Yenching
Corres
Nash, Vernon 1931

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

January 8, 1932

Mr. Vernon Nash,
Yenching University,
Peiping, China.

My dear Nash:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 26. This letter deals chiefly with the question of your salary basis for 1929-30.

We have just sent to Dr.Stuart and Dr.Galt copies of the minutes of a meeting of the special sub-committee appointed by the Finance Committee to deal with several financial matters - the question of your salary being among them. No doubt Dr.Stuart will at once report to you the substance of the action taken here in New York.

The Finance Committee and its special sub-committee found it very difficult to reach any equitable decision on this question of your salary for last year for two reasons. In the first place, it is impossible for a group here in New York to have the intimate knowledge of all the factors in such a case as this as is possessed by those of you who are on the field field. In the second place, the function of the Board of Trustees and its various committees is primarily to deal with matters of general policy rather than individual questions arising in line with such policies. It is impossible for a group of Trustees ten thousand miles from Yenching to reach wise decisions as to such individual questions of personnel preference, even though it were possible for the Trustees to give the large amountoof time which would be required for a study of such questions.

Again, we were not entirely clear as to whether you have already received the 12½% bonus which the Trustees in the spring of 1930 voted to all Western members of the University supported staff. The only figures we had available are those attached to your letter of November 26. As far as we were able to judge on the basis of these figures, you must have received this 12½% bonus, or some other adjustment quite similar to it. But we were not able to find any exact reconcilement between what you actually received and what you presumably shouldhave received on the basis of your previous salary plus the 12½% bonus. If you have not already received this bonus you are clearly entitled to it.

The question of whether you should receive your salary for 1929-30 on the gold basis which became effective for the other University supported Western staff at the beginning of the fiscal year 1930-31 is too complicated a problem for any group here in New York to reach an equitable decision on the basis of what we have available. The natural reaction of the Trustees and the various committees is that a salary schedule adopted for the University

supported Western staff should be uniformly followed, and that to make exceptions in any one individual case would be to risk upsetting the entire salary schedule, as well as giving cause for an unlimited amount of misunderstanding and personal jealousies. We all appreciate the fact that the missionary staff at Yenching, and for that matter the missionary group throughout China and the other fields, are all working under conditions that involve a heavy personal sacrifice. These conditions are not the result of anyone's choosing, but seem to be inherent in the whole organization of the missionary enterprise. So far as it is within the power of the Board of Trustees to improve these conditions they are striving to do so. Their method of working for such improvements, however, must necessarily be along the lines of elevating the entire salary schedule rather than dealing with individual cases.

The Finance Committee and the special sub-committee both recognized the fact that in your own case a number of special factors are involved, but the groups here felt that they are not sufficiently close to the situation to pass any judgment as to how these factors should affect the basis of your salary for last year.

The final decision of the special sub-committee, therefore, was quite logically that the matter be referred to the proper University authorities on the field with full power. I am sorry that we did not know many months ago that the field was looking to New York for a decision in this matter, for this same action would undoubtedly have been taken at any time that the question might have been raised. Had such an action been taken here in New York earlier in the year it would have speeded up by just that much the final decision on the field.

With all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1931.

ONE GUESS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER

If words were subject as directly to the same laws of supply and demand as is the metal silver, then all vestiges of the bottom of the market for articles, editorials, interviews and news stories on "the silver situation" would long since have disappeared. Moreover, we can't bring to mind any previous issue in which the discussions of supposed experts were as contradictory, vague and confused as were the guesses and mere reflections of the ordinary writer.

What shall we average mortals think when no two doctors can be found who are agreed? Let us summarize some of the suggestions which have been made and see if we can find any common element which may have a pertinent bearing upon them.

The most numerous proposals for arresting the plummet plunges of the exchange rate of silver have to do with some form of foreign loan to China. We would think that it was merely due to our ignorance that we fail to see how loans of any amount, however large, could have any effect upon the relative commodity values of two precious metals, if it were not for the fact that leading authorities in the field confess to the same lack of discernment.

It is retorted that China could use a huge loan to get on a gold basis. Perhaps so; it is also just as possible that the pegging of her currency and bills of exchange to accomplish the feat would cost so much as to be too expensive even for such a desideratum. And we detect among the learned on the subject some misgivings as to what such strainings might do to internal price levels and cost of living. It is sheer tosh, unworthy even of the most demagogic of United States Senators, for Mr. Pittman of Nevada to say that China's millions have had their purchasing power cut more than in half by the drop in silver. That power has been halved only for such commodities as have to be purchased abroad. It is true of course that some products within the Middle Kingdom have prices that are roughly determined competitively with imported goods but the effect on the whole cost of living is nowhere near proportional to the decline in silver.

TRANSFER

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The next most common group of proposals revolve around the fact that there is an insufficient demand for the commodity silver. It is therefore suggested that England and the United States could restore the balance by withdrawing ten-shilling and one-dollar notes from circulation and minting silver coins in their place. It is further pointed out that the supposititious result would restore prosperity to those two Western countries through making it possible for China to buy their manufactured products in vastly increased amounts when silver returned to a 2 to 1 level. It would therefore repay them for minting costs and for the inconvenience of a metal currency.

Similar to this suggestion is the proposal that a world-wide propaganda and advertising campaign be instituted to persuade everyone to purchase more silverware of all kinds. Just as the lengthening of skirts an inch means the difference between profit and loss to scores of big wool, cotton and silk mills, so it is argued that the excess of silver, due to overproduction of the mines and India's dumping, could be absorbed if every family able to do so would only buy a new set of table silver, a couple of silver candlesticks a card tray, and so on.

We will continue this examination of "remedies" in a future editorial. Before taking a recess, we may remark that another common figure of speech will soon have to be discarded unless some one of these patent medicines turns out to be not a nostrum. Already in about half the world, it's doubtful inspiration to tell folks to cheer up because the cloud which overshadows them may prove to have a silver lining.

The Annotator.

The Mis-Leader

We are told that Marshal Feng has shunned a bath-tub for more than six months. That beats ye conductor's record by thirty days; we haven't been in a tub since the first week in September.

* * *

Now don't get excited—we have a most delightful shower in our new home.

* * *

A headline the other day remined us of the story of the woman who went to a doctor with a wound to be dressed on her upper arm. "That's a strange mark," said the physician, "Too large for a cat, and not the right shape for a dog. What bit you?" "Oh," said the patient with much disgust, "It was just another lady."

———

Perhaps the most interesting of all linguistic studies is the inevitable depreciation of the value of words which are intended to express values that are somewhat intangible. Several English newspapers have recently promoted interesting contests among their readers in the effort to find a new word which will serve the purpose which "lady" once fulfilled.

———

The discussions really grew out of the wide public interest in the plea of Miss Isbel McDonald for a better term than spinster for an unmarried woman. The best offering the proposer had to make was, "bachelor girl." The only way out of such problems is usually a coinage as "blunch" or "blunchfast" for the combination meal eaten near noon by many night workers.

Ho Nan-jen passes on the following:

In the course of an address by Sir John Simon on "Our Common Inheritance of the Common Law" delivered as guest of honour before the American Bar Association, at Cincinnati, Ohio, on August 31, 1921, there occurred the following:—

I cannot be too thankful that this is no occasion of controversy between the lawyers of the one country and those of the other; but is, instead, an occasion when we celebrate and put on record our feelings of mutual friendship and good will. I am reminded of the reply of the witty Irish cleric Father Healy, who, when he was asked by one of his flock: What was the difference between the Cherubim and the Seraphim? replied, "Well, I believe there used to be a difference at one time between them, but they have made it up."……

I do not forget that in the early days of the American Republic there was in some quarters a movement to repudiate the Common Law on the ground that it came from England. It would be as reasonable for Americans to repudiate game of golf because it comes from Scotland; instead of which the authors of your independence lost no time in making what I may call "a tee-shot" into Boston harbour, and in naming one of your early battle-fields Bunker Hill."

———

A census shows that there are now 1,897,241 golf addicts in the U. S. A. and Hi Phillips at once observes that these are the most alarming statistics on insanity ever made public.

* * *

Of course if those figures are secured by simply adding up the totals of memberships in golf clubs, it is a gross exaggeration. Many persons join country clubs for bridge, billiards, tennis, and social reasons.

———

A man who belongs to one of the most exclusive (and therefore expensive) country clubs in the world once remarked to us that he played golf so infrequently that he estimated that the game cost him at least G.$100 a hole.

The Misleader.

TRANSFER

over

The Mis-Leader

The critic on the hearth and ye conductor are just now in the midst of reading aloud Dean Inge's "Christian Ethics and Modern Problems." We must say, having just finished the chapter on theocratic imperialism, that we trust the book will not fall into the hands of any Ku Kluxers.

* * *

After having put it off a long time, because books on war are read by the undersigned as a duty, we romped through "Commando" last week. It is a story of the Boer War by a Boer. And why anyone will read detective stories for thrills when there are any such genuine historical heart-grippers available is a mystery to us.

And if it is true that it is the repressed blood-lust of the modern man which drives him to seek vicarious release and escape through the newspaper accounts of murder trials and in the exploits of Sherlock Holmes and the myriad imitations thereof, you will fine more gore in that little book by Colonel Reitthan in a whole five-foot shelf of detective stories.

* * *

The New York tabloids are Sunday School pamphlets by comparison.

Mack Gwan passes on to us the comment of Will Rogers on the 27-0 rout of U. S. C. by "Knutredame." He says they thought they had a pretty good Methodist team out there on the Pacific Coast but that after the game, he can see only one conclusion to be drawn, "football- just ain't a Protestant game." He continued, "We had some fine young boys, a great band, and some splendid weather, but our divine guidance who fell down on us."

Charlie Paddock, who had been strongly optimistic of Southern California's success, wrote after the game, "The only thing I can say is to echo the remark of an Eastern sports editor some years ago who said that no one above the level of a moron will ever bet against Notre Dame."

* * *

Just for the pun of it, we might remark that Jack congeal climbed an eminence to fetch some liquid refreshment. Sad to say, it has to be observed of another lady that she drinks anticipates terribly.

We trust that our whilom column laureate in his gloomy retirement will see the following:

A Call to the Pen.

The word of Stress N. Strain
That he to die is fain
Gives us unmeasured pain.
We hope with might and main
That he'll his hand restrain,
Or come to life again,
And ever after deign
To ply his active brain
In high and mighty strain
To wax and never wane
For reader's grateful gain.

—*Floating Cloud.*

Little Gertrude returned home from school to report tearfully that she had lost her part in the annual play. She was cast in the part of the little red hen and made too much noise coming off the nest. (That's out of the Satevepost.)

* * *

A woman in Texas arose out of the torture Chair and shot a dentist. It's possible of course that he was a bit careless with an 8-inch bit but a more likely clue for the detectives is to find what he had eaten for lunch that noon.

The Misleader.

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instruction of the Ministry.

Within

Ack 3/11/31

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peping China

Department of Journalism

Feb. 10, 1931.

My Dear Garside:-

Barring unforeseen circumstances, it is now certain that I shall return home with my family next summer on exchange with Dean Martin of Missouri. We plan to come via Siberia, spending a little time in the Scandanavian countries and Great Britain.

We hope that it will be possible to obtain passage across the Atlantic on the same line we went over to London on before, the American Merchant. The folder of the U.S. Lines we have shows a sailing from London of August 7. We would appreciate it if you would arrange for a reservation for us for that date, or any time thereafter. As soon as we know positively that we are coming, I will ask the administrative officers here to write you authorization for the purchase of the tickets.

We want the regular $100 passages and would like to get two 2-berth cabins with doors facing or adjoining. Ann is now 10 years old and Hugh 8. If these minimum-fare berths should all be taken, we would prefer that you take whatever you can get for their highest rates are cheaper than on any other line, and with a one-cabin class, passengers have the "run of the boat" which we like.

Miss Behrens note
H.B.

We have just learned of your sending $75 to Miss Helen Rooker, Las Cruces, N.M., again in December. I am sorry that I failed to make clear that these semi-annual payments last year were only desired for the one year to pay back a loan. As it happens we are glad there was this misunderstanding, as she can use the money since the crop failures out there were so complete that no taxes are being paid, and the schools are therefore unable to pay their salaries at present. But you need not send any further payments. We have made our arrangements with her for future repayment to us of this extra $75.

Your letter concerning the decision of the finance committee has just come, and I have not been able to talk with Dr. Stuart concerning it. I'll therefore defer comments upon it until later.

Sincerely,

Vernon Nash.

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peping China

Department of Journalism

Feb. 20, 1931.

Mr. B. A. Garside,
China Union Universities,
New York City.

My Dear Garside:-

Yesterday Dr. Stuart and I had the long-delayed talk concerning yours to me of Jan. 8 and the minutes of the finance committee concerning the adjustment of my salary for 1929-30. As I suspected, the answer is the equivalent of a refusal since conditions here are such that it would be impossible to get any such action through the necessary channels. Thus again, we are caught in the process whereby it is insisted that we shall conform to regular practice in the expenditure of funds though we are "a special case" when it comes to the securing thereof.

Yes, I got the 12½ per cent bonus. I suppose that such an additional amount sounds pretty good in the New York but it ignores the fact that our basic rate was way below the amount called for by the standing university policy. For more than five years it had been frankly admitted by all administrative officers that this was the case, but we were asked to be patient. Then came a year when the university had L.C. $50,000 to expend (by reason of favorable exchange) and they proceeded to ignore promises of five years standing and spent all that money for something else.

But there is no point in my going over all this ground again. Not only the decision but the way the whole thing has been handled means that what I thought was a temporary bruise has turn out to be a chronic open sore. I earnestly hope for the sake of my future enthusiasm and spirit that some way yet may be found of resolving the impasse.

The more serious question is that of the future. If this first decision of the finance committee means that the trustees will turn down Dr. Stuart's recommendation that an advisory committee there and here be established to control the journalism fund (along lines similar to Princeton in Peking) then our position is untenable. The next move on the field, as certain as fate, in my opinion, is a drive for identical salaries for equal work, regardless of race. One of the two reasons given by Jimmie Chuan for his resignation was dissatisfaction with the comparative salary schedules. As I see it now, only two possibilities are open to me: I will return to the field next year only if such separate control has been set up, or with a contract with the trustees setting my salary at the prevailing missionary rate and with a provision that any change therein not mutually agreed upon would entitle me to return passage to the States at any time. I outline the whole situation in a letter to the Christian Century sent some weeks ago. It is of course in general terms and is not based upon the Yenching situation.

For the sake of your own personal understanding of my position, I cannot forbear a re-statement of the viewpoint concerning the issue which clearly was the cause of the adverse decision in the finance committee. The bringing my salary up to the point required to make it conform to mission practice (by a recommendation prepared by a committee consisting of Galt, Tayler, S.D. Wilson, Alice Boring and myself) would have simply made my salary equal to that drawn for years previous by a majority of the Westerners on the Yenching faculty. Many of those on the field budget directly, as Barbour, Learnmonth, Parr, Boring, etc.. have independent means.

As far as the exceptions are concerned, the woods are full of them. There always have been exceptions, there are now, and provision has already been made for an exception in at least one case in the new scale which has been forced through this year after only one year of the missionary rate. The agent of the trustees here recognized the justice of my contention, but pointed out the difficulty (in fact, the impossibility) of doing anything about it here, and therefore recommended that the finance committee solve the matter for him. That favorable action on their part would have caused none of the "unlimited amount of misunderstanding and personal jealousies" feared by the committee is shown by the fact that the Chinese pay no attention to what the representatives of mission boards, and the folks out here under Princeton-in-Peking, are getting. I am far more convinced than ever that the only permanent solution of the problem (if Yenching is to have any direct Western employees without private resources) is for the trustees to take over all Westerners and give them to the field just as the mission boards supply their representatives.

It is not a permanently feasible condition for the committees in New York to recognise "the number of special factors involved" in the specially financed divisions and then say "But---." My situation is simply not commensurable with associates who have no interest or concern with what happens East of San Francisco. Tangible as well as verbal recognition must be given to that fact. From the day I signed on with Yenching to this moment, I have never cost this university a dime. I threw up what could easily have been a secure life job in Kansas City to come out here on a shoe-string; the second period is little if any more permanently assured. So much for the matter of missionaries working "under conditions that involve a heavy personal sacrifice." I am prepared for that, and am not asking or expecting special or exceptional treatment above that given to my missionary associates. But it does not seem unreasonable to me that I should insist that I should not be asked to accept a salary radically below that obtaining in the cooperating mission boards. By the figures worked out jointly by Mr. Tsai and myself, I received in 1929-30 G$486.92 less than the amount set by the University committee mentioned in the foregoing as being a proper approximation of mission scales. Some method of adjustment of that situation simply must be found if I am to be saved from going ahead smarting under a sense of acute injustice.

Sincerely yours,

Vernon Nash.

Yenching University

March 14, 1931

Mr.Vernon Nash,
Yenching University,
Peiping, China.

My dear Mr.Nash:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 20.

I am sorry to learn that the action taken on January 5 with regard to the questions connected with your salary, does not seem to have helped much toward the solution of the problem. It is difficult to see, however, what other position could have been taken by any group here in New York. Even now, with all the exchanges of correspondence we have had on these matters, I certainly could not make any adequate or accurate presentation to the Finance Committee of all the factors they would need to reach a fair and impartial decision on this question of your salary for last year. When this question came up before members of the Committee asked me a number of questions which I had to admit frankly I could not answer. Many of those same questions are still unanswerable from the information I have, and recent correspondence has raised additional queries in my mind.

For example, you state in the second paragraph of your letter that "our basic rate was way below the amount called for by the standing University policy. For more than five years it had been frankly admitted by all the administrative officers that this was the case". On page 2 of your letter you say that the approval of the proposed procedure "would have simply made my salary equal to that drawn for years previous by a majority of the Westerners on the Yenching faculty". These statements are obviously open to widely different interpretations. If you mean that you had been drawing less than the rate paid by the University to all the University supported Western staff, then indeed the situation is a most unusual one. If, however, you mean that the salary schedule for the University supported Western staff was below the average received by mission supported Western staff, then the situation is quite different. While it is true that some of the Mission supported staff received more than the University supported staff, the missionaries of some Boards received even less than the University supported staff.

It has never been possible in a union enterprise with a large number of organizations cooperating to secure an absolutely uniform basis of salaries and allowances. There is always a tendency to invoke a "most favored nations" clause, and urge that all schedules shall be brought up to the equality with the most advantageous one, but missionary organizations are never able to do this because of the confusion it would create within their own ranks. If, for example, a London Missionary Society ap-

pointee on the Yenching staff received exactly the same salary and allowances as a Presbyterian missionary on the Yenching staff, whereas a London Missionary Society missionary working under very similar conditions in the city of Peiping received only about two-thirds as much, you may easily imagine the difficulties which would result. Your statements raise a whole host of questions and inquiries which we here in New York could not possibly answer with any degree of wisdom or satisfaction either to ourselves or to the field.

Moreover one may read between the lines of your letter many things with regard to the very difficult problems the University has long been facing as it has attempted to deal with the complications that are inevitable when you have staff members of several nationalities, from widely divergent cultural and racial backgrounds, and backed by widely different resources, attempting to unite in one institution and with one common aim of Christian service. The Trustees are by no means ignorant of these difficulties, nor do we underestimate their seriousness. But the Trustees recognize they are not competent to solve these problems, and you would be the first to resent it if the Trustees should be so foolish as to make the attempt. All we can do is to leave such matters in the hands of the groups on the field and to place reliance on the wisdom of their decisions. The Trustees would be violating one very fundamental principle of this policy if they ever stepped in to deal with an individual case, or to pass on an appeal from the decision of the proper authorities on the field.

Personally, I have for some time been convinced that one of the best solutions of the problem of our University supported Western staff is to consider such staff members missionaries of the Board of Trustees. It is extremely trying on a group of Western men and women to find themselves in a somewhat anomalous position where there is no clear division of responsibility between the Trustees and the field authorities, and where the staff member feels he has very little assurance of either permanency of position or adequacy of support.

This problem is not by any means peculiar to Yenching University. It has been faced by everyone of our Universities in China and each institution has had to work out the solution for itself. Lingnan University has, practically since the beginning, frankly adopted the policy of considering the University supported Western staff as missionaries of the Board of Trustees here in New York.

The University of Nanking experimented for two or three years after the disturbances of 1927 with a policy whereby the University supported Western staff look to the Board of Directors on the field for decisions on all matters affecting the salaries, allowances, and the like, but this arrangement proved very unsatisfactory. About a year ago the Board of Directors at Nanking recommended that all University supported Western staff in the University of Nanking be considered missionaries of the Board of Founders here in New York. That policy has now been adopted and seems to be working out very satisfactorily.

At Fukien Christian University we are still groping our way to a solution of this problem. At the present time our University supported Western staff at Fukien are directly under the Board of Managers on the field in all matters of salaries and allowances. This has not worked out at all happily and there is a marked tendency in the direction of making these staff members either missionaries of the Board of Trustees or else working out some special agreement with the cooperating Mission Boards where-

by all Western members of the staff will be supported by the Mission Boards themselves.

At Yenching the University supported Western staff has itself desired to work out an experiment along lines of complete equality in every way between the University supported Western staff and the University supported Chinese staff. The Yenching Trustees have felt that this experiment is a most important one for Christian work in China, and have watched its working out with keenest interest. The Trustees have recognized some of the difficulties and problems involved, and have not always been able to see in what direction the solution must lie. They have recognized that it may eventually be discovered that such a plan can not be made to work out satisfactorily, and that some other method of carrying on must be devised. But it would upset everything if the Trustees should step in and interfere in individual cases against the decisions reached on the field.

Perhaps in your own case the solution may lie along the lines you suggest - that of the creation of a special group here in America, and another group in Peiping which would be responsible for such affairs as the Department of Journalism. As a matter of fact, such a proposal would raise a number of very difficult and delicate problems. Yenching has already begun to feel some very adverse effects from the growing number of independent or semi-independent units within the University, and the trend at the present time is in the direction of greater unity rather than any increase in diversity. Moreover, the maintenance of groups in America and in China responsible for special pieces of work, is both a difficult and an expensive task. The addition of each new group adds a great deal to the complexity of University affairs both at the home bade and on the field.

Dr.Stuart will be in New York in about a fortnight now, and we will count on him to guide us in our thinking on such problems as these. You may be sure that all theTrustees are anxious to find the right solution to these problems, but unfortunately it is not always easy to know what is the wise thing to do in the midst of such complex and oft-times conflicting consideration.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

Following our customary plan of leaving home just at the hour set for an occasion, we missed the whole first movement of our favorite number, Tschaikowsky's Trio in A Minor. We, curiously enough, felt somewhat peeved; the announcements had said nothing like "prompt, sharp, or punctual."

———

Cognate sayings: "You've spilled the beans" and 壞了醋了 ("The vinegar is spoiled.")

———

And just as sport writers in the States, especially, love to manufacture versions of a saying or allusions thereto, so the Chinese say 老西兒蹂脚 ("The Shansian stamps his foot") i.e., in exasperation at the ruining of one of his favorite articles of diet, but the implication still is "The apple cart's upset."

———

Judging by the inquiries all of us have had since it got about that a group was reserving a car across Russia, we wonder why the C. E. R. and Siberian railways wouldn't make a good thing out of it every summer by running several special trains around July 1 carrying nothing but through passengers. Just think of the time it would save; one could afford to pay a nice little excess fare for such a service.

■ ■ ■

We've understood a good deal better what goes on continuously out Paomachang way since we read the "Memoirs of a Fox-Hunting Man."

The Misleader.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1931.

DEBT REPUDIATIONS NOT UNUSUAL IN PAST.

The jewel of consistency becomes rarer when nations begin casting aspersions on one another on the question of meeting their international obligations. One of the chief condemnations of the Bolsheviks is that they refuse to assume the debts of the Czarist regime. This abuse is most vociferous in the United States. All such critics apparently are ignorant of the fact that a number of American states have in their history repudiated their own bonds and that these debts remain unpaid to this day.

We do not refer to the worthless bonds of the Confederacy. The Southern States at that time were technically in a state of "rebellion" and all lenders bought Confederate bonds in full knowledge of the fact that they would be not worth the paper they were on if the war was lost. Various state legislatures in peace times, however, voted bonds for public improvements in the years prior to the Civil War. The bonds were sold, chiefly to foreign investors, and then succeeding legislatures repudiated the debts after the money had been squandered by corrupt officials. Under the peculiar system of state sovereignty in the United States, the Federal government and the United States Supreme Court have been powerless to force the states in question to redeem their honor.

The holders of these defaulted bonds are keeping the issue alive by periodic efforts to obtain redress, and it should be the hope of every honest American that some day these states may elect legislatures which will do their duty. Until this happens, citizens of the United States would be well advised to be restrained in their criticisms of a revolutionary regime in Russia which is unwilling to assume the obligations of [illegible]

Another instance of the truth of Corbett's epigram that [illegible] the contracting of debts which a nation can never pay is to be found in the partial or complete wiping out of the public debt by several European nations after the world war by the simple device of depreciating their currency. The purchasers of French bonds prior to and during the war are being paid just one-fifth of what they gave for them. This, apparently, seems quite justifiable to French statesmen but when China attempted to follow suit by [illegible]

And just as sport writers in the States, especially, love to manufacture versions of a saying or allusions thereto, so the Chinese say 老西兒跺脚 ("The Shansian stamps his foot") i.e., in exasperation at the ruining of one of his favorite articles of diet, but the implication still is "The apple cart's upset."

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We do not refer to the worthless bonds of the Confederacy. The Southern States at that time were technically in a state of "rebellion" and all lenders bought Confederate bonds in full knowledge of the fact that they would be not worth the paper they were on if the war was lost. Various state legislatures in peace times, however, voted bonds for public improvements in the years prior to the Civil War. The bonds were sold, chiefly to foreign investors, and then succeeding legislatures repudiated the debts after the money had been squandered by corrupt officials. Under the peculiar system of state sovereignty in the United States, the Federal government and the United States Supreme Court have been powerless to force the states in question to redeem their honor.

The holders of these defaulted bonds are keeping the issue alive by periodic efforts to obtain redress, and it should be the hope of every honest American that some day these states may elect legislatures which will do their duty. Until this happens, citizens of the United States would be well advised to be restrained in their criticisms of a revolutionary regime in Russia which is unwilling to assume the obligations of [illegible] previous [illegible]

Another instance of the truth of Corbett's epigram that public [illegible] means the contracting of debts which a nation can never pay is to be found in the partial or complete wiping out of the public debt by several European nations after the world war by the simple device of depreciating their currency. The purchasers of French bonds prior to and during the war are being paid just one-fifth of what they gave for them. This, apparently, seems quite justifiable to French statesmen but when China attempted to follow suit by paying the balance of its Boxer indemnity in current francs, a great outcry was raised and the former Peking government was forced to continue [illegible] to France in gold francs. [illegible] Latin America [illegible] record of unpaid public debts. Perhaps the only people whose record in this respect is clean are those forming the commonwealth of nations known as the British Empire. One can therefore better understand the shudder of shocked horror which ran from London to every corner of the earth over which flies the Union Jack when the head of the government of one of the Australian states seriously and officially proposed recently that his government solve its baffling financial problem by defaulting on its bonds. Although Mr. Lang has had some support in New South Wales, it is probable that he has really signed a death warrant on his political future by even making such a public proposal.

As international borrowing and lending becomes more and more of a world problem, it is probable that some such institution as the international bank at Basle may develop into what will be to all intents and purposes a world bankruptcy court. The record of the past would not indicate that we can entirely trust bankers and great banking houses to pass upon international bond issues. The working out of some proper relationship between the purely commercial phases of the floating of a loan in another country with the political issues involved is one of the major problems confronting mankind in the days just ahead.

The Annotator.

TRANSFER

The Mis-leader

What with all these recent suicides, one would take our paper off-hand some days to be a Japanese daily.

■ ■ ■

Another of life's little mysteries: why do the movie advertisers, who are always searching feverishly for the unusual and the startling, present with such frequency and regularity a couple in an osculatory clinch?

■ ■ ■

We were extraordinarily interested in what Dr. Sweet had to say about race attitudes in children, and were distressed and astonished that only thirty other persons in all Peiping were similarly concerned, at least sufficiently to attend the meeting.

———

When the discussion took up the question of the relative amounts of race prejudice in the children of various communities, such as missionary, commercial and diplomatic, we felt the interchanges skirted closely along the ticklish border of another set of attitudes in adults.

■ ■ ■

It's our firm conviction that unfortunate race attitudes in children are the result of isolation more than any other one cause. And it isn't a question of Negro vs. white, nor of Nordic vs. Oriental.

———

Isn't it a pity that Anglo-American youngsters grow up in Peiping without knowing any French and German children? Equally unfortunate is the fact that Japanese children have little opportunity to know in a natural relationship Chinese youngsters of congenial age and similar habits of life.

———

We propose that, when the legations are moved to Nanking, one of the great areas in the Quarter be secured to house an international school. Have one school for all children of every nationality whose parents would be willing to pay the tuition fees. There should be one play-ground and such other things, like assemblies, as could be maintained jointly. There could then be sections for the particular pedagogical work required and desired by the various national groups. It's *social* segregation that produces the horrors of race prejudice.

———

Cognate sayings: "Steal a loaf of bread and go to jail; steal a railway and go to the Senate" and 衙門口朝南開有理無錢休進來

———

Arthur Guiterman in his "Chips of Jade" translates the Chinese proverb thus:

If Right,
Though Right without a Flaw
Is *All* you have,
Don't go to Law.

■ ■ ■

We are taken severely to task by our prima donna contrib. for adding an idea to one of *Hobo-Steno's* latest efforts and thereby making her assume the credit for something she didn't write. The critic on the hearth, who didn't "pre-view" that installment, agrees that the published version is all wet.

■ ■ ■

It seems that ye conductor, who can approximate the pitch well enough to be tolerated in a choir, is badly deficient in his sense of rhythm. Any paraphrases of Longfellow that we might write would be taken for a posthumous poem of Amy Lowell. As an attempt at an *amende honorable*, we hereby offer the original version:

Although
we're slipping
in our faith in
creeds and dogmas
old, I note we speak
with reference of
U. S. Dollars
Gold.

———

Did you ever notice how smallpox-y a page of English looks with a lot of Chinese characters strung through it?

The Misleader.

The Dutch can and did deport a Chinese journalist from Java on complaint of British and Japanese authorities because of something he had written against their nationals, but China is not yet able to deport a newspaperman who writes articles directly distasteful to the citizens of this country itself.

■ ■ ■

The idea that a most painless death is to fall from a great height because, it was supposed, a person loses consciousness before striking the earth, is thoroughly disproved by the chap who dropped three miles from a plane the other day before he opened his parachute.

———

Some things we would like to know about such a drop:

(a) how long did it take, and what was his velocity when he jerked the cord?

(b) was the aviator able to breathe after the first half mile, and if so, how?

(c) how do they make a parachute that can stand the strain of stopping such momentum?

(d) why didn't the harness cut the plunger into a half dozen pieces when it started stopping him?

■ ■ ■

Another little mystery? how does the Annotator manage to have such pat news stories break on the same day as his editorials? For instance, the interview with Borah on a proposed third party last week?

———

How the leaders of the two old parties must enjoy his suggestion that they exist to serve the 4 per cent of the American people who possess 80 per cent of the nation's wealth.

■ ■ ■

Announcement extraordinary: a concert last week began exactly on the scheduled minute.

YENCHING
燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peping China

Department of Journalism

TRANSFER

April 2o, 1931.
ack. 6/22/31

Dear Mr. Garside:-

With the change in arrangements at Missouri, we shall not leave for home until sometime in December and will plan to come via the Pacific, so the reservations on the American Merchant Line should be cancelled.

Herewith a card from the Methodist mission folks who handled a subscription for us. We plan to continue it, having it sent to Mrs. Nash's sister while we are at home. I would appreciate it, therefore, if you would countersign the card so that there will be no delay in the renewal but it would seem simpler for them to send the bill for same to my father, as I indicate on the card.

Tomorrow or the next day, I plan to cable via your office, asking Missouri to make an early decision concerning the sending of a new man out this year or permitting Groff to remain. In connection therewith I'll send a personal message to N.T. Veatch, Jr., Mutual Building, Kansas City, Missouri, concerning some inquiries he has asked me to make for him in Shanghai. If you have not sent the wire collect, he would welcome a statement from you for the cost of the night letter.

Our first Journalism Week early this month went off in good shape for a first attempt. Everything otherwise is O.K., though I was ill for a time after the strenuous period, and have been continuously upset by the uncertainties involved in the proposed exchange relationship.

Concerning yours of March 14, believe me that I continue the discussion not for personal reasons but as a kind of long-range forum with you on policy. I quite appreciate the difficulties you feel at such a distance in making intelligent decisions. Being caught between the two jaws of such pincers ---"expediency"arrangements on the field, devolution of responsibility for such by home-side committees--may easily force those of us without private means out of the work.

I do not at all understand your confusion of thought with reference to the statement that the University-supported Westerners were receiving much less than the mission-supported Westerners. I said that an increase would simply make my salary the equivalent of the majority of my Western colleagues. That statement is still true. There are a few British missionaries whose salaries are low but the great majority of the missionaries were getting salaries above those of the University supported group. With the new arrangement, this is again true of all the non-mission group except myself who refused to continue if the scale were applied to me. The disparity is now greater than it was before.

TRANSFER

There was never any attempt made to invoke a "most favored nation" clause. The policy from the foundation of Yenching has been that the salaries of the University-supported Westerners should be a fair approximation of the average prevailing schedules of the cooperating mission boards. As I have said before, it has been admitted repeatedly since I joined Yenching that this was not being done and there was a plea for patience on account of financial stringency. Finally, a committee was appointed to work out a schdule which would be in harmony with the policy. That committee, apart from myself, was composed of such experienced, level-headed veterans as Galt, Tayler, Alice Boring and S.D. Wilson.

The schedule which they recommended to the G.F.E. and which was adopted by that body for application in the following budget year furnished concrete proof that our salaries were and had been way below that of five-sixths of the mission-supported staff. At that time, our salaries were slightly more than two-thirds what that committee said they should be on the basis of the university's policy. The University at the very time that report was made had $50,000 silver surplus to spend and proceeded to allocate all except the 12½ per cent bonus for other things. If that was just and Christian, then something is hopelessly warped in my thinking processes.

There was never any appeal made that our schedules "should be brought up to an equality with the most advantageous one." It such a decision had been made, it would have increased our salaries more than 50 per cent. Such disparity was of course largely due to abnormal exchange.

We are quite at one on the feeling that the best solution is that we become missionaries of the Board of Trustees, and I am relieved to hear that so many of the other institutions have already done this; it will provide a much needed precedent when the issue comes to a head as it is certain to do inx another year or eighteen months, unless the exchange situation drops back nearer to normal.

Shake plenty of salt over the first paragraph of page 3 of your letter of 3-14-31 and then read again. Some of the University-supported Western staff have favored an experiment "along lines of complete equality." Others felt compelled by moral pressure and suasion to concur but feel that it is simply the beginning of the end for them. Moreover, the situation, in my opinion, is sadly worsened by increasingly general knowledge of the fact that all sorts of personal and individual "adjustments and inducements" were made in order to get everyone to agree to come nominally under the single schedule. Dr. Galt, in a public meeting of the parents with children in our Western school, said so last week in almost the exact words I have used.* We were trying to determine what we should pay our teachers. One man, E. O. Wilson, is to have his children's allowances on the new arrangement retroactive back to their births in a cash lump sum-$5,000. (To come from the surplus this year of Nat'l Sc. College) There was at the time considerable resentment at me for standing pat on the principle that I would not work for less than an average mission salary; in the long run I shall gain in esteem, I suspect, for not having agreed to be a party to what is already being felt to be a specious "equality."

* At least that is the way he is being quoted. It was held while I was ill so I did not hear him.

 Instead of equality we now have a half dozen kind of salary arrangements, instead of two: — Mission, the one Hu on, Princeton men, folks on home-furlough basis, Chinese, new western scale, and so on.. See P.S. 2 bottom of page.

One factor remains to be discussed, the matter of my being made an exception. There would seem to be no difference in principle between doing that last year and doing it next year. I alone of the University-supported Western staff am down in the 1931-32 budget for the schedule recommended by the previous salary-revision committee; the others will have salaries based upon the recommendations of the committee which met last fall.

The important difference is that this budget was approved by the field. Dr. Stuart felt that no difficulties would be met since we would be going home on a furlough basis and that the matter of a separate and special status for journalism would be worked out before we returned in 1932. Just what will be done, if anything, now that we will be here during the first half of the budget year, I do not know. Probably nothing, since the new scale did provide that it would be only applicable to those Westerners now on the staff who consented; others were to be continued on the missionary scale.

Dr. Stuart carried home with him a proposal for an arrangement involving the purchase of a car while I ~~was~~ am home and which would be brought back to the field by me. I earnestly hope that this will be taken up and approved as it will not only meet a real and growing need which we have here, but would also heal a sore spot which, as I have said before, does not seem to get better despite my intellectual understanding of the "complex and oft-times conflicting considerations" involved.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

Vernon Nash.

P.S.--It will be obvious to you that I have written this in a highly personal vein, and not as to an officer of the Union office. I should prefer therefore that ~~some of~~ the personalities be considered as confidential.

V.N.

P.S.2. It is purely a euphemism to say that Chinese and Univ.-supported are on an equality even with new scale. This will be apparent on a study of children's allowances, furlough and travel arrangements, etc. The net result is that the Westerners concerned have their salaries lowered to what is a dangerous point for folks without any other resources while the Chinese who want exact equality are not satisfied. I know it will be said that they concurred in the committee and G.F.E. They did so because they felt that it was the best they could get, but the resentment at what they feel to be discrimination remains as all of us know who have Chinese friends who are intimate enough to be completely frank. Especially mark this: the new scale was <u>forced</u> upon Westerners as an attempt to restore good feeling; it was not sought by them. Nor are they happy about it. In my opinion, the one tenable position is that Westerners' salaries should not be determined locally but should be set with reference to prevailing mission-board practice. V.N.

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

June 22, 1951

ack. 8/15

Mr.Vernon Nash,
Yenching University
Peiping, China.

My dear Nash:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 20.

Because of the change in the arrangements at Missouri we cancelled a number of weeks ago our tentative steps toward securing steamer reservations for you this summer. We will await further instructions as soon as the plans for your journey at the end of this year are sufficiently far along.

We have countersigned and turned over to the Methodist Board the card requesting the continuation of the Ladies' Home Journal subscription.

I trust that the interchange of cablegrams with Mr.Groff and Mr.Veatch has cleared up all the problems involved, so that no further comments on these matters are necessary at this time.

We certainly appreciate the fact that you have been having some very strenuous months at Yenching this year. You have not only been carrying a heavy burden of work in the Department of Journalism, but also have had to grapple with perplexing problems of personal finances as a result of the changes going on at Yenching in the schedule of the University-suported Western members of staff.

Since I have had to do most of my corresponding with you on this subject as the representative of our Board of Trustees, and since I have tried to present official, rather than personal, viewpoints, I suspect that my letters have sounded rather formal and cold-blooded. From a purely personal and unofficial standpoint I have the warmest sympathy for the struggle you have been going through on the salary question. There is nothing quite so maddening on the mission field as for a family to try to live within a missionary's salary when a substantial number of those about them are able to live on a much more liberal basis because of independent financial resources. Your own problem has been made far more perplexing during the last few years because of the attempts at Yenching to work out some basis of equality between the Chinese and the Western members of staff. The violent fluctuations in local currency have also added to the perplexities.

For several years it has been my own personal conviction that it

is almost impossible to work out any practical financial arrangement that will accomplish the ideal of placing our Chinese and Western staff members on a basis of equality. Our Chinese friends will always be Chinese, and our American workers will always be American. I feel that we will work together more happily and more effectively if we frankly recognize the difference in racial characteristics, environment, and personal problems inherent in this situation. It is not a case of one race being superior and the other inferior; - it is merely that the happiness of all demands that each set of problems be worked out for itself.

Several of our other Universities have attempted to work on the theory that a uniform salary schedule for Chinese and Western members of staff is the best solution of the problem of personnel finances on our University campuses. Thus far no other institution has succeeded in this attempt, and aside from Yenching all the other colleges represented in our Central Office have entirely abandoned the plan. In almost every other college our University-supported Western staff members are now recognized frankly as being missionaries of the Board of Founders here in the West, rather than as under the jurisdiction and administration of the governing boards and committees on the field.

Please do not quote my own personal ideas and theories on this matter. I simply pass them on to you to show you that I have every sympathy with the problems you are facing even though as Secretary of the Board of Trustees I am compelled to present the situation as the Board sees it. I earnestly hope that within the near future some solution can be worked out at Yenching that will be reasonably satisfactory to everyone.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

燕京大學
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peiping China

新聞學系
Department of Journalism

August 19, 1931

Mr. B. A. Garside
China Union Universities
150 - 5th Avenue
New York City

Dear Garside:

May I acknowledge with much appreciation your fine spirited letter of June 22. I think that I had not misunderstood you but feel sure that my own letters were written in such a form as to lead you to feel that they were personal. One of Mrs. Nash's favorite comments upon her husband is that he is incapable of arguing without giving the impression that he is angry. No doubt I write in the same vein. I feel sure that we are not far apart in our attitude toward the situation and I certainly understand the organizational difficulties involved.

Many thanks for your services in connection with the telegram to Mr. Veatch and to Missouri concerning Groff. Both of these matters are now quite clearly settled.

It is now time for us to take up the matter of our return home. We are reaching San Francisco on the LINCOLN December 15. We are leaving thus early in order for me to attend the annual meeting of the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism during the Christmas holidays. This is somewhat inconvenient since it will necessitate securing the clergy books for 1931 as well as 1932. We will appreciate it if you will secure these for us and have them awaiting us on disembarking, at least the books for this year.

If Mr. Wills has been employed by our Trustees, I will plan to spend about a week in Southern California with him before proceeding to my home in Missouri. Mrs. Nash and the children will go to her sister's home in New Mexico and will plan to settle down in Columbia, Missouri early in the new year.

Two years of work on our more comprehensive basis are now behind us, and I feel we have every reason for encouragement. This is specially true in the most vital matter, the ability of students to find places promptly and to give satisfaction therein. As a result of these years, and the previous experience out here and at home, my thought has been running strongly this summer on the possibility of Walter Williams Memorial Foundation for the promotion of education in journalism throughout the world, especially in those countries in which the United States has and desires to have close cultural and commercial relationships.

In rough outline, my idea is that such a foundation should undertake some such functions as the following:

1. To make available to all institutions which desire same, expert advice and guidance in the establishment and maintenance of good schools of journalism. This could be done both by personal visitation and by the provision of printed matter.

2. To promote exchange of professorships between American institutions and those in other lands by serving as a medium for the interchange of information and by helping financially in such exchanges.

3. To extend grants-in-aid to some one college or university in each country which will maintain a school of journalism conforming to the standards set up by the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism. It would be the foundation's hope that these schools of journalism would serve as models, or "pace-setters", for all other such schools in a given country. I should feel that it would be wise to insist that grants-in-aid be made only to institutions which would, from their own budgets, match at least dollar for dollar the amounts allocated by the foundation.

The work of the Rockefeller Foundation in the promotion of medical education all over the world is a precedent for such an undertaking, and would provide much experienced guidance in the administration of such a journalistic foundation. I would assume that such relationships would be established chiefly with lands in the Far East and in Latin America.

Although I have never discussed such a matter with "Dean" Williams, it seems pretty certain to me that this would prove a more gratifying memorial to him than any other. He personally has spent much time and energy, particularly in recent years, in responding to appeals and opportunities for such service. I would hope that the memorial might be established while he was still here to appreciate it and enjoy it. I would be glad to have your opinion and advice in the matter.

Dr. Stuart and I have talked this matter through quite fully. I had been thinking for a long time of the possibility of such a foundation for the Far East. It was Leighton's suggestion that the project would doubtless commend itself to "Dean" Williams and big givers even more if it were world wide in extent.

If the undertaking proves feasible it is our hope that the Trustees would be willing to release me for as long a time as may be necessary to work upon it, perhaps with the understanding that my salary and expenses for the period would be refunded by the foundation when it had become established.

I suppose this may seem over ambitious in the light of present business conditions but of course we are thinking of it with reference to the time when the depression has passed. It may

also be possible that we could find a few very wealthy persons who would be in a position to make large contributions even under present conditions.

Assuming that financial solicitation remains very difficult for several years more, it would be my idea that we attempt to secure extensions of present contributions and new money in sufficient amounts to make possible our going ahead on the present experimental basis. I have a very lively hope also that we can within a few years get some substantial sums from China. Hin Wong's idea is that we seek endowment for a Chinese Chair in Journalism.

I would be glad if you would pass this letter on to Mr. Wannamaker for his information upon his return.

It has been a very fine summer this year at Peitaiho. Shields and Cady have been living quite near us and I have seen a great deal of them.

Enclosed is a poetic effort which I made some Sundays ago and which I have submitted to the Christian Century. Since the question of its acceptance is quite problematical I think I had better send carbon copies to friends.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

VN/P

Vernon Nash.

Reflections at
Peitaiho-on-the-sea.

To myriad particles of dust
We chiefly owe
The enthralling loveliness
Of sunset.

The north horizon
Draws our souls
Up from our depths
To feast upon
The favorite view of mortals---
On mountains, product of
Upheavals and erosion.

The smiles of whitecaps
Flash from waves
Piled up top-heavy
By a stormy wind.

* * * *

The seers long have seen
That strength is perfected
Through tribulation.
How much of beauty also
Would be lost to us
If life were void of irritationm,
Buffetings and trial.

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

September 17, 1931.

Mr. Vernon Nash,
Yenching University,
Peiping, China.

My dear Mr. Nash:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your good letter of August 19th.

We look forward to seeing you on your return to the states in December. In order for us to secure Clergy certificates for you, it will be necessary to have you and Mrs. Nash fill out one copy each of the Eastern and the Western Clergy Application blanks which I am enclosing herewith. Will you please fill these out down to the "Endorsement of Resident Clergy" and return them to us. We will then secure the certificates for you and will have them awaiting the steamer when you arrive in San Francisco. If you were making a direct journey across the continent to New York you could probably obtain Clergy reduction on your railway tickets by making the necessary arrangements before you leave China, but since you are to be doing quite a little traveling, and making a number of stops before you arrive here in the East you will find the Certificate quite helpful.

As yet we do not have any of the 1932 application blanks. We will send these to meet you when your steamer arrives in San Francisco. If you will fill out the blanks promptly at that time, we should be able to obtain your 1932 Certificates by the time they are needed.

Obviously you have been doing a great deal of thinking and planning for the proposed foundation for the support of work in Journalism abroad. If such a foundation could be developed, and adequate resources secured it could render a most invaluable service. However, it is difficult to form any fair judgment, just at this time of the severe financial depression, as to the possibilities for developing such a foundation. I am passing on your letter to Mr. Wannamaker who may wish to comment on the proposal at greater length. We are expecting him to return to the office next week unless he is delayed by the illness of Mrs. Wannamaker. We had a cablegram from him a week ago stating that Mrs. Wannamaker suddenly became seriously ill, but as yet we do not have any further details.

I am glad that you managed to find time for a good rest at Peitaiho this summer. I am very much impressed by the "poetic efforts", of

which you were kind enough to enclose a copy. I once preached a sermon on this same theme, but I am afraid I did not succeed in getting it nearly so clearly or so beautifully expressed as you have done. I hope that the China Century will find a place for the poem in its column.

We look forward to seeing you a few months hence.

Very cordially yours,

BAG:PC
Enc.

Vernon Nash

1331 R. Lafayette
Shanghai, China
Nov.3, 1931
ack. 12/1/31.

Mr. B.A.Garside
China Union Universities
New York City.

Dear Mr. Garside:

Thank you for your kind letter of September 17th. It was delayed in reaching me because it had to go to Peiping, out to Yenching, and back down here.

Since Vernon is kept so busy every hour of every day writing about floods and famine, I am trying to help by writing letters which do not require exact dictation. He asked me to thank you for sending the blanks for the clergy certificates, and to say that we filled out only the Western ones, because we will not need any others in 1931.

We will reach San Francisco on the 15th of December on the President Lincoln. The children and I will go directly to my sister insouthern New Mexico and remain there till the new year. Vernon will go to Kansas City and to the meeting of teachers in schools and departments of journalism which will meet in Minneapolis. He notes that he can go there on the western certificate.

In regard to the certificates, we will both need western and eastern for 1932, and if those blanks are at the boat for us, as you suggest, we will fill them out immediately, and return to you so that they will be ready when needed.

Personally, I shall be very glad when we sail, much as I like China, because Vernon is wearing himself out down here on this flood work. He has lost twelve pounds, and looks old and burdened. I am afraid that is inevitable for anyone whose mind is centered on that great trouble, and I suppose I am selfish to want him to get out of it when he has done his share.

With many thanks for your continued kindness and friendly interest,

Cordially yours,

Mary Rooker Nash