

346 5317

UBCHEA ARCHIVES  
COLLEGE FILES  
RG 11

Yenching  
Corres.  
Owen, Emelie 1921-1945

3

4

6

5

3

1

7

0 192

June 23, 1921

Mrs. Perry B. Owen,  
Wick Avenue,  
Youngstown, Ohio

My dear Emelie:-

I enclose herewith our Treasurer's receipt for your check of last Tuesday and want to assure you again of our very sincere appreciation. In addition to the \$50,000 endowment which he mentions as having come from the Hall Estate, there was \$2,500 to be used in whatever way was desired. There is rather a strange side to the stipulation about the \$50,000. It is to be applied for the purpose of education but not for instruction in theology. As the theological seminary is one of the outstanding features of our University it was a question whether we ought to accept it or not but the Trustees of the Estate have no hesitancy in saying that it is quite all right because of the other departments.

I am going to send you a copy of an old letter which we sent out about a month ago asking for some money. I hope you will have time to read it through in order to get the point of view of the University which I am anxious you should have. This letter has brought us in several very nice checks but of course no total as large as we should like. Such letters never do.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

HKC VM

0 193

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

June 23, 1921

Mrs. Perry B. Owen,  
Nick Avenue,  
Youngstown, Ohio

My dear Mrs. Owen:-

We appreciate very much your  
check for \$100 received through Mr. Gasky yesterday  
and trust that it is only the beginning of a very  
distinct interest in the great work being under-  
taken by Peking University.

You will be interested in knowing  
that we have just received a check for \$50,000  
from the Charles M. Hall Estate (Pittsburgh) which  
is to be used for endowment only.

Very sincerely yours,

0 194

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

September 14, 1921

Mrs. Perry B. Owen,  
Rick Avenue,  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Emelie:-

I am just back in the office after some experiences that you have no doubt heard of through Alice. Mollie is better and I came away feeling that it was quite all right to do so as she was very cheerful and undoubtedly improving. The Toronto doctor seemed well satisfied and the man in charge of the Calydore wrote me a very encouraging letter about his own opinion from his experience with her last winter.

We were so sorry to hear that your Mother was not so well and that you had felt it unwise to go to Manchester. I had a letter from Alice on Monday in which she said that she was still improving and I hope that by this time she is almost back to normal and will be quite so very soon.

You will remember that when I was there I talked to your Mother about the possibility of her doing something for Peking University in the way of a memorial to your Father. She spoke of something that would not cost as much as one of the recitation halls and I said that there would be a number of residences erected on the campus and that they would practically all be memorials named for individuals or communities that pay for them.

While I have been away from the office the architects have been working on the plans and we hope that by the first of October the representative who is here in this country can return and preparations made in China to begin building just as soon as the weather will permit next Spring. It is estimated that the residences will cost, at the present rate of exchange, about \$5,000 each and that about \$1,000 more will be needed to equip them with such modern appliances as will make them useable. Building material is much more expensive in China than it is here but labor is, of course, much cheaper. Just

Mrs. Owen

-2-

now the exchange is about two Chinese dollars for one of ours so that \$6,000 here means practically \$12,000 there. It would not mean such a building as \$12,000 would erect here but would make a very comfortable home, in keeping with the other surroundings in style and arrangement.

I will be very glad if you will talk this matter over with your Mother when she feels able and if desirable I would be very glad to come out and talk it over myself. I am always looking for chances to go to Youngstown.

I am sending under separate cover a little chart illustrating the general plan of the University grounds. This has been altered somewhat because of the purchase of land which contained several hills and one small lake. You will notice that in the foreground and off to the right there are a number of residences for the teachers. It is one of those that I would like to see your Mother interested in and of course it would interest us all.

With all best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HKC VH

0 196

RECEIVED  
AT PEKING UNIVERSITY  
FEB 7 1924  
ANSWERED

Miss Perry B. Owen  
416 W. Chetler Ave.  
Youngstown, Pa.  
Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> '24.

To Peking University  
156 - 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
New York City.

Dear Sirs,  
Enclosed herewith is check

for fifteen hundred (\$1500.<sup>00</sup>) which I  
have endorsed to Peking University,  
being balance of first year pledge  
of Mrs. Perry B. Owen, Youngstown  
Ohio, toward salary account of  
the Theological Seminary, of Peking  
University. Kindly acknowledge

Receipts, and Obligations,  
written only.  
Herbert K. Caskey  
per 2542.

---

3  
4  
5  
6  
7

July 31, 1924

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Owen:

You will be interested in the quotation which I am taking from Dr. Stuart's letter to me under date of June 28 and which I have received this week. He says, in speaking about the extreme importance of the caring for the current needs for the Theological School:

"Two factors which have become intensified since I returned here make me the more keen for this. One is that we have now at last the group of brilliant Chinese with which we can do business in the Theological School. T. C. Chao is coming to us next Spring probably as a permanency. ----- The noticeably increasing desire for a truly Chinese type of Christian thought and worship increases our opportunity now that we have this remarkable group of young Chinese on our staff."

In this connection also he pleads for some scholarships for particularly brilliant students who are without sufficient financial means.

It is really quite remarkable how each department in the University is taking quite unique leadership in Chinese educational life. In the Theological School particularly we have now unquestionably the most brilliant group of Chinese professors anywhere in China. Probably Mr. Caskey has told you that these young Chinese professors have banded themselves together to help work out the Chinese Christian church. Each one of them has not only a fascinating personal history but in each case because of the sheer ability of the man, there is real personal sacrifice of economic well-being for the sake of the ideal which they have banded themselves together to serve.

A year ago you generously sent us a thousand dollars toward the current account of the Seminary and since then an additional \$1500. in February 1924. We understand very definitely that though you hope you may be able to give about \$2500. a year to the salary account of the Seminary, yet you do not wish to make it obligatory upon your part. I am writing you simply to tell you of the rather unusual good which your help has assisted, in achieving in the hope that if it is convenient for you to do so, you may continue this generous and exceedingly useful support.

The next number of the "Peking News" will contain some photographs of the building operations. I am very sure that you will be pleased



Mrs. Perry B. Owen

- 2 -

7/31/24

over their appearance.

Sincerely yours

3  
4  
5  
6  
7

0200

8-4-24



Mr. James H. Lewis

Dear Sir

I am  
sending a check <sup>#1500</sup> for  
Oklahoma University for  
this year + will pay  
the rest the first  
of the year when you  
notify me - as I

0201

understood it: from<sup>2</sup>  
Mr. Caskey it was to  
pay the salary of one  
of the Secretaries in  
the Theological Dept.  
of course as you say  
in your letter I do  
not promise this  
for any year but  
this as we cannot

0202

tell what will happen.<sup>3</sup>  
Respt

Mrs Perry B. Omer  
808 Wick Ave  
Youngstown  
Ohio

Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1924

I am glad it is keeping  
to do good & surely  
with the greatest kind

0203

Success in Peking  
University - 4

0204

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

August 12th,  
19 24.

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Owen:

I am exceedingly grateful for your kind note and generous check for \$1,500 which we received on August 5th. I have also made record of your request to write about the first of the year again.

I am sending under separate cover a copy of an address given by Dean Low of our School of Theology which was the closing address before the National Conference on Christian Education held at Hanking in February of this year. It will take about a half hour to read it, but I assure you that at the end of it you will have completed one of the most statesman like summaries of the object and purpose for which your money is being used.

The devotion, sacrifice and service of the Chinese professors in our Theological School keeps us Americans rather humble. They are men of brilliant genius who by their sheer ability, wholly apart or perhaps added to the excellent training they have received, are the intellectual leaders among the thousands of students who flock to Peking. The latest figures show probably 15,000 students in and about the city from every province of China and between three and four hundred of whom have studied abroad.

Our theological professors are continually in demand, not only for their class room leadership, but for addresses to conferences of all sorts, especially lectures in the national university and guidance and help in the many movements stirring the development of the new religious and intellectual life of the Chinese.

Very truly yours,

JHL/RM

0205

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

September 2, 1924

My dear Mrs Owen -

Your generous check for \$1500 came into the office during one of my periods of absence in August, and this money was immediately put at the disposal of President Stuart and the Board of Managers in Peking to be reserved for the salary of a professor in the Theology School.

You will doubtless receive the August number of the Peking News within a day or two if it has not already reached you, and I am sure you will be glad with us to see the new buildings so far along. Of course buildings in China are not put up so rapidly as they are in America, nevertheless they do go up, and once erected they last at least as long as they do here.

The support you are giving for the professor however, will endure, not in the brick and stone of the buildings, but in the lives of scores of students who will go out to become the spiritual leaders of a new China in the coming generation. It is always hopeful, when one sees the dark days politically through which China is passing, to realize that the darkness must sometime pass and the sunlight of peace break through. But in the midst of it all there are men and women throughout the nation who are quietly building a new people because they are making new hearts. After all this is the important thing, for before a faction or a nation lifts the sword against another, the sword must first be in the hearts of the people who take it.

With very cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

To

Mrs Percy B. Owen  
809 Wick Ave.  
Youngstown, Ohio

0206

October 31, 1944.

Mrs. Percy B. Owen,  
Madison Avenue,  
Youngstown, Ohio.  
U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Bowen:

I happened to be looking over this morning the report of our treasurer and noted that you had renewed your contribution for the salary of one of our Chinese theological teachers. I cannot resist writing you a few lines to tell again how very much this gift is appreciated. There is nothing in our whole institution that seems to me to have larger possibilities not only for the Chinese church but for the religious effectiveness of our University among our own students and outside than the small group of young Chinese who have consecrated their lives to the training of Chinese Christian workers. Each of these men has given up opportunities in other educational work, or in government or commerce which would mean much more to them financially and would give more social prestige than this one, but they are as enthusiastic and devoted to this task as any people could possibly be, and form a very congenial group among themselves. We at last have the faculty for which we have been planning and can now make a drive after students. Hitherto, we have been held back by the fear that we could not offer the sort of instruction that would appeal to the choice young college graduates plus the fact that with our present temporary quarters we had no place. We hope next year to be on our new campus and with adequate facilities and a good faculty of Chinese and Western people we hope we can have a constantly increasing number of young men, not without a few young women studying with us for the ministry and other forms of lifelong Christian service. Although political conditions are as you are well aware quite disturbed at present our work has gone along without interruption and

0207

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7





January 29, 1925

My dear Mrs. Owen:

We are very grateful indeed for your check for \$1500. received through Mr. Caskey, toward a salary in the Theological Department. We simply would be unable to carry on without this generous support which you have been giving.

In his note enclosing your check, Mr. Caskey says that you are planning to go abroad shortly and I rather from the way he puts it that you are going to the Far East. If you are planning to make that sort of a trip, I hope you will give us the opportunity to arrange for some special advantages for you in the way of meeting people, particularly in Peking. I am quite sure that arrangements could be made in advance and which would make your stay much more pleasant and profitable as well.

With most cordial greetings,

Very sincerely yours

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

0209

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

November 13, 1925

Mrs. P. B. Owen  
806 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Owen:

Thank you for your courtesy  
in sending your check when you are having such a  
share in the University regularly.

The news just now coming from  
China indicates that the Tariff Conference is  
going to be a decided success. This presages good  
for the Diplomatic Conference on Extra-Territoriality  
which is to come next month. Those of us who are support-  
ing Christian education there are happy in this  
outcome.

Sincerely yours

*entered  
following*

02 10

Owen

June 5, 1926.

Mr. Herbert K. Caskey,  
34 Lawrenceville Place,  
Asheville, North Carolina.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

We have just received in the morning batch of clippings the press work that you and Mrs. Caskey are having a delightful time. It is good for the University to have mentioned from time to time your relationship to it.

Dr. North has asked me about the possibility of a contribution from Mrs. Perry B. Owen for the current expenses this last year. This is the record of her contributions:

July 10, 1923	\$1,000
Feb. 7, 1924	1,500
Aug. 4, 1924	1,500
Jan. 22, 1925	1,500

The last contribution on January 22nd a year ago we had hoped, and rather expected, would be followed by an equal amount last fall and this spring. Of course I know that reorganization had to take place in the Trumbull Steel Company and so it is possible that this made difficult a continuation of her generous subscription.

The only thing I can say is that if her subscription can be brought up to date

HKC

-2-

6/5/26

and continued it will save us a rather serious deficit in our current expenses - which deficit will not be decreased by the additional expenses next year on the new campus.

Sincerely yours,

02 12

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

HERBERT K. CASKEY  
84 LAWRENCE PLACE  
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

June 10 / 26.

My Dear Sam -

I'll give you a quarter, more  
or less, if you'll tell me what  
you meant in your of the 5<sup>th</sup>

about press clippings concerning  
Mr. Caskey and me - I haven't  
a notion of an idea as to the  
thing you had in mind -

We are "having a good time" and  
a right busy one for me -

Concerning Mrs. Owen -

She certainly expected to send

Owen

0213

two checks each year, the  
total to be \$3000 annually  
but she said she would feel  
free to quit at any time, but  
now is no time for her to quit.  
She is going to Europe soon and  
I have written her. I will  
report to you as soon as I  
hear - Hugh Donnell  
is back from Europe - Are you  
getting proper returns from  
him? Note my Episcopal line of  
service in an envelope -  
Cordially  
Wm. K. Coker -

HERBERT K. CASKEY  
34 LAWRENCE PLACE  
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

June 21, 1926

Dear Mr. Lewis,

Mr. Owen has sent the enclosed check for \$100.00 and says she thinks it is all she can do this year. I think you had better write her again in the late fall telling some concrete things that may warm her heart. You of course will acknowledge this. I do hope the boy has been coming on nicely. Please let me know about him.

Best wishes

H.K.C.

02 15



*Mrs. P. B. Owen*

June 23, 1926.

Mr. Herbert K. Caskey,  
34 Lawrence Place,  
Asheville, North Carolina.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

I am in the office for the first time in a long while and I find your good note of the 22nd with check for \$1,000.00, being Mrs. Owen's generous contribution for this past year. Thank you sincerely for encouraging her in giving it to us. It certainly helps along the cause.

I hope you and Mrs. Caskey are getting along well, slow as your recovery is. Dr. Luce is up in Erie today but expects to be back in New York and first of next week. He surely is a war horse when it comes to campaigning.

I appreciate your good wishes about my boy but I am sorry to say that his heart played out on him and he could not quite make the grade. Apparently that is part of life however, and I cannot help but think that somehow he is better off than we are - at least his troubles are over and he certainly made life a lot brighter for the little while he lived.

With warm regards.

Ever yours,

0216

7

July 9, 1926

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Owen:

A few days ago one of the friends of the University inquired about the condition of affairs in China. He stated that as soon as reasonable peace seemed assured additional gifts to the University would be made by himself and associates.

We are assured, both by word from President Stuart and from the Chinese Minister in Washington, that affairs in China are gradually working toward normal. There are two facts which we must continually bear in mind; the first is the tremendous bulk of China's population which makes the mass move slowly, the other is that the Chinese are fundamentally a peaceful people and that any other state is abnormal rather than normal.

China is a land of surprise and out of this present national confusion will rise very shortly a national unity wherein the opportunities for unusual service may not be so readily welcomed as they are today.

We have had printed a booklet of the University showing a bit picturesquely the work which we are doing and I am sending you a copy under separate cover today. You have recently received the Peking News. May I invite your appreciation of the permanent service and leadership of this University in the Far East.

Sincerely yours

0217

September 14, 1926.

Mrs. Emlio B. Owen,  
808 Wick Avenue,  
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Mrs. Owen:

I am worried to find this receipt of June 23 in an accumulation of correspondence on my return to the office. It surely cannot be that your generous check for one hundred dollars went unacknowledged. The reason it was not acknowledged by me at that time is apparent from the date, which happens to be the date on which my little boy died, and following which time I tried to get a change.

However, we are going into the new University buildings this fall, and in spite of unsettled conditions in China, I am sure that we will again have to turn away students who will apply to us for admission.

I had a long talk with the Chinese minister in New York this summer that it was entirely possible that things might get worse rather than better for a while. China is so big and there are so many diverse elements, and there is such a mass of illiteracy, and means of physical communication are so limited, that it will take some time -- probably two or three generations -- to weld the people together into a unit. The only possible way I can see for her to be unified any sooner is by her opposition to a common enemy. My judgment is that if Great Britain or France or the United States should attempt an armed invasion in China, it would unify the people as nothing else will do for a long time to come. I do not believe that such an invasion will be made. In the first place it would not be successful, as it was in 1900. Rather, it would be an ignominious failure. No other people can conquer China today, any more than the Allied Armies conquered Bolshivist Russia in 1920. China's only hope lies in her conquest of herself. When she does that she will have peace; and it is in that conquest in the near or distant future that institutions like Peking University will take a commanding place of importance, leadership and service.

Very sincerely yours.

0218

*Edna Corson*

May 25, 1927.

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

My dear Mrs. Owen:

I always deem it a happy experience when I can come to know personally those who have been sharing with us in carrying out the inspiring task developing so wonderfully there at Peking. It leads to deeper mutual understanding, and when letters are exchanged the receiver of the letter can more fully understand the spirit of the one who sends it.

If I remember correctly, I told you of the big loss we had in the sudden and tragic death of Mr. James H. Lewis, our Executive Secretary, last October. All of this has added greatly to the work of our office, and I have been out of the office almost constantly since then. Indeed, when I stopped at Youngstown, as you may remember, I was on my way from the Pacific coast to New York.

I find that we have not reminded you as you suggested in an early letter that we should do at the beginning of the year and in July in regard to a possible continuance of your fine and tremendously useful gift to the University.

Without having made an actual pledge to the University, you have been entertaining and carrying out a purpose to cooperate in our work and for some years have given \$1,500 in January and \$1,000 during June or July devoted to the salary of one of our highest grade Chinese professors.

We never needed that help more than now. One of the strange reactions to the present time is for some perfectly good people who are deeply interested in the advance of the Christian cause in the world to hold back and wait until they see how things are coming out. One of these friends the other day expressed such an opinion, and I said to her, "Do you want Peking University to close its doors?", and she replied instantly, "No, indeed, I do not." But I said, "If all the friends of Peking University took your attitude, then we would have to close the doors of the University and turn away the faculty that has been building up with such care for many years, and send home the students who have been gathered through a severe

0219

Mrs. Perry B. Owen.

5/25/27.

process of testing until we have as fine a student body as could be found in any land coming from every Province in China and tested by severest possible standards of scholarship and character. She seemed to see the thing in a different light. One can understand such an attitude from a psychological point of view - for it is most natural, but it is a very illogical position to take for one who is devoted to carrying the gospel to the world.

It is possible that you have seen the enclosed Peking News, but I send a copy so as to make sure that you have seen it. I have drawn a circle around the four big buildings that are in process of building, and some of the residences are going up, too. We have very wise leadership there in China and no one is suggesting that we go ahead at the present time. I have marked other passages which show how quiet things are at Peking, and they are even quieter now than when the Peking News was printed two or three weeks ago. But the work to which you are contributing is not being invested in buildings, but in these rare Chinese professors. We do not expect any lives to be lost, and even if they were the money put into them would be used up to the time of their death, and the rest would be turned over to some constructive work.

It would take too long a paragraph to tell you in detail the testimony that has come to me from several sources since I had the privilege of seeing you in your home. With reference to the fact testified to by two independent witnesses from China, "Peking University is the pick of the Chinese Christian professors in all China".

I do not know of another square mile on the surface of the earth where one could make such an investment and secure greater returns. There has been some lashing of waves in the storm in China, but the underlying currents are deep and steady and moving forward, and I personally believe that if there was ever a time when we should prepare for a great day ahead, now is the time.

A few minutes ago I received a letter direct from Dr. Stuart in Peking in which occurred this sentence,

Since "we are carrying on undisturbed and with the good will of Chinese of all classes, it ought to intensify the program for maintaining the only Christian college in the country of which this statement can be made. In the reconstruction that is to follow, if this still remains true of us, this consideration ought to have much weight. We are trying to take the position that a University is above party politics, and that we do not identify ourselves with any of the present factions, but that on the other hand we are standing broadly for the Chinese people,

0220

Mrs. Perry B. Owen.

5/25/27.

and are counting on their protection without any dependence on foreign military or other power. You will be interested to know that men as different as the following endorse us:" And then follow several paragraphs giving the unqualified endorsement of various types of leaders in China.

Dr. Stuart was born in China 50 years ago and understands the psychology of the Chinese in a most accurate way; consequently, the University has been carried on to a place of great national significance at this important time, and his greatest anxiety is that the friends at home will not continue to stand back of him as in the past to maintain what we have and to go forward in a greater day ahead with even greater power.

I am sure this matter will have your very careful consideration, and I sincerely hope you will be able to give yourself the joy and thus the inspiration of continuing your well-placed cooperation.

With warm personal regards, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Henry W. Tuce  
Vice President

BR  
Encl.

0221

June 6, 1927

My dear Mrs. Owen:

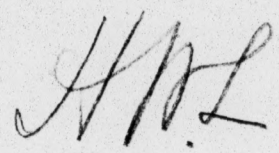
Thank you very much for your card of June 1st telling us of your proposed cooperation in July. We deeply appreciate your interest which leads you to share in the wonderful task and opportunity opening there at Peking.

You will be glad to hear that up to the present time the University has not lost an hour in its work, rather has the situation in China brought Faculty and students more closely together. While the University in all its history never was held in higher regard nor had a wider influence. Dr. Stuart has been hoping that we might finish the academic year in quietness and complete the work up to graduation. This now seems assured.

It is too early to tell just what the military and political issues may be but there is very real ground to hope that whatever they are, they will take place at Peking without any very serious trouble.

Hoping you will have a good summer, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,



Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

HWL: someone in Presby. Mission Office

0222

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

July 6, 1927

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
806 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

My Dear Mrs. Owen:

You were so kind as to suggest that we might send you a line early in July about your proposed gift of one thousand dollars to Yenching (Peking) University.

You will be glad to know we recently received a cablegram saying that the University had closed its academic year both successfully and peacefully and yesterday Professor Terman of our faculty, just arrived from Peking, said that he thought the last year was the best year in the history of the University. While, of course, we cannot be absolutely sure what the results of the political and military situation will be during the next few months, yet I do not think that there is any great cause for alarm. Our position in the minds and hearts of the officials and people was never higher than at the present time and the very seriousness of the situation during the past years has welded our faculty and students together in forming a Christian spirit and outlook such as I have never known to exist anywhere in China before. Indeed one of the most admirable things during the last two or three years which we have observed, is the growing self-control and balance which our students are showing in the midst of tremendous influences from without and "boring from within," to act in an irrational way. China as a whole is passing through an adolescent period as far as gaining strength and freedom to act in an individualistic way. There are bound to be excesses and some unwise things may possible happen but all the deeper currents are forward and upward and are making for the advancement of that great thing which is pressing on through the world--that which Jesus called "The Kingdom of God."

Mrs. Luce has now arrived back from China and at least for another year and a half we will be in our little home which we have established here. Should it ever happen that you are in New York City, I should be most happy if Mrs. Luce could have the pleasure of meeting you.

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

HWL/ES

0223



July 9, 1927

My dear Mrs. Owen:

The officers wish me to express to you their sincere appreciation for your generous gift of \$1000 toward the current expenses of Pecking University. Our receipt for this amount is enclosed herewith. D-1778

You will no doubt be glad to hear that we recently received a cable from President Stuart telling us of the satisfactory closing of the school year and the successful carrying out of the commencement exercises.

Thanking you for your continued interest in the work, we are

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

LM

0224

July 13, 1927

7-17-27  
120-21778  
#1000

Mrs. Perry B. Owan  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Owan:

No doubt before this, the formal receipt of your good gift to the University has been received.

A recent cable brings to us the word that the academic year closed peacefully and successfully, and one of our Professors has just reached New York and tells us that he considers the present year has been one of the best in the whole history of the University. We are now just receiving details of experiences out there that lead us to think that one of the most admirable outcomes of the year is the wonderful and balanced way in which the students have handled themselves in the midst of serious National problems where they have had to submit to a good deal of outside pressure.

If the usual rains of July and August are on hand it may delay military matters somewhat and in that case it may delay our opening a little while. The fact that the Nationalistic movement was compelled to deal with its small minority "red" element in central China is a real advantage when it comes to settle North China. There is every probability that the change may be made without any difficulty.

Thanking you for the inspiration which comes to us from your cooperation with us and hoping that you will have a fine and restful summer, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

HNL/ES

0225

Allen

November 28, 1928

Dear Dr. Luce:

Dr. Jenney wondered if you would be willing to write again to the Misses Templeton, 1128 Forest Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, and see if they would put Yenching University in their wills. No reply has ever been received from them to your letter of May 2nd. Dr. Jenney says he called on them early in April but for some reason took him as an imposter!

Sometime ago you wrote a memo on the carbon of the letter you wrote to Mrs. Perry B. Owen on July 6, 1927, that you would like to write to her again this December. Since we are still in need of about \$45,000 in order to complete our campaign before January 1st, the time limit for the Boyd conditional gift of \$90,000, I wonder if you could get Mrs. Owen to give two or three thousand dollars at this time. Her last gift was in July 1927 - \$1000, and although she has given at least a thousand each year for some years past, she has contributed nothing to the present campaign.

Very sincerely yours,

*L M<sup>c</sup>*

Dr. H. W. Luce  
422 Farmington Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut

0226

December 23, 1930

*recurring gift letter*

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

My dear Mrs. Owen:

Such an institution as ours, located on the other side of the world, must for some years still be supported chiefly from America. We cannot hope to get enough income from endowment funds. Much of the money absolutely needed must come from gifts received each year.

If a sufficient number of our friends would put us in their budgets for such an annual gift as they can comfortably afford, this income, steady and reliable, would be the necessary addition to the interest from our endowment funds.

We do not presume to ask that you pledge yourself to an annual donation. We do inquire, however, whether you might perhaps endeavor to give us an annual contribution without binding yourself in advance.

Especially at the present time of great difficulty, we should be deeply grateful if you could repeat the contribution you last gave us - \$1,000 in July 1927.

At any rate, we know your heart is with us, as you have so abundantly proven through your wonderful generosity to the University for a number of years past. Whatever you find it practicable to do for Yenching, we can trust you to do on your own generous impulse. If you consider it practicable and advisable to make a statement of your intention - without any binding obligation to make an annual or recurring contribution, this will help us to persuade other friends to do the same thing. Without mentioning any names, we can bring about such action much more easily when we have once built up a considerable number of such recurring contributions.

With our earnest wishes for a Happy Christmas and for a satisfactory year to follow, I remain

Cordially yours,

Assistant to the President

*[Handwritten initials]*  
ODW:EK

0227

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
7

✓  
MRS. PERRY B. OWEN  
808 WICK AVE.  
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

4-10-33

Mr. M<sup>r</sup>. Brier  
<sup>or</sup> <sup>Ch</sup> Dear Sir

All very  
sorry but it is absolutely  
impossible for me to give  
anything to institutions  
outside my own city  
and very little to those  
here. It gives me much  
sorrow but it can't <sup>be</sup> <sup>done</sup>.

0228

be kepted just now.  
I hope you will be  
able to do better than

Sincerely

Ms Perry B. Ome

April 10th!

June 17, 1936

Dear Mrs. Owen:

A letter from Mr. Arthur Rugh this morning, who is one of the lecturers of the School of Religion, at the Yenching University, telling of the important place religion is having there brought your previous participation in that important work vividly to mind. You have given such generous sums to that work that I thought you would be especially interested in knowing that it is being carried on and exercising an increasingly important role in supplying Christian leadership to China.

You will also be interested in the fact that we had a letter from Dr. J. Leighton Stuart, president of Yenching University, a day or two ago, stating that the school is in fine condition and everything going along peacefully. These assurances are most gratifying just at this time of political disturbance in China. Of course, we all know that in the long run China will win out and that her vast population is bound to be a predominating factor in the Far East. Our problem is to see that Christian principles and intelligent leadership are incorporated in the teaching program of our schools.

China is bearing an increasing proportion of the financial load of Yenching but it will be some years before she can assume entire responsibility. In the meantime our duty is very clear - we must display the same qualities of courage that are strikingly symbolized in the missionaries on the field. We have been faced with the necessity of reducing salaries and the budget items by almost 50% but there has been no grumbling or fault finding. Despite these drastic curtailments, we are faced at this moment with a deficit of \$10,000 which should be met by July 1st.

Your long record of generosity and interest is so well known to us that we feel it is only necessary to point out the need and that you will respond in a manner corresponding to your ability. It has been a source of regret that circumstances have made it impossible for any member of our staff to see you and discuss with candor the development of the school, in which you have had so important a part, but we have been driven to the necessity of eliminating all traveling expense excepting what was absolutely necessary and this is largely responsible for the fact that we have not come to see you. Of course, from your standpoint it is unnecessary but for us we have always felt a great joy in meeting you personally and discussing our common problems.

You have given as high as \$2500 a year on more than one

0230

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
7

Mrs. Perry B. Owen

June 17, 1936

occasion and, while such generous participation may not be possible for you at this time, I trust you will not be embarrassed by sending any amount you can.

Thanking you for your continued interest, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

0231



September 10, 1936

Dear Mrs. Owen:

Dr. Young has just returned from his midwestern trip and has reported your pledge to this office and told us of his very pleasant and greatly appreciated visit with you.

We are sorry to learn through him that you have so keenly felt the effects of the depression but glad to know that there is no change in your deep interest in our great Yenching University which you and your friends in Youngstown have helped to make one of our very greatest Christian Universities in the non-Christian world. Several returned Chinese missionaries and educators are in the office this week and knowing your unselfish devotion to every good cause, all united in the earnest prayer that you may be blessed in the years to come, by good health and returning material prosperity.

Dr. Young reported that you desired to send a check for \$100.00 about October 1st, and that you desired to have a notice from us about September the 15th. This letter will serve as that notice and at the same time afford us the opportunity to again warmly express our grateful appreciation for your cooperation and help in the great work that we are trying to do for Christ and His Church in China.

Yours very cordially,

Treasurer

Mrs. Emilie B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

0232

September 28, 1936

My dear Mrs. Owen:

We have received your very generous check for \$100.00, and enclose herewith our formal receipt for this gift.

Just at this time, when Yenching is taking a forward step in establishing the security of its work in China, your gift is particularly helpful and very much appreciated.

You will be glad to hear, I am sure, that cabled reports received from Dr. Stuart in the last few days inform us that the University has opened with a full enrollment and is looking forward to a successful year's work.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Encl.

0233

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

February 18, 1958.

Dear Mrs. Owen:

The Chinese people are the best friends America has in the world. Thousands of their finest young men and women have been educated in this country. They have returned to their own country, taking home with them our highest ideals of democracy and Christian civilization. Largely for this very reason, one of the most sickening disasters of six thousand years of Chinese history has come to them. Probably this is why the hearts of so many millions of our American people are moved with pity and compassion for these stricken people.

According to the last word that has come to this office, it is estimated that possibly 200,000,000 are threatened with starvation. If we could raise tens of millions of dollars for relief, it would hardly meet this appalling situation for even a few weeks. However, as this tragedy deepens, it is more and more evident that we can render one great service that will largely determine the civilization of China for generations to come. Because of the far-sighted statesmanship of the Chinese leaders, the finest young people of China have been kept in our Christian colleges. If we can raise \$300,000 for present needs, we can keep our colleges open, especially our medical schools, hospitals, refugee camps and other relief agencies under their control. Because you have so often been a "friend in need" to China, we are giving you these facts, believing that if at all possible, you will find some way to help the National Emergency Committee meet the great opportunity now before us to save our Christian colleges into which we have put many millions of dollars, so that the young people now being trained in them will be available as leaders in the years of reconstruction ahead.

Because of your record in this office as a friend and supporter of Yenching University, unless you instruct us to the contrary, any contribution you make in this crisis will be credited to our work there.

During these disturbed times, you are no doubt burdened with many calls. Knowing this, we hesitate to add this one, but it is so exceptional that we hope you will see your way clear to give us your support in this crisis, even if something else of importance may have to wait.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

Mrs. Perry B. Owen,  
808 Wick Avenue,  
Youngstown, Ohio.

0234

3  
4  
6  
5  
3  
1  
7

April 19, 1938

My dear Mrs. Owen:

You have been a friend and supporter of Yenching University. You are therefore interested in what is going on in China. Yenching is "carrying on" back of the Japanese lines, with 600 students.

Yenching's financial needs are greater this year than ever. The Chinese government has been granting funds in past years. In this time of war they cannot continue these grants. This makes it necessary for us to increase our gifts for current needs. The future of this splendid institution which is doing so much to establish Christian leadership in this largest nation on earth, and which has furnished a large number of important leaders in the present government, depends on how we support the work during this time of stress.

A generous gift from you, according to your ability to assist, will greatly help us just now. All of the officers and friends of Yenching are not only giving every dollar they can, but are giving their time sacrificially in trying to interest others in Yenching's immediate needs. We must double our usual contribution for current expenses in order to carry on.

Will you please do all you can to help us now?

Thank you, and believe me,

Most sincerely yours,

E. M. McBrier

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

0235

December 15, 1938

Dear Mrs. Owen:

May I direct your careful reading to the enclosed December issue of the YENCHING NEWS? You will be surprised, I know, that in spite of war conditions, the attendance at Yenching this year is the largest in its history.

Because of this unprecedented enrollment and also because most operating expenses of the University have more than doubled as a result of the sharp rise in war-time prices, Yenching inevitably faces an acute shortage of current income. The very substantial support normally received from Chinese sources has been almost wholly cut off for the present. Despite the care and sacrifice of the administrators and staff in reducing expenditures at every point, there remains a balance of US\$56,331.95 which friends in America must provide this year, over and above their normal contributions, if Yenching is to complete the year successfully.

On December 23rd we are planning to send President Stuart and his colleagues a Christmas message of good cheer and encouragement. In this cable we hope to be able to say that these emergency funds so urgently needed are in sight. But this can be done only if the friends of Yenching respond by sending us their gifts and pledges.

I am sure you will want to share in this Christmas message. Your last gift was \$100.00 in September, 1936. I hope you will be able to renew this amount, if possible, in time for us to include your gift with our message to Dr. Stuart.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

EM:os  
Enc.

0236

December 21, 1938

Dear Mrs. Owen:

Your very prompt response to our emergency appeal a few days ago is more than appreciated. We are happy to tell you that your gift reached us in time to be included with our message to President Stuart and his staff.

Our formal receipt is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Encl.

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 22.00 dollars (\$.....) as follows:

- Cash herewith \$ 22.00
- In annual payments of \$..... beginning..... 19.....
- In semi-annual payments of \$..... beginning..... 19.....
- In quarterly payments of \$..... beginning..... 19.....
- At my convenience on or before..... 19.....

Signed Mrs Perry B Owen

Address 808 Wick Ave

Date Dec 16th Youngstown Ohio

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

0237

June 24, 1940

My dear Mrs. Owen,

I am writing you by air mail because we face a situation requiring immediate action.

Several months ago three generous friends of Yenching pledged \$47,000 for the endowment of Yenching College for Women on condition that before June 30, 1940, we secure another \$23,000 in cash or in pledges payable before December 31, 1940. This \$70,000, added to \$30,000 already on hand, would round out a \$100,000 endowment fund for the Women's College, and help to give it a stable income during a time of unequalled difficulty.

Since this offer was made, over a hundred Yenching friends have joined in giving and pledging about \$13,000 toward this \$23,000 we must raise. But increasingly disturbed conditions during recent months have prevented or reduced the gifts which some would normally have made. With only a week left, we must still secure about \$5,000 more, or lose this \$47,000.

This compels us to turn to some of the staunchest of our Yenching friends with a plea for special help. Your own generous gifts to Yenching over the last twenty years or more have had a substantial share in the building up of Yenching University, and we know that you will have a deep personal interest in seeing that it continues to advance. If you can now help us to secure this last \$5,000, whatever you can give will be multiplied tenfold through validating these pledges which will otherwise be lost. Gifts may be either in cash or in pledges payable before December 31.

The enclosed folder (which I have trimmed to air mail weight) describes the work of the College and the situation we now face. The pledge form and envelope are to facilitate your getting word to us by June 30th.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

MBF:MS  
Enclosures

Mrs. John H. Finley

0238

January 30, 1945

Mrs. Perry B. Owen  
808 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Owen:

The need for additional assistance to the Christian Colleges in China, as a result of the war, has called for sacrifices on the part of friends of the colleges as never before.

To more effectively meet the needs of China, all agencies working for relief began planning a united organization in July 1940. This resulted in the United China Relief, which is now a part of the National War Fund and through which large sums of money have been received for relief and war-time emergencies of the colleges. Each college, however, has an essential, on-going budget which has been enlarged because of war conditions and cannot be fully met from regular endowment fund, mission board grants or gifts from foundations. Friends of the universities must help.

We deeply appreciate the fact that for a number of years you were one of Yenching University's loyal supporters. The contributions of our friends, repeated year after year, are the means of stabilizing our academic work and are a continuing source of inspiration to the staff and students. We earnestly hope, therefore, that you can resume your assistance at this time when the need is so great. Your last gift of \$25.00 came to us in 1938.

In December we sent you a copy of the latest Yenching News. Should you wish further information in regard to any phase of the work at the University, we would be very glad to have you write us.

Sincerely yours,

EMMcB:GC

Treasurer

0239