

ILLINOIS

Page 2.

CHICAGO

Blair, Mrs. Mary Barbour

In Dec. 1928 Dr. Jenney secured a pledge of \$7500 for a residence for Dr. Lew (to be paid by 1934) and asked her to put Yenching in her will; he thought she might act favorably.

She attended the Yenching Formal Opening in 1929.

In May 1930 Mrs. Blair wrote Dr. Stuart that on the condition that Dr. Lew remained in his present house for his lifetime, she would give the above pledged \$7500 for another house. JLS wrote her October 23, 1930, that conditions had been met, that the house in which Dr. Lew and his family were living had been made over to him for as long as he remained at Yenching and that the other house had been started on funds advanced by the trustees; he asked her to arrange to pay her pledge. He said practically the same 4-29-31 in a letter to her from New York.

A little later she wrote Mr. Wannamaker that she would start payment on the new residence as soon as she was assured that Dr. Lew's present house had been put in complete repair. Dr. Stuart replied while he was in New York, that the proper repairs had been satisfactorily arranged for.

Mr. Wannamaker wrote to Mrs. Blair in July, 1931, and in October 1931, and who replied that Mrs. Lew had written her the house was not fully repaired, but at

0969

5-4-33

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ILLINOIS

Page 3

CHICAGO

Blair, Mrs. Mary Barbour

Information

the same time sent \$1000 toward the \$7500 pledge. Upon receipt of this payment Dr. Stuart wrote her that Dr. Lew and the comptroller had come to a complete understanding about the alterations of the house so that as soon as weather permitted the repairs would be finished. She has also completed full payment of the pledge \$11,000 to be divided among the psychology laboratory, psych. library, the religious education library, and the library of political science. She gave \$2000 pledge add'l in May 1932 for the Natural Sciences Endow., due June 1933.

(4-1-33 NGG) Her income only as long as she lives then the estate goes to Harvard U. so she should be encouraged to give now. (4-1-33 JLS-NGG) Courtesy call; she may do something connected with Lew.

6/5/33 - Dr. Jenney told LM Mrs. Blair will given \$1500 a year for the support of any professor they name as long as she lives, also providing the Japanese do not gain control of the University.

Report of CEJ 6-5-33: Called on her and asked for \$1500 a year for five years; afraid Japs would take Peiping so will not give now.

11-16-33

LM

ILLINOIS

Page 4

CHICAGO

Blair, Mrs. Mary Barbour

September 1933: Mr. Hedrick reported having had a long and pleasant interview with Mrs. B.; she felt it unwise to send money to China as thought Japanese would ultimately take control; BMH explained that the money she had subscribed to Nat. Sciences was for endowment and that the income only was spent in China each year, and that if the Univ. should be taken over by the Jap., the Univ. would go somewhere else in China and carry on its work. BMH not sure she understood that her gift would be used for endowment; however, she agreed to make payments as originally planned. BMH then asked for help toward the \$10,000 needed to balance the budget for current year; she said had not planned to give any more money but would send us \$250 when she sees where she stands.

0970

## ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

May 1938-Mr. Ts'ai called on Mrs. Blair while he was in Chicago, she promised to send \$500 for Yenching, no definite date of payment. Mr. McBrier wrote Mrs. Blair June 3rd, speaking of her promise to send \$500.

May 31, 1938-Attended Stephen Tsai luncheon.

June 1939-Hotel stated on phone she no longer had apartment there - connected me with a friend who refused to give present address in Florida. Said mail would be forwarded from Windermere. Said Mrs. B. so far as she knew, had no plans to come north.V.Nash

June 28, 1940-Pledged \$500.00 to the Women's College Endowment Fund, payable

August 1, 1940. Paid August 8, 1940.

8/26/40-JLS wrote direct from China.

Blair, Mrs. Mary Barbour  
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0971

April 1, 1942

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blair:

Thank you for your contribution for \$500.00  
for the extension of the work of Yenching University  
in western China. Our China Colleges have never  
needed the friendship and support of America more  
than at present, and we are very grateful for all  
expressions of interest in them that come. I am en-  
closing a receipt.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

CSM:ef

Enclosure: Receipt

*extension in Western*

**燕京大學**

- To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY of Peking, China, in carrying forward its Christian educational activity and in consideration of the securing, by representatives of this University, of gifts from others for this purpose, I promise to give to the Trustees of Yenching University the sum of U.S. \$ 500.00 dollars (\$ 500.00) as follows:

Cash herewith \$.....

In annual payments of \$..... beginning.....194.....

In semi-annual payments of \$..... beginning.....194.....

In quarterly payments of \$..... beginning.....194.....

At my convenience on or before.....194.....

Signed M. B. Blair

Address W. Windermere West Chicago Ill

Date April 27/42

Checks payable to TRUSTEES, YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Gifts are deductible for income tax purposes

*ack 4/11/42  
CSM*

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*Yenching News + pledge card enclosed.*

May 13, 1943

Dear Mrs. Blair:

Every mail from West China brings fresh word of the fine accomplishments of our Yenching friends, who have built anew their university in a distant land. We who are holding the home base are filled with humility when we contemplate the obstacles which have been overcome in creating this refugee university.

First there was the problem of escaping from the Japanese, and of keeping alive in a war-torn land. Tales of heroism and self-sacrifice are accumulating. Witness the boy who was one of a group of students who left Peiping on faith, completely ignorant of what plans had been made for the reestablishment of the university. When his small party arrived in free territory they were delighted to discover that Yenching was being reborn in Chengtu. This boy volunteered to risk his life again by returning alone through the battle lines to carry the good news to his friends in North China. We are anxious to hear how he fared.

We feel that the victory of Yenching over all the forces of war and want and destruction, is an encouraging omen of the better world to come. Almost everything worthwhile which we have inherited from the past has resulted from a victory of the human spirit over similar obstacles. It is reassuring to discover that our generation also possesses this creative courage and faith which surmounts all difficulties.

We report to you with pride the accomplishments of Yenching University, which is more than justifying the faith of its friends in America. We solicit your whole-hearted participation in the creation of a strong Yenching in Free China.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago, Illinois

0973

Yenching University.

Enclosed please find \$500  
dollar, to use for the transplanted  
Yenching College in China.

(Mrs) Mary B. Blair

W. Windermere Hotel  
Chicago, Ill

March/44

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Chengtu, China,

To aid YENCHING UNIVERSITY in carrying for-  
ward its Christian educational activity and in consideration of the  
securing, by representatives of this University, of gifts from others for  
this purpose, I promise to give to the Trustees of Yenching University  
the sum of.....dollars (\$.....) as follows:

- Cash herewith \$ 500.....
- In annual payments of \$.....beginning.....194.....
- In semi-annual payments of \$.....beginning.....194.....
- In quarterly payments of \$.....beginning.....194.....
- At my convenience on or before.....194.....

Signed.....MRS. BARBOUR BLAIR.....

Address.....HOTEL WINDERMERE.....  
CHICAGO, ILL.

Date.....March 15/44.....

Checks payable to TRUSTEES, YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Gifts are deductible for income tax purposes

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March 20, 1944

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere West  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blair:

We have your recent letter enclosing your generous contribution of \$500.00 "to be used for the transplanted Yenching in China", and wish to assure you of our sincere appreciation of your continued interest in the welfare of the staff and students of Yenching and for the share you are having in making the continuation of their work possible in Free China. Our receipt is enclosed.

Acting President Mei's report for the 1943 Fall semester has just been received and I am enclosing a copy in order that you may have first hand information on what the University has accomplished during the second year of its exile in Chengtu.

Sincerely yours,

E. M. McBrier  
Treasurer

EMMcB:G

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**Hotel Wadsworth**  
**Chicago**

P. O. STATION 37

Mr Mrs Brier, Treasurer  
Yenching University:

Please see enclosed cheque  
for \$500.00 for help to the Yenching college  
in Free China.

Very truly

(Mrs)

M. B. Blair

Dec 5/44



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
56TH STREET AND THE LAKE

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December 11, 1944

Mrs. Mary B. Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago 37, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Blair:

It gives me great pleasure to send our sincere thanks for your generous contribution to Yenching University. You have been a faithful and constant friend of the University for many years and your contributions have always been generous.

You will be glad to know that we have good reports of the work being done in Chengtu where the "college in exile" is now operating. We recently heard that Dr. Y. P. Mei, who is acting principal during the detention of Dr. J. Leighton Stuart by the Japanese, has been delegated to come to America next year. We hope he will hold meetings in your vicinity and you may have an opportunity of seeing him.

While it is true that the inflation in China has made great changes in our financial situation there, our people have all been most heroically carrying on and the University now has an enrollment of four hundred students, many of them old Peiping students who have trekked all the way across the country in order to reach Free China.

Thanking you for your gift, receipt for which is herewith enclosed, we beg to remain

Most cordially yours,

EMMcB:GC

Treasurer

0977

**Hotel Waldenmore**  
**Chicago**

37

Yenching University  
N.Y.C. Office.

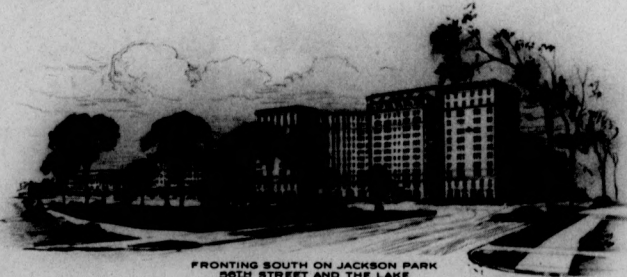
Enclosed is check for \$500.  
to help towards the re-building  
& re-fitting of the College.

We are happy to learn  
of Dr. Stewart's safe release at last.

Sincerely  
(Mm) Mary Barbara Blair

Please <sup>cash</sup> check my remittance.  
MB

Dec 16/45



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
5621 STREET AND THE LAKE

0978

December 26, 1945

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago 37, Ill.

My dear Mrs. Blair:

\$500.

Thank you very much for your recent contribution toward the rehabilitation of Yenching at Peiping. We shall be glad to report your generous gift to Dr. Stuart and know he will be most happy to hear that your interest in the University continues as of old.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours,

EMMcB:GC  
encl.

Treasurer

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**Hotel Windermere  
Chicago**

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October 2/46

Yenching University  
150, Fifth Avenue,  
N.Y.C.

Dear Sirs:

When Dr Stuart called here some time ago, I promised him that I would give \$2500. towards the rehabilitation of the college in Peking, and have already fulfilled that pledge,-- in May last.

I also said I would contribute towards a scholarship fund for the young Chinese studying either in China or here in the States.

As there is a tax on gifts exceeding \$3000. in one year, I now send \$500. towards that pledge and will send another \$500. as early in January as possible.

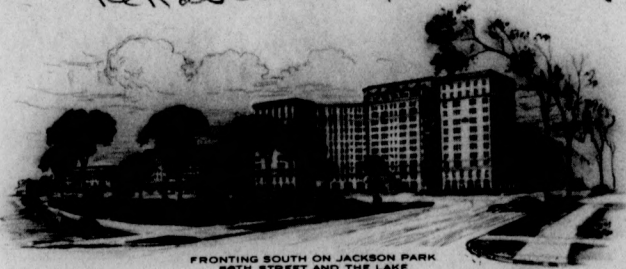
If I am mistaken about the amount that can be given in one year, tax free, please let me know.

Very truly,

*Mary Barbour Blair*

MRS. BARBOUR BLAIR  
HOTEL WINDERMERE  
CHICAGO, ILL.

Gift \$2,500 - April 29, 1946.  
Rehabilitation Fund



0980

October 7, 1946

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago 37, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Blair:

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge your letter of October 2nd enclosing check for \$500.00 designated for the Scholarship Fund. We are crediting this gift to funds which are being sent to China for this purpose and are notifying the field accordingly.

Gifts exempt from taxes are 15% of the income of the individual. As we do not have full facts in your particular case naturally we cannot give you the exact amount in dollars represented in your tax exemption blank.

We are deeply indebted to you for your continued interest in this most worthwhile project. Less than two weeks ago one who had studied our college work in China and just became acquainted with our work remarked that it was the outstanding channel for contributing to Christian welfare in this world.

With added thanks, I am

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE:EW

Enc.

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c/o Security-Natl. Bank  
6th & Spring Sts  
Los Angeles 54 Calif

Dec 23/46

Yenching University  
N.Y.C. office

Dear Mr McBrier,

When Dr Stuart called upon me  
awhile ago in Chicago, I promised him to send  
a gift to be used for scholarships for Chinese  
students either in this country or in China.

My gift has been somewhat delayed,  
longed tha I expected it to be; but here it  
is at last.

Please cash before New Years if possi  
possible and send receipt here (for Income Tax  
purposes as auditors seem inclined to be skeptical)

Very truly yours,

*Mary B. Blair*

M.B. Blair  
home, - West Windermere Hotel  
Chicago 37

*Current needs (scholarship)*

*Mr. Blair - will make use*

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December 27, 1946

My dear Mrs. Blair:

Mr. McBrier has requested me to acknowledge your letter of December 23rd enclosing a check for \$1,000.00 designated for Chinese Scholarship Fund. We are making this available to the field for this particular use and enclose receipt with our sincere gratitude. This check will go into the bank with our regular deposit this morning and will show up on your December bank statement. This is in addition to the \$500.00 sent us last April designated for the science equipment restoration fund.

We greatly appreciate this gift, not only as a continuance of your abiding interest in this work but because of the infinite amount which can be done with American currency at this time.

With the best of wishes for the New Year,

I am

Very sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.  
enc.

C. A. EVANS

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago 37, Illinois

cc: Mr. McBrier

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December 27, 1948

My dear Mrs. Blair:

Mr. McBrier has requested me to acknowledge your letter of December 14th enclosing a check for \$1,000.00 designated for Science Scholarship Fund. We are making this available to the field for this particular use and enclose receipt with our sincere gratitude. This check will go into the bank with our regular deposit this morning and will show up on your December 15th statement. This is in addition to the \$500.00 sent us last April designated for the science equipment restoration fund.

We greatly appreciate this gift, not only as a continuance of your abiding interest in this work but because of the infinite amount which can be done with American currency at this time.

With the best of wishes for the New <sup>Year</sup> York,

I am

Very sincerely yours,

CAE:EW.  
enc.

C. A. EVANS

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago 37, Illinois

cc: Mr. McBrier

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December 30, 1944

Barbour Blair,  
Undermere,  
Chicago 37, Illinois

My dear Mrs. Blair:

Upon my return to the office this morning I find on my desk a copy of Mr. Evans' letter to you dated December 27th. I was away all of last week but returned Friday, and do not come to the office on Saturdays. Mr. Evans telephoned me, however, and I was very much pleased to learn from him that your generous check had been received, and wish to supplement his letter by extending our sincere thanks.

Yenching is having a pretty hard experience just now, and your check will be all the more helpful. You probably saw the report regarding conditions in the various universities in Peiping in last week's newspapers. Yenching was mentioned several times in the article.

We cannot appreciate the hardships through which our Professors are passing. Their fortitude is remarkable. Unfortunately, some of them find it impossible to live on their salaries, as they simply are not getting enough to eat and are obliged to take other positions. However, on the whole they are meeting the situation in a wonderful manner and we at this end are doing everything we can to supplement their salaries with additional grants.

Appreciating your continuing interest in Yenching, and wishing you the Compliments of the Season, I remain,

Most sincerely yours,

EMcB.A

Treasurer.

0985

**Hotel Waldenmore**  
**Chicago**

31

Dear Mr Mc Brien,

Enclosed please find my  
check for \$2,000. which I should like  
to have used for the benefit of Chinese  
students either in China or who  
may be studying in this country.

(Mrs)

Very truly  
Mary Barton Blair

May 21/48



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
5011 STREET AND THE LAKE

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May 26, 1948

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blair:

Your letter of May 21st addressed to Mr. McBrier enclosing check for \$2,000 came to hand promptly and I am enclosing receipt herewith.

Mr. McBrier is in California at the present time and will not be back for a number of weeks. Meanwhile however, I wish to let you know how deeply we appreciate all of your thoughtfulness and generosity toward the work which Yenching is doing. These Colleges, of course, could not survive without the prayers and assistance of friends who through the years have never failed them.

Scholarship funds are, of course, especially needed, and a large portion of this gift will be designated for that purpose. There is an additional satisfaction at present in that the exchange we are receiving is infinitely more than a year ago, and the value is further increased by the fact that commodities have not advanced in like proportions.

Latest news from Peiping indicates that the University stands as a symbol of Western co-operation and interest in the cause of China, and as long as the University is able to carry on its work, there is continued confidence that the cause of freedom in China will survive.

With the conviction that many blessings will return to you because of this generous contribution to a noble institution and cause, I am

Very truly yours,

Assistant Treasurer

CAE/RHT

Enclosure

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**Hotel Windermere**  
**Chicago**

37

Yenching University  
150 Fifth Ave N.Y.C.

July 14/48

Dear Mr Evans,

When going through an old diary recently I was deeply chagrined to find that when Dr Leighton Stuart called on me in April(?) 1946, I promised him I would contribute \$2500. in both 1946 and '47, plus a bit towards scholarships. But find I ~~only~~ gave \$4000.00 in '46 and utterly forgot in '47.

I was in California the winter of 46-7 till March '47, and on returning to Chicago, was sick unto death with a heart attack from which I am only slowly improving. This is the explanation but there is no excuse for forgetting a promise!

I now enclose my cheque for the \$2500. that I forgot. In May of this year I have already sent Yenching \$2000.00, as you know and have acknowledged. I realize how desperately all the China colleges need funds at this time.

With best wishes for the work and again regrets for my delay,

Very sincerely,

*Mary Barbara Blair*  
(Mrs)

M.B. Blair  
West Windermere Hotel  
Chicago 37, Ill.



FRONTING SOUTH ON JACKSON PARK  
5212 STREET AND THE LAKE

0988

July 17, 1948

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
West Windermere Hotel  
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Blair:

Your surprise letter of July 14th has come to hand with its very welcome enclosure. I do not recall that Leighton told me he had seen you, and surely our records do not show that a promise was made hovering two years.

As a matter of fact, however, Yenching managed to get through with a payment of salaries at the rate of about 30% on the dollar, and the purchasing power of U.S. currency was much less than that at the present time when consideration is given to the increased rate of exchange as compared to the cost of commodities. This gift, therefore, will assist greatly in raising the morale of the staff. We deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness. All concerned are likewise exceedingly grateful.

Of late, I have been taking considerable time to introduce what might be considered a plan of continuous support for the Christian Colleges in China, or for any one of the individual institutions. It has been pointedly brought to my mind over the last few years for several reasons.

First, there is a lack of consecration to the missionary enterprise in the same terms which formerly activated the founding and building of Christian institutions in foreign lands. Surely the motive is sadly lacking in the present generation which will take up the burden which is being laid down by others who have carried on for years in this great work. New, young blood is not coming in to our Mission and College Boards with the same devotion and sacrifice of former years. Thus the same prayerful support will not be forthcoming.

Secondly, over a period of years our Treasurer's Office has seen the need of an effort to make secure the on-going budgets of the Colleges. This can be done through the medium of bequests. Some of my most spiritual experiences have come through conversations with people in this connection.

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It stabilizes the life-time giving of a person and immortalizes one's interests.

If you feel at all interested, I shall be only too glad to co-operate.

Gratefully yours,

C. A. EVANS  
Secretary

CAE/REH

Receipt enclosed.

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May 27, 1949

Mrs. Mary Barbour Blair  
Hotel Windermere  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Blair:

Your contribution of \$1,000 for the work of Yenching University has been received, and I wish to thank you most heartily for this gift toward a project in which you have been so deeply interested.

Within the last few days word has been received direct from Peiping that the work is going on without any interruption and that there have been no important changes in the personnel or curriculum. We are hoping that this situation will continue and that the contribution which Yenching has made over the years will be greatly enhanced in this new generation.

Our official bodies have voted to continue support for the China institutions so long as they can carry on the work for which they were founded. When it comes to the point that we are involved with Communist propaganda then some different action must be taken. One can hardly imagine, however, a situation wherein China will not be receptive to the preachings and teachings of the Master of Men.

With added thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,

C. A. Evans

CAE/ms

receipt is enclosed.

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