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As from 347 Madison Avenue, New York City
February 15th, 1921

Dear ~~Dr.~~ Luce:

On behalf of the International Missionary Committee (the successor of the Continuation Committee) I have been asked to make a fresh study of the experience of the Christian forces in international missionary cooperation, especially during the decade which has elapsed since the Edinburgh Conference of 1910. It is also desired that I take counsel with a group of Christian leaders to ascertain their best thought as to international missionary cooperation - its possibilities, its limitations, how best fostered. I need and crave your help. Will you not kindly write me quite fully and frankly your opinion, in the light of experience, observation and reflection, on the following points:

1. What do you consider to be the most satisfactory examples of effective cooperation on the part of the missionary bodies of two or more different nations? In each case indicate what you regard the secret of such satisfactory experience.

2. Wherein efforts in international missionary cooperation have failed, or have fallen far short of realizing legitimate expectations or desires, what to your mind is the explanation? Do not hesitate to draw lessons and to sound warnings for our guidance.

3. Within what spheres of missionary work at the present time is international cooperation most to be desired and at the same time practicable?

4. State what you observe to be the chief difficulties or problems in the pathway of bringing about the best cooperative action on the part of the missionary bodies of different nations.

5. Among different arguments and considerations in favor of closer and more effective international missionary cooperation, which in these days appeal most strongly to you? I mean those which justify, if need be, difficult initiative and prayerful, sacrificial effort.

6. Constructively and positively how, in your judgment, may the International Missionary Committee best foster desirable cooperation among the missionary forces of different countries? What limitations should we bear in mind? What guiding principles should be held in prominence?

Do not feel bound by these questions, although I shall value more than I can express your thought on each one of them. The main

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thing wanted is untrammelled expression of your strongest convictions on the bringing about today among the leaders of the missionary work of the Christian Communions of different lands more fully, effectively and helpfully than ever not only common thinking and common planning but also cooperative action. Realizing as I do how occupied you are and what burdens you are carrying, I shrink from making this request. Believe me, I would not do so did I not really need your personal help. It is not necessary to add that the time and thought you give to the matter will not be in vain. The raison d'etre of the International Missionary Committee is involved and all that it represents. We must not miss the way. Let us seek to blend the vision of Edinburgh with the lessons of the intervening fateful years and with a thoughtful effort to understand the requirements of the days right before us.

If practicable, I hope you may be able to deal with this letter within ten days after you receive it.

with best wishes for you in your own important work,
very sincerely yours,

John R. Mott

Rev. H. W. Luce, D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

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March 18, 1921

Mr. John R. Mott,
347 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mott:

Your letter of February 15th inquiring as to my views on missionary cooperation in an international way came when I was out of town, and I have not been able to answer it until now. Let me take up your questions in order:

(1) I am inclined to think that the most satisfactory example of cooperation in missionary work is to be found in connection with union evangelistic work in cities. So far as I know, this has been worked out best in China at Peking and Hangchow. Mr. Burgess, who is home now, could give you information in regard to Peking; and Dr. Robert F. Fitch of Hangchow is the Secretary of the Hangchow Union Committee. Some work has been done along these lines at Nanking, where the Committee is organized under Mr. Samuel J. Mills, the Chairman; Mr. Mills is a son of Mrs. Mills of the Chefoo School for the Deaf. There is also a Union Committee in Canton, though I believe that the Secretary for the Committee has recently retired because of ill health. If you had time to write for definite information, you could get it by writing to Dr. Creighton, Principal of the True Light Middle School at Canton. Or perhaps Mr. Edmunds of the Canton Christian College at 156 Fifth Avenue could give you the information.

(2) Up to the present time, as far as China is concerned, we have not yet proved conclusively how union in higher educational work will succeed. Most of the institutions of higher learning in China are under Americans, where American ideals and methods prevail. In at least two attempts at union a good deal of friction has been engendered where American educational ideals and methods have come into close contact with English ideals and methods; so, as I have said, it is yet to be proved that they can be harmoniously assimilated in one institution where there is thorough conviction about their application. There are some who have studied the question who feel that American and British methods cannot get along in the same institution unless one is practically dominant. While it is probable that

the missions will continue to press the question of union, even in the face of these difficulties, yet it would seem wise, unless there should be some very real gains to be obtained by union, not to press the matter too hard, but keep to the separate schools, unless, as I said, very great counter-balancing gains are to be secured.

(3) It would seem to me that the best lines in which to urge international cooperation would be in evangelistic work (with all that involves in the way of proper division of territory and close cooperation where there is overlapping) and in medical work.

I have sometimes thought from cursory observation, but without careful investigation, that possibly international is easier in medical school work than in other lines of teaching. Certainly in an institution that was developing a teachers college or academic subjects in general differences of opinion would be likely to arise in the application of ideals and methods, as suggested above.

(4) The difficulties are largely due to racial traits which are based upon the training of the persons of different nationalities from their youth up. When a man has been trained for some thirty years or more along definite educational lines, it is not easy for him to accept as best other educational ideals and methods which may have been developed in other countries.

(5) We find that the solution of all our main problems drives back to the question of securing enough efficient men and enough money to make their efficiency effective. Our task is so infinitely great, and at the present time in China one of almost unlimited urgency, that we are forced to unite even at a good deal of cost fearing that otherwise we may fail to take full advantage of the opportunity now facing us there in such a wonderful way. We can endure a great deal in matters of "difficult initiative and prayerful sacrificial effort" in view of the fact that we may otherwise face partial failure. I believe in united and cooperative effort, for we desire above all to show the real unity that we have in our common loyalty to Christ. I think, however, there may be places where union should not be pressed, where this common loyalty is likely to be overshadowed by differences due to race and training which may emerge. In general, this united and cooperative work is to be favored. I think this principle, however, may have exceptions in its application.

I do not know whether I have given you just what you want; but if anything herein suggests to you any further questions, I should be most happy if you would write me again. We do not see each other often, but I am always conscious of the great work that you are doing, and I follow you in your heavy and pressing task with affectionate regard.

Ever sincerely yours,

H.W.L.W

ALFRED E. MARLING
CHAIRMAN

B. H. FANCHER
TREASURER

JOHN R. MOTT
GENERAL SECRETARY

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations
347 Madison Avenue, New York.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

November 10, 1922.

Dear Dr. North: ✓

Dr. Mott is agreeable to your using his name in an endorsement of the Peking University along with other men whose endorsement you are seeking.

Very sincerely yours,

B R Barton

Dr. Frank Mason North,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

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COR. SECY. NORTH (1)	
TO REFERRED	DATE
<i>Evans</i>	<i>11/11/22</i>
BY ANSWERED	DATE
BY PASSED TO FILE	DATE
BY FILED	DATE

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December 28, 1927.

Dear Dr. Mott:

Thank you for your kind reply of December 22nd to my note of the 16th.

I wrote you that letter on my own initiative and not on the suggestion of Dr. Stuart. I wished in general to get any advice that you might be able to give me which would enable me to relieve him by approaching certain persons who might step in to help him in his present difficult financial problem. At the same time, however, I did have one other special matter about which I wished to consult you.

Shortly after Dr. Stuart arrived here he approached the Rockefeller Foundation with reference to the possibility of an additional grant toward completion of his buildings in Peking. The Committee replied with very great regret that its policy was for the present against any additional construction in China except completion of certain things to which the Foundation is already committed. Dr. Stuart somewhat later inquired whether the Committee would think it entirely proper to arrange for him to have a personal interview with Mr. Rockefeller. He felt that such a personal interview might clear away certain misapprehensions which Mr. Rockefeller may very well have had in regard to the danger to physical property in China due to the present revolutionary activities. After some delay Mr. Appleget wrote that he had personally discussed the matter with Mr. Rockefeller and he thought the latter felt he had sufficient reasons for declining at present to give anything further to the University.

Dr. Stuart is just about to begin a campaign to raise \$350,000 badly needed for the University. He has had in mind only two persons, one of whom might possibly give a conditional \$100,000 to render it easier to obtain the remaining \$250,000. These two persons were Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Harkness. The refusal of Mr. Rockefeller through Mr. Appleget, was a great discouragement to Dr. Stuart. He has had no access to Mr. Harkness. He has only seen his secretary. We do not know whether she will report the matter favorably to Mr. Harkness or not.

Dr. John R. Mott

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Under the circumstances, it occurred to me that possibly you might feel that you could at least arrange a personal interview for Dr. Stuart with Mr. Rockefeller. I feel that such a personal interview would go far toward overcoming the present obstacle toward the securing of the initial gift which in turn would almost guarantee the success of this campaign for badly needed funds.

Realizing, in some measure, how terribly pressed you are for time, I feel that I ought to apologize for presenting this additional problem to you. I should not do so except that I know your high regard for Dr. Stuart and what he is endeavoring to accomplish through Yenching University. I have not heard from Dr. Stuart since he left for a period of rest in New Orleans. We expect him here about January 3rd.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. John R. Mott,
International Missionary Council,
347 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CORPORATE NAME
"GENERAL BOARD OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS"

347 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK

January 2, 1928.

Dear Mr. Wannamaker:

Your letter of December 28th I find awaiting me on my return from the Student Volunteer Convention in Detroit. I appreciate your writing me as fully and carefully as you have done concerning the burden resting upon Dr. Stuart. Knowing Mr. Rockefeller as intimately as I do, and, therefore, his methods and preferences, I would deem it most unwise for me to take initiative in the matter of trying to arrange an interview for Dr. Stuart with him. Were it necessary, I could support this statement out of a wide range of knowledge and experience of efforts of this kind, but I assume that I need not go to that trouble in your case.

I regret that my relations to Mr. Harkness are such that I cannot be of help in that quarter. ~~It has been~~ now nearly ten years since I have been able to enlist any help from him, although years ago he was a generous supporter of our Foreign Work. Through others we are now doing our best to enlist his interest in our new Student Division, but thus far have been baffled in the effort to secure contacts. ← X ←

I shall bear in mind the whole subject you have presented, and, if I am thrown during these next days with any of Mr. Rockefeller's representatives, you may count on my doing anything in my power to further the objective you have in view.

Very cordially yours,

J. R. Mott

Olin D. Wannamaker, Esq.,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

M.

[Handwritten signature]

October 23, 1951

Dear Doctor Mott:

For a long time we have been eager to form a Committee of representative New York men of affairs and business leaders as a sponsoring group for Yenching University. We have at length succeeded to the extent of securing sixteen members on such a Committee, and we have in addition a considerable number of the right type of men considering membership.

We do not propose any financial campaign under the present abnormal conditions, but we do wish to get this Committee informed and deeply convinced of the value of Yenching, so that they will assist us as soon as conditions improve, in strengthening the financial position of the University.

We plan the first meeting of this Committee for the last part of November or beginning of December. We expect to hold a second meeting when American representatives to the Institute of Pacific Relations arrive here from China.

We feel that no one in America could impress this group of business men with the great importance of our University in Peking in the same convincing fashion as could you. In the name of the Trustees, I write to ask whether you can render us this service. If this seems to you possible, will you kindly let me know whether you could speak to the group at luncheon on Tuesday, November 24th, or, if that date is not free, on what day you could meet with us during the first week of December.

Should you wish to have your secretary telephone me, my number is Watkins 9 - 8703.

With assurances of our appreciation of your deep interest in Yenching University, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. John R. Mott
230 Park Avenue
New York City

Assistant to the President

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*copies: Bm Hedrick
M. Mc Buer
J.H.S.*

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Composed of Representatives Appointed by

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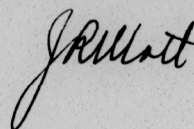
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
230 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

October 26, 1931.

Dear Wannamaker:

On my return from the South I find awaiting me your important request of October 23rd. I regret that there is no possibility of my taking on such an engagement as you have suggested during the period right before us. My program between now and next March is so congested that I must get relieved from some engagements already made in order to carry through projects in connection with my own work in which I cannot be substituted. Were I free I would be only too glad to collaborate in the way you have suggested. Another season I hope to be more favorably situated in this respect.

Very cordially yours,



O. D. Wannamaker, Esq.,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

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