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0307



March 7, 1941

President J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, China

Ack  
4/19/41  
Lucy  
Buell

Dear Dr. Stuart:

A few weeks ago a young man named Wright Babcock was in to see me about the possibility of attending school at Yenching University. The conditions are somewhat unusual in that his father expects to go to Peking this summer and wishes to take the boy with him. He is just finishing his work at Putney School, in Putney, Vermont, and we have received a regular application and transcript from the official at the Putney School in charge of college admissions. These I am enclosing.

The question has arisen as to whether it will be necessary for him to take College Board examinations. Before planning to come to China, his intention had been to enter a college in America which did not require these examinations. He has, therefore, not followed the courses designed for the College Boards. I have advised him and his faculty advisor that it will be much better to take the College Board examinations, but that I am passing this question on to you in case there is any other possible way of completing his application. If the College Board examinations are taken, the subjects which have been suggested by his faculty advisor are English, German, History B, and Chemistry.

As I met the boy, he seemed to be a typical American preparatory school boy. I do not think that he is unusual in his scholastic ability, and if it were a case of his wanting to go to Peking alone, rather than being taken there by his father who will be making a home in North China, I would not think that his application should receive favorable consideration. The fact that he will be with his father makes the application of a slightly different nature.

I have not been directly in touch with the father as to just what he expects to do in Peking. He is by profession an engineer, but my impression is that he has become interested in some small mission. There is, of course, a question as to whether he will be able to get passports when the time comes.

I will appreciate an answer from you regarding this application based upon the uncertain probability of Mr. Babcock and his son getting out to Peking this summer.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

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Enc. 2

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0309



March 7, 1941

Mr. Eric M. North  
American Bible Society  
Park Avenue & 57th Street  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Eric:

William Hung has shown me copies of his letters to Dr. Elisseeff and yourself. We had already conferred on these matters and I am in hearty approval.

The same applies to the preparation of statements of our use of the "restricted fund" for the last fiscal year and for the present one. Now that the principle that this does not have to be spent actually on Chinese studies is completely recognized, I have not the slightest objection to sending reports of the use we make of this fund. I hope that this will always be studied, however, in relation to other sources of income for the units concerned.

There is another matter which has been very much on my mind for some years. This is the retention of Mr. Barber on the HYI Board as one of our representatives as well as on our own University Board of Trustees. William reported that he talked fully with you about this matter and both you and Garside agreed in the desirability of a change. Assuming that this is the case, I recognize the embarrassment to Garside in taking the initiative in this matter. I should be personally very grateful, therefore, if you could find it possible before the annual meeting to take whatever steps seem appropriate to this end.

Almost from the beginning of his service on the HYI Board I have felt that his presence was at least of no benefit to us in a situation heavily weighted already in favor of Harvard and exceedingly delicate. His presence on our own Board is of less consequence although the unfortunate episode over Chinese loans involving C. T. Wang and Leonard Hsu strongly accentuated my earlier misgivings.

I should be most happy if Mr. A. V. Davis could be appointed as one of our representatives on the HYI Board and could be persuaded to accept. It would seem a most fitting conclusion to his long association with Hall Estate donations.

Let me assure you once more what a comfort it is to have so devoted and capable a friend working on our behalf.

Very sincerely yours,

JLS:h

cc Dr. Garside

0310



C\_O\_P\_Y

March 7, 1941

Dr. F. K. Richter  
Department of Modern Languages  
Doane College  
Crete, Nebraska

My dear Dr. Richter:

I have your letter and have consulted with the Chairman of our Department of Western Languages regarding its contents.

As it happens we are at present adequately provided for the teaching of French and German. There may be losses in personnel affecting these languages or leading to a shift by which some of them would help out in English. We are, however, favorably impressed by what you write about yourself and should like to have you keep in touch with us. If in the future it seemed possible for us to give you an invitation, we should prefer to have you come to us under appointment from the American Board (Congregational foreign missions).

I am sending a copy of your letter and of my reply to the Secretary of our Board of Trustees - Dr. B. A. Garside, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. It is possible that some other Christian college in China may seek your services earlier, in which case Dr. Garside could communicate with you. He is the secretary for several others as well as ours.

Very, sincerely yours,

*h.s.*

0311



C\_O\_P\_Y

DOANE COLLEGE  
Crete, Nebraska

Department of Modern Languages

Dr. J. L. Stuart  
President of Yenching University

Dear Sir:

This letter is not a formal application, but a letter asking for your advice.

I am a Modern Language instructor (Assistant Professor) of French and German here at Doane. Although of German birth, I left that country in order to remain a free man. It will not take me more than ten months and I shall be an American citizen.

It has always been my greatest desire to work in the American Mission fields of the Far East. China especially interests me more and more. I would give up everything of comfort and security I am enjoying now in order to work in that heroic country.

Is there any possibility for me as a Language instructor at Yenching or one of the other schools?

I have taught here in the U.S. at Oak Park Junior College, Oak Park, Illinois, and (since 1938) at Doane, where I am promised to become head of Modern Language Department next year. I have been teaching for four summers at the Colorado College Summer School.

I studied at Breslau, Bonn, Paris (Sorbonne), and Aix-en-Provence. I received my Diplome d'Etudes Superieures from Aix-Marseille, and my Master's and Doctor's from Breslau, Germany. I am 29 years old and a member of the Congregational Church.

I would be glad to give you further details about myself, my interests and plans, but I will wait at first and listen what you will have to tell.

Most respectfully yours,

(Signed) F. K. Richter

APR 5 1941

03 12



COPY

DOAN, COLLEGE  
Crete, Nebraska

Department of Modern Languages

Dr. J. L. Stuart  
President of Yenching University

Dear Sir:

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asking for your advice.

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I studied at Breslau, Bonn, Paris (Sorbonne), and Aix-en-  
Provence. I received my Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures from Aix-  
Marseille, and my Master's and Doctor's from Breslau, Germany. I  
am 32 years old and a member of the Congregational Church.

I would be glad to give you further details about myself, my  
interests and plans, but I will wait at first and listen what you  
will have to tell.

Most respectfully yours,

(Signed) T. A. Richter

APR 2 1941

學 大 京 燕  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
PEKING, CHINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
*CAF*

March 7, 1941  
*ack my call*

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS  
"YENTA"

Dr. B. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Garside:

Here are some enclosures which explain themselves.

I dislike extremely to refer once more to the matter of Mr. Barber but feel free to do so with two such good personal friends whose interest in the welfare of Yenching is no less than my own. I would not raise the issue, however, if I were not satisfied that his connection with the H-Y Institute is a positive disadvantage.

William Hung quotes Eric and you as insisting that the only way for him to be retired from that Board is to have him first removed from ours.

Very sincerely yours,

*J. H. H. H.*

JLS:h  
Enclosures

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RECEIVED  
UNITED STATES  
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INDEXED

4/6/41 H. S. Galt

March 12, 1941

President J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, China

Dear Dr. Stuart:

In this letter I want to take up the question of a possible successor to Brank Fulton. In one of your recent letters, you raised this question and suggested that we see what possibilities there might be of finding some one who could go out this summer to Peking. At the same time you suggested that we find out about Oliver Hanson.

During recent weeks we have had the opportunity of conferring with three young men, all of whom have a great many points in their favor for this work. I will give you a very brief description of each one so that you may know something about them.

1. Mr. James Hall. Mr. Hall is the son of L. K. Hall, formerly Boys Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in China. James himself grew up in Shanghai. At the present time, he is employed as the Boys Work Secretary of the Yonkers Y.M.C.A. He is a graduate of Springfield College, Springfield, Mass., which is designed particularly for training Y.M.C.A. Secretaries. He is married, and comes very highly recommended by his associates and professors. I have met him and his wife and they both have very pleasing personalities. James is planning on a career in the Y.M.C.A. and hopes that he can eventually continue in this work, but he is very much interested in getting back to China. He would be the type of person who would approach his work on a college campus somewhat in the manner of a student Secretary of the Y.M.C.A.

2. Mr. Oliver Hanson. Mr. Hanson is at present an assistant at the Church of All Nations here in New York City. He graduated from Union Seminary and during his course there, and since graduation, has been related particularly to the work at the Church with Chinese. You, of course, know his background in China and I need not go into the question of his interest and acquaintance with the situation on the field. He has recently been married and I believe he and his wife would not care to consider any appointment which would make it necessary for them to be separated. Oliver's training would, of course, prepare him not only for work with students, but probably for some of the teaching along the line which Mr. Fulton has been doing.

03 16



March 12, 1941

3. Mr. Ben Cowles. Mr. Cowles is the son of China missionaries. I think you probably know his father and mother who were at the Language School in Peking from 1917 to 1919, and were located somewhere in North China for a short period thereafter. They then went to South China to continue the work of their Mission. Ben grew up in South China and developed a very keen interest in the country. He made a trip to China last summer, travelling both in occupied and Free China.

He is finishing his work at Union Seminary this spring and is very highly recommended by professors there, particularly Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen. He has the background of theological training which would equip him for teaching, as well as other work with the students. He is not married, and for that reason, is perhaps a little more free to consider the appointment than the other two men. He has a very winning personality. I conferred with Dr. Van Dusen about Mr. Cowles, particularly with this appointment in view, and his opinion is that Mr. Cowles would fit into the particular appointment very well indeed.

I had an opportunity to talk with Stephen Tsai the other day about the situation and he asked me to remind you of his suggestion for this position, Mr. John Young, who is at present employed in the Honolulu Y.M.C.A. He is also a graduate of Springfield College, and has done graduate work at Columbia University and Union Seminary. Mr. Tsai had been greatly impressed by the work he is doing with the Chinese and Japanese young men in Honolulu.

Summarizing my impression of the three men whom I have met, I would rank Mr. Cowles first in personality, Mr. Hall second, and Mr. Hanson third. In technical training for the various types of work which Mr. Fulton has been doing, I would say that Mr. Hanson and Mr. Cowles are equally well prepared, and Mr. Hall not quite so well. In the matter of language, I presume that Mr. Hanson is more familiar with the Chinese used in Peking. The other two men have different dialects. On the question of ability to consider the appointment, Mr. Cowles is undoubtedly more free to consider the appointment, since the other two men are married and would prefer not to be separated from their wives.

The recommendations which have come in regarding the men are all strongly in their favor, with perhaps for this particular position a bit more weight in the recommendations concerning Mr. Cowles. It would, therefore be my present judgment that Mr. Cowles is the best prospect of the three.

Before talking to these men, I have conferred with Dr. North and Dr. Gamble as to the information about them and they have agreed that we should send on this preliminary information, with the request that you let us know at once your reactions and instructions as to the next steps which should be taken. Any one who is to be considered will, of course, be interviewed by all members of the McBrier Foundation Committee, and the whole matter explored with great care. If you feel that the matter is one of sufficient urgency to call for immediate action, a cable indicating your desires will start us immediately on the next steps.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

JIP:VN

Via S. S. "Pres. Coolidge"  
from San Francisco.

0317



學 大 京 燕  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
PEKING, CHINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS  
"YENTA"

March 13, 1941

Dr. B. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

Dear Dr. Garside:

There is a chance to send a letter uncensored which may be in time for the annual meeting. I shall attempt, therefore, to make a few comments about international developments, especially as they affect our own plans.

First of all, I should like to express appreciation of the solicitude which the Board has shown, more in references in letters and in other evidences which reach us than in any formal action. In fact, the lack of any cabled communications seems to me quite significant of a thorough mutual understanding. We have been perfectly aware of the deep concern that the Board felt for our welfare, whereas the lack of any cables we have allowed ourselves to regard as an indication of its confidence. This is the more striking because every other organization out here about which I have heard has apparently had an active correspondence over the wires. We have saved the cost of all this with, I trust, a strengthening at both ends of the bond between us.

In the event of war between the United States and Japan we are planning somewhat as follows: Americans, and doubtless British as well, will either be interned somewhere or might be allowed to continue their normal lives under some measure of restriction of personal liberty. In any case, we will cease to have the protection and authority which enable us to maintain the work of the institution as has been true thus far. It seems on the whole better to close as soon as we are convinced that there will be actual hostilities. Not to do so will expose Chinese to forms of pressure which it would be almost impossible for them to resist. We would endeavor to send away at once all those students who desire to reach free China. The great majority of those we have now come from nearby places and could return to their homes. The remainder would be free either to stay here or we might make provision for them in the British Concession in Tientsin.

The problem divides itself into three main factors. (1) Principles. Above all else we must maintain our basic principles. Those that are pertinent are chiefly academic freedom and loyalty to the national cause. Any concession in either of these would leave a stain upon our record which would seriously impair our usefulness when the war is over. Not only so, but we are all aware that Yenching was founded not merely to provide one more university for Chinese youth but to express and propagate certain ideals and beliefs. To be unfaithful to these in a time of crisis vitiates the very purpose for which Yenching was founded and discredits to that extent the whole Christian movement in this country. This is so obvious and so thoroughly accepted among us that it calls for no further comment.

(2) Property. We all recognize the responsibility of maintaining this very fine plant and are aware how well-nigh impossible it would be to replace it else-

0318



*they = the Japanese*

where in China or even to restore any serious damage. This includes not only the grounds and buildings but also a steady accumulation of books and other equipment. The American Embassy has been requested to act on behalf of the P.U.M.C. and Yen-ching in entrusting to some neutral country these American institutions here. To what extent this would be a protection under international law with Japan in control is somewhat problematical. There would be a certain moral obstacle to too flagrant a disregard of such an arrangement. Theoretically, this is under a Chinese government and Japan, at least at the outset, would doubtless encroach in the name of the local puppet agency. That they have quite definite plans for taking over the institution has become known through contacts we have. A definite item has been requested by the local China Affairs Board for its operating budget. On the whole, it seems probable, however, that they will be too preoccupied to disturb it in the early stages of the war and if, as seems quite possible, this will not be of long duration, we can count with a measure of confidence upon no serious damage. Fortunately, most of the leaders in the local puppet organization are personal friends or at least acquaintances of mine, and we can look to them to exert such influence as they have on our behalf. They themselves have proposed organizing a provisional board of control for operating some sort of educational enterprise. I could not request this formally or even approve it, but if when we Americans are disposed of they should undertake such a project, it would be with the desire to serve the institution by saving it and restoring it to us when conditions permit. I would also undertake to make this clear to the real Chinese authorities as a patriotic effort. The danger to the property is perhaps more from irresponsible subordinates, both Chinese and Japanese, but even they would not want to or even be able to do any very large material damage. They might loot portable articles or put the place to some undesirable use. Anything, however, which is done to the place under force majeure would be regarded as due to war conditions against which we were helpless and would leave no stain upon our record.

(3) People. I have already referred to the students. We have arranged to pay all of our employed staff for three months in the form of cheques on the Chinese bank which has a branch on our grounds. One advantage of closing is that there is no moral obligation to any neutrals (mostly Chinese, of course) to stay here. Each individual or family might do so or might withdraw elsewhere at discretion. Probably the majority of these would feel this place to be about ~~the~~ as safe as any other, the chief reluctance of the Chinese being the fear of being impressed into the service of whatever school might be established. Some teachers would go with groups of students to free China by sea or rail if those routes would still be available; if not over the hills to guerilla territory and on beyond. The necessary connections for this last have all been made.

This is to share with you the preparations we have in mind. It may be advisable to limit this communication to the Trustees and only a very few others, friends intimately concerned with our welfare; but the Trustees should know all that we have in mind. If the necessity arises, I am inclined to guess that it will have taken place before or very soon after this letter reaches you. It may, therefore, help you to interpret whatever news there may be about us. On the whole, it still seems to me more probable, however, that despite intensified German pressure, Japan will not take the last irretrievable step of provoking the United States to actual war.

Very sincerely yours,

*Heighon Stuart*

JLS/sd

0319



March 17, 1941

Hon. Cordell Hull  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

Honorable and dear Sir:

Acting in the absence of Dr. B. A. Garside who is absent from our office for a few months, I am enclosing letters received Saturday morning from J. Leighton Stuart, President of Yenching University, Peking, China.

From the personal letter, you will note that this is one of a series which has been coming through as opportunity was offered to transmit them through people returning to the United States. The letter received previous to this came about the middle of January and copies marked, "Confidential" were mailed to approximately three hundred fifty people as trustees and friends of Yenching University. These copies were accompanied with a personal letter asking the recipient to regard them as "highly confidential." I find that these letters have been sent to Mr. Maxwell Hamilton of the State Department.

In view of what Dr. Stuart reveals in his enclosed personal note, and because of the nature of his involvements with the Japanese, it seems that it is best to first seek the judgment of the State Department before allowing this communication to be released. Another consideration is the fact that the Japanese have received information that these letters are coming through. I have been informed that Dr. Stuart is in close touch with the United States officials at Peking and it is quite possible that the State Department has full knowledge of the contents of this letter. Only three officers of the Board of Trustees of Yenching University have seen this communication and we are refraining from further publicity pending your advice.

We would value your advice as to whether sending copies of such information to close friends of the University is a wise procedure, in view of prevailing conditions.

I have made a copy of the typewritten letter, but will ask you to kindly return the hand written personal one for our files.

Thanking you in advance for your personal consideration, I am

Very truly yours,

CAE/B  
CAB

0320



學 大 京 燕  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
PEKING, CHINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 17, 1941

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS  
"YENTA"

Dr. B. A. Garside  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Garside:

American Religious Worker. You will be pleased to know that Mr. James Pyke has decided to spend the remainder of this academic year in religious work among our students under the McBrier Fund. We have offered him the position for the year 1941-1942 but he prefers not to make a decision regarding this until he has been here for awhile. It may be best, therefore, to continue the inquiry I requested but without any commitment. I shall cable Pyke's decision as soon as he makes it. If he does not stay on with us, we should like to have some such person as Oliver Hanson, preferably on a two or three year term.

Jimmy moved out here two days ago. This should be reported to Mr. McBrier and the Committee.

Power Plant Engineer. Mr. Payne has convinced Dr. Galt, Dean Speer, and myself that we ought to have a full-time, qualified, technical man for this job. The expensive installations are beginning to show the effects of time and use. The need of proper upkeep, of repair as soon as anything goes wrong, competent control of the staff, and detection of irregularities, together with the efficiency and economy which can only be assured under continuous and trained oversight, are the main considerations. Mr. Dean can only give part-time attention, is unwilling to leave his work in the city, and is carrying teaching work with us which is his primary interest.

It has taken me longer than the others perhaps to recognize the practical arguments for securing a new, full-time man. Mr. Payne, according to Sam Dean, is more than one-half of a qualified engineer himself. Stephen Ts'ai has picked up a surprising amount of knowledge about the plant and has shown a capacity for attending to it which, with the devoted loyalty of the staff to him personally, might supplement Messrs. Payne's and Dean's more technical knowledge. I had hoped with all of them and further assistance from E. O. Wilson and Liu Mao-ling we could get along. We all realize, however, that this is one feature in which an attempt to save money may have disastrous consequences both in much greater cost and in injury to our community welfare.

0321

Dr. B. A. Garside  
Page 2  
March 17, 1941

We shall be making local inquiries but it might be worth while to enlist your help in the States. It is possible that a young graduate in engineering, finding it difficult to secure satisfactory work, would be willing to come out here for a limited period because of sympathy with missionary work, the travel experience, or as a kind of internship with a much more varied range than in a similar apprenticeship at home.

Another type would be a Chinese who is now studying this subject and is about to graduate without any definite prospect on returning here.

Stephen will be much interested in this proposal and could doubtless make further concrete suggestions as well as help in the inquiries.

Budget. We are working laboriously on the lengthening details involved in increase of salary, promotion in rank, higher costs of all supplies, and all other aspects of routine items of normal growth under abnormal economic conditions. The results will compel some qualifying of my previous letter recommending that the Trustees use the budget for the current year as the best guide we were able at the time to give for the coming one.

We shall try to send within the week an estimate of the increase called for from the above factors. The rate of exchange also enters in. At present U.S.\$1.00 equals slightly over F.R.B.\$11.00. No one seems able to explain the present fluctuations but the opinion gains that the present trend is fairly steady. We cannot, therefore, continue to count on excessive benefits from this source.

The Article in Life. Almost every letter in the last American mail made some reference to this. Your own explained the careful revision which took place in your office. I can imagine what the original must have been from what remains after the toning down. Even so, it was not welcomed by those who were in your mind. It is best indicated by the failure of the subscribers on our campus to receive their copies although copies of the next number have already arrived. This was at first true in the city but we hear now that some have since been received. Fortunately we possess one set of sheets cut out of the magazine and sent in a harmless envelope. This has been eagerly read in my outer office

0322



Dr. B. A. Garside  
Page 3  
March 17, 1941

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200 H.R.L. deint*  
where it arrived this morning. As you point out, this constitutes excellent publicity and we are all grateful to H.R.L.

I hope you will have received in time for the annual meeting my letter dealing with the special provision we are trying to make in view of contingencies.

Very sincerely yours,

*J. Leighton Stewart*

JLS:h

0323

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APR 16 1941  
KJ JOINT OFFICE

0324



March 20, 1941

President J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, China

Dear Dr. Stuart:

Adjustments which have had to be made in our office because of Mr. Garside's leaving to undertake the direction of the United China Relief appeal have delayed some of our correspondence. This letter is one which should have been written some days ago.

In this letter I wish to take up the question of help for faculty members in America, and to try to clarify the situation as it now stands. The Scholarship Committee last year definitely requested that any applications for grants for the year 1941-42 should reach our office not later than the first of November, 1940. This notification was sent out to all the Presidents of the Colleges. When the Committee met this year, no applications had been received from Yenching requesting assistance for the year 1941-42. The only requests we had were for the year 1940-41. The considerations before the Committee in the meeting this year had to do entirely with the year 1941-42, as all grants which were possible for 1940-41 had been made almost a year previous.

Sometime after our Committee had met and made the allocations of all funds for 1941-42, we received from you two requests - one for Miss Pai and the other for Mr. Liao. It was, of course, impossible to give consideration to these after the grants from the small fund had all been made. The earliest date under which consideration could now be given to these applications would be for the year 1942-43, unless some one of the grants which have already been made for next year should not be used. As far as I know, at the present time there is no case which is likely to take this course.

Our fund for helping faculty members is as yet very small and it is quite impossible to meet all the requests which come in. For instance, we have had six applications from Soochow University, and at the most we can only help one. I simply mention this to show the handicaps under which we are having to administer this help at the present time. It is our hope that this fund will grow in size and come nearer meeting the demand.

May I here mention the requests which have come from Yenching University, and ask you to give me some order in which these people should be considered, since it will be quite impossible to give, even for the year 1942-43, consideration to all of them:-

0325

March 20, 1941

1. Miss Pai Ho-yi. The request from Miss Speer dated November 14, 1940, and your own supporting letter of November 29, regarding Miss Pai, were received here about the middle of January.

2. Mr. Sidney Liao. Your letter of January 7 concerning him was received here on February 11.

3. Mr. Gerald Tien. You had requested help for Mr. Tien in the year 1940-41 which we were unable to give because the request reached us long after all allocations had been made. Since the first of February, we have received from the counselor for foreign students at the University of Michigan a request for help for Mr. Tien for the year 1941-42. We had not known prior to this word that he was intending to stay for another year. This request also reached us after the allocations had been made for the year 1941-42, and could only be considered in case some one of the grants listed is not used.

4. Miss Wu Tien-min. Last spring during your absence from Peking, Dr. Galt sent us information regarding Miss Wu in reference to the special arrangements which we had hoped were being made at Columbia University. This special arrangement has not materialized and we have not been able to give any satisfactory consideration to the applications which came in for these special scholarships. The question in Miss Wu's case becomes one of whether you wish to have her considered for help under our regular Associated Boards fund.

I have listed the above four in the order in which they have reached us, with the exception of Miss Wu's application which was related to a special project which did not materialize. What we now need to know is the order in which we should give consideration to these requests if any money should become available for 1941-42. The second question is whether these people should be given consideration for the year 1942-43, if no new money becomes available for 1941-42.

We are trying now to prepare definite application blanks which may be used in connection with these applications for help for faculty members. Just as soon as these application forms are ready, they will be sent to you and we will need to have them filled out, even for the people whose requests are already in hand, so that the information concerning them will be in proper form. In the meantime, if you will answer the questions about the four people listed, we will do our best to secure help for them as early as we can make it available.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

JLP:VW

Via S.S. "Pres. Pierce"  
from San Francisco, Calif.

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MAR 26 1941

0326



學大京燕  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
PEKING, CHINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 24, 1941

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS  
"YENTA"

Mr. Joseph I. Parker  
150 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Parker:

*Note  
Hsia Yun  
5/22/41  
JSP*

I have your letter of February 14 regarding the troublesome case of Hsia Yun. He has stayed on contrary to our advice and the understanding which was made before he left here. On the other hand, the temptation to these Chinese students to get the coveted doctor's degree is very understandable and in the end it is to the interest of the University as well as the individual when it is possible for them to achieve this distinction. There is no question about our wanting him back here nor of his permanency on our staff as far as any human affairs can be so regarded.

Perhaps the best thing to do is to act on your suggestion of advancing him money as needed to be repaid by him on his return here. The disadvantage is that it would take him many years to pay off the debt and we shall be constantly faced with the dilemma of exacting this of him or of trying to find some way to relieve him of the obligation. This will be aggravated by existing family obligations, the natural desire to be married, and the special economic problems affecting all residents of this area now. If, therefore, there is any possible opportunity of diverting funds in the control of our Trustees or the A.B.C.C.C. or of securing a special contribution, it would end what will otherwise be a long drawn-out agony.

I am writing thus frankly so that we can work together in the similar cases which I fear will come to our attention from time to time. A case in point is that of Ch'en Chin-miao about which Mr. Evans has just written. He went on private resources and has suffered from political developments which could not have been foreseen. I am grateful for the help that has been given him and hope that the transfer to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute will at least partially solve his problem.

The same mail brought the problem of Miss Chi Fang. She left here determined, as most of them are, to get to America by any possible device against warnings that her funds were insufficient. They intend to take advantage of American friendliness, knowing that we will not let them down, as well as hoping that somehow there will be a lucky turn. I have passed her case on to Dean Speer and one of us will doubtless be writing soon.

Very sincerely yours,

*Heigton Shrank*

JLS:h

0327

燕京大學  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
PEKING, CHINA

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS  
YENCHING

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RECEIVED  
UNIVERSITIES

APR 30 1941

JOINT OFFICE

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a letter or official communication, possibly in English or Chinese.]*

*[Handwritten signature or initials.]*

8220



**Letters To The Editor****"LIFE'S" YENCHING**

The Editor,  
The Peking Chronicle,  
Sir,

Yenching University's "Americanized" Chinese students have reason to celebrate this week. *Life* magazine for February 10, 1941, has turned its X-ray eye on Peking's famed U.S. institution and under the department "Education" has gathered together some poorly exposed pictures of pre-war vintage, credited to Yenching University, Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and Thomas Kendall. These it has strung together with captions and a running commentary that serves as an anti-Japanese sermon instead of boosting the University as an educational and non-political institution many thought it to be.

We are immediately told this "No. 1 Christian university in China stands amidst the Japanese invaders," it is "surrounded by the khaki hordes of the Rising Sun", and it is now hard up before because it is encircled "by forces hostile to everything it stands for." What does Yenching stand for? "Self-reliance and self-respect, responsibility and self-expression—the middle-class virtues of U.S." It is not by mischance, perhaps, that three out of four of its teachings concern "self."

Did we know that Yenching is in the war? And that it has war aims? "What Yenching is really fighting are the twin temptations China faces of becoming either Japanese or Communist." If *Life* had not told us we would not have thought there were any Chinese who are tempted to become Japanese. Communist, maybe. Yenching, like other Chinese universities here in 1937, was a hot-bed of Communism and anti-foreignism. A blurred photograph (probably taken in the "heat" of the moment) shows "Yenching students lead(ing) an anti-Japanese demonstration at the gates of nearby Peking. This was before the war." But we are assured "Presi-

dent John Leighton Stuart does not permit his students to provoke Japanese now". What a fine alibi for those pre-war fire-eaters, these student agitators who lay on railway tracks and tram rails. An American after the Japanese occupation of Peking asked with surprise, "But where are all those fiery students who were going to defend this city with their bare hands?" "Haven't you heard?" a cynical Chinese businessman rejoined, "They all lay down in front of the Japanese tanks."

Since Yenching and the Presbyterian Mission supplied the greater part of the illustrations one must presume they are also responsible for the informative text. President Stuart, we are told, was "ordered to call on the local Japanese garrison to give his personal 'thanks' for the invasion". Very interesting.

Here is a gem of a heading (among other gems): "Yenching Students do American Things in a Chinese Way and They Seem To Like It" (Italics mine). What extraordinary people these Chinese are! And how clever and democratic to like American things!

"Obstacle race is typical American stunt introduced to the Chinese by Yenching. Notice that it makes the Chinese laugh just as hard as anyone else."

"Pyramid-making is a great favourite of Yenching's girl students of gymnastics. This is just one of a dozen of set pieces that they have in their repertory. It is suggestive of the beautiful balustraded marble periphery of Peking's famed Altar of Heaven." Shades of Chien Lung!

"Girl with a sword gracefully practices so called 'Chinese boxing', an excellent beauty treatment." I suppose, when someone indulges in "Chinese boxing" it becomes a "sword dance".

But two pages of lovely colour plates of campus scenes will, nevertheless, make this *Life* issue a nice souvenir for the 'young people (who) are getting away from the meaningless Western scholarship many Chinese have'. Perhaps, a Yenching enthusiast with a little more knowledge of what makes things tick at the University can

straighten out the confusion into which *Life's* picture report has thrown many "un-American" Pekingites.

Yours truly,  
DIOGENES

Peking, March 23 1941.

INDEXED

March 27, 1941

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, CHINA

ACK  
3/29/41

Dear Dr. Stuart:

The Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada notified us that you annuity certificate will become operative on August 1, 1941 and hand us the enclosed Optional Retirement blank for your consideration and execution.

However, the terms of this policy permit a person to continue payments upon the certificate, provided notification is received one month in advance of the final annuity date, which in your case will be August 1st. This means that the University will have concluded its participation, but that you are permitted to continue payments figured on ten per cent of your salary.

If you are interested in building up a larger annuity fund, may I be permitted to say that this contract is the best one with which I am familiar. The terms are exceedingly liberal and the fund accumulates more rapidly with each succeeding year. We will be guided, however, by your judgment.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS

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March 27, 1941

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, CHINA

Dear Dr. Stuart:

Thanks for your letter of February 28th, addressed to Dr. Garside who is now temporarily with United China Relief, Inc.

I am amazed at your report regarding Y. C. Wei. I have repeatedly admonished him to call upon us for funds in case of need, and each time he has assured me that there has been no necessity for drawing further funds for personal use. He has only drawn \$120.00 since last August. Our instructions from Dr. de Vargas were to make the funds available to him as required. I will get in touch with him shortly and investigate further.

The material you requested for Mr. C. A. Bernier is being compiled and forwarded.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS,  
Acting Executive Secretary and  
Associate Treasurer.

CAE/B

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March 28, 1941

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, CHINA

Dear Dr. Stuart:

Your letter of February 25th is at hand, and agreeable to your suggestion Dr. North, Chairman of the Executive Committee, has appointed the following representatives of Yenching University to attend the American Academy of Political and Social Science at the Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting:

Dr. Lucius C. Porter  
Mr. Chou Shun-hsin  
Mr. Y. C. Wei

We are indeed grateful for the last paragraph of this letter. The personal note to Mr. Garside "lifted the ban" but nevertheless we have been very guarded in the use of this material. Frankly, in studying the list, I was amazed at its proportions and in the light of existing conditions decided on drastic curtailments. As opportunity may offer, I will report to you later on.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to  
FE

March 28, 1941

*Ans 3/31/41*

My dear Mr. Evans:

The Secretary of State has asked me to acknowledge your letter of March 17, 1941, enclosing a letter dated February 19 from Dr. J. Leighton Stuart to Dr. B. A. Garside and a copy of a letter dated February 18 from Dr. Stuart to the Board of Trustees of Yenching University, and requesting advice on the question whether copies of the latter communication should be forwarded to persons on Dr. Stuart's mailing list.

While the letter of February 18 contains, as you suggest, information which might be considered confidential, it is noted from Dr. Stuart's letter to Dr. Garside that he nevertheless would seem to desire the circulation of his letter of February 18. As

Dr. Stuart's

Mr. C. A. Evans,  
Associate Treasurer,  
Associated Boards for  
Christian Colleges in China,  
150 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

0336



Dr. Stuart's correspondence covers private conversations which he has held, the Department is reluctant to advise you what distribution should be made. This question is one which must necessarily be left to Dr. Stuart's and your good judgment and for your decision.

Dr. Stuart's two letters are returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,



Maxwell M. Hamilton  
Chief

Division of Far Eastern Affairs

Enclosures:

Two letters returned  
as stated.

0337

March 31, 1941

Maxwell M. Hamilton, Chief  
Division of Far Eastern Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Re: File FE

My dear Mr. Hamilton:

I am grateful for your letter of March 28th dealing with the correspondence of Dr. J. Leighton Stuart covering conditions in North China.

We note your reluctance to advise us regarding the distribution of this letter which is quite understandable. You will be interested in learning that a letter from Leighton Stuart which came to hand last Friday reverses his previous position and requests us to carefully revise the list to whom his letters have been forwarded.

With such checking as I could do with the Yenching Board of Trustees on Saturday, I found the universal opinion to be that we refrain from distribution of such communications, and that a confidential reading be given before a called meeting of the trustees residing in this area.

Coincident to the receipt of your letter came a call from Dr. A. L. Warnshuis conveying information which conforms to our own thinking.

With sincerest thanks for your discreet handling of this situation,  
I am

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS,  
Acting Executive Secretary and  
Associate Treasurer.

CAE/B

0338



CONFIDENTIAL

April 2, 1941

To the Board of Trustees:

Since writing you from Shanghai six weeks ago I have been watching for some turn in world affairs as affecting us which would justify another report to you. We have been living so long now in suspense that it has become almost natural. Meanwhile life on the campus continues amazingly tranquil as we go about our normal activities. The Committee on Salary and Rank has just finished a series of lengthy sessions in reviewing the entire staff for increase in salary or for promotion, with the usual result that some few have been pleasantly surprised and more perhaps disappointed in various degrees of acute emotion. If this is a delicate issue in any American faculty it is far more so among Chinese. The Faculty Executive Committee has also on the day before yesterday finally approved the Budget for the coming academic year, again after many wearisome hours for those primarily responsible. We are busy with estimates for plant repairs and enlargements. These three matters have been delayed largely because of the haunting uncertainties, and our present treatment of them, while required by the exigencies of routine procedure, is also an indication of our strengthened expectation of being able to carry on. Scientific and other lectures, dramatics, athletics, social and religious events, take place about as would be ordinarily the case. The most of last week I had as my guest an unusually winsome missionary of the American Board who talked with students in chapel, in small groups or at meals, and in a continuous succession of personal conferences, primarily about the country church, but also of their individual problems. The Seniors, despite high costs of printing and paper, have determined to issue a class Annual up to the high standards set last year amid similar difficulties. Several weeks ago the charge d'affaires of the Japanese Embassy invited me to lunch with his staff, followed by a lengthy discussion of American-Japanese issues. He has expressed a desire to resume the discussion so I invited him to lunch yesterday. Later in the afternoon the French Ambassador and several of his staff had been invited for a reception to meet chiefly French-speaking members of our faculty, especially a brilliant graduate of ours who has recently returned with his bride from four years in Paris on the Fellowship established for Yenching by the French Government. The first signs of verdure and flowering fruit trees are harbingers of the luxuriant beauty of the North China spring after the long bare winter. The landscape gang of coolies are busily transplanting young trees and otherwise improving the grounds under the expert guidance of a committee of ladies. These suggestions of campus happenings are to give you atmosphere. It is like this.

My last letter to you in which I described in some detail our preparations in the event of war between the United States and Japan revealed how aware we have been of the lurking dangers in the midst of which we are located. There is also something symbolic about this situation of ours. Within the high walls of our campus freedom, individual duties and rights, community welfare, spiritual idealism, are at least accepted in principle and consistently striven after. We exist as a demonstration of their practicability and value. All around us are the evidences by contrast of what happens to invaders and their victims alike in military conquest. I have often written before of the brutalities of Japanese imperialism and need only underline all such descriptions. As we read of what the Nazi

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terror has done to the conquered countries of Europe, what we are observing or suffering from here helps us to understand, just as your fuller sources of information regarding those horrors will make more vivid to you the similar results of this peculiarly vicious form of conquest. It is as though a turbid flood were swelling all around us and threatening to engulf this islet of ours in its dread advance. This tide has swept over the helpless population with destructive malignity. It is creeping into all the cultural, domestic, economic and other aspects of their living, as is true also of Christian schools and other agencies. We have been preserved thus far only by the stubborn Chinese resistance and by the fear of America. All of which is an epitome of the present world situation in which highly organized and mechanized aggression can only be restrained by vigorous and concerted efforts on the part of those who believe in freedom, justice, truth, democracy, as worth whatever it may cost to preserve them for ourselves and for all others who know their value. Despite the relativities in human affairs, the Axis Powers have manifested their aims of despotic subjugation so deliberately conceived, so ruthlessly executed, that civilization west and east will share a common doom unless they are thwarted by the only measures which they can understand. I am therefore immensely relieved by the awakening in America and proud of my country in her determination to use her great power for such high ends.

Recent developments in Japan may be briefly summarized. It can be assumed that the southward or oceanic expansion policy will be held tenaciously. It has been planned and popularized for many years. It can not be now abandoned without dangerous internal reactions. Successfully achieved it might bring the China War to the desired conclusion by a complete blockade. Otherwise they see no way out for the present adventure. The German pressure is extremely insistent that by this means America may be diverted from more effective aid to England. Those who do not share in this ambition are negligible both in numbers and in influence. But there are three obstacles: (1) the more clear-headed are convinced that peace with China should first be secured; (2) Germany must be able to guarantee that Russia will not take advantage of the opportunity to attack Manchuria; (3) armed conflict with America must be avoided. Just as the one certain factor in the otherwise enigmatic Russian foreign policy is Stalin's fear of Hitler, so the one restraining fear in Japan is of the United States.

*Shimura* The violent controversy in Japan continues unabated and with as yet no decisive indication as to trends. But this is only as to procedure, not as to ultimate objectives. The drift is on the whole opportunistic. This probably applies to Matsuoka's present European tour. In passing through Peking and talking too freely under liquor - as is frequently the case with Japanese - he described his foreign policy as one of placating each country according to its distinctive characteristics. This is probably real and should be kept in mind in interpreting his usually tactless utterances. He is giving no slight concern to his more temperate colleagues and may not retain office long after the present rather ill-advised journey. But the more essential point to be noted is that there is no authoritative, commanding leadership in Japan, no consistent program, only increasing confusion and worry, desperate efforts to get out of the mess in China but no solution for doing so without loss of prestige and self on a scale which no one person or faction would dare to urge. The group of which I wrote you from Shanghai are still working energetically for a peace which China might accept and America sponsor, but they are meeting opposition from many quarters, and can achieve

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nothing now until Matsuoka's return.

The danger of war between Japan and the United States in the immediate future I still feel to be quite unlikely. The real danger is that, aware now of our determination to oppose any further southward aggression, Japan will penetrate unobtrusively while issuing declarations to the contrary, and will thus have made such strategic gains that we shall then feel compelled to act under conditions far less favorable to us than at present. Manchuria was an instance of this. The so-called "mediation" between Indo-China and Thailand is the latest one. The naval and air bases which will be rapidly established there, together with all other preparations, will strengthen her for the next advance. The reverse of this policy of stealthy intrusion is that Japan invariably withdraws when convinced of the strength of the opposing force. The classic instance of this is the clash with Russia at Nomoman on the Manchurian border in the early autumn of 1938. This rash attack resulted in a disastrous repulse involving the death of four colonels. The facts were rigidly suppressed but Japan learned the lesson and has never repeated the attempt. The fictitious incident in July, 1937, which began hostilities in North China, as is doubtless true of the one in Shanghai, would never have taken place had they foreseen the possibility of any effective resistance. We have been watching the same technique of bluff and bluster in Europe. The surest method therefore of averting a truly calamitous conflict later is to convince Japan of the folly of provoking America to hostile action.

Beyond question the most effective way to circumvent Japan's piratical ambitions in the south seas, and with the minimum of cost to ourselves, is to aid China by all measures "short of war". The more promptly and publicly this can be done the better. Now that an agreement seems to have been reached between Chungking and Washington that all aviation equipment supplied by us is to be entirely under American management, there should be rapid progress in Chinese counter-offensive movements. Military aviation has been their weakest feature, and with modern planes properly manned and serviced the results will be all out of proportion to the comparatively trivial demands upon our resources. So with monetary and all other aid. The quantities needed are insignificant and can be easily spared. The mere knowledge of our intentions will have psychological as well as physical consequences in both Japan and China. The benefit is two-fold: we help China to win independence and thus gain a potentially powerful ally in our efforts toward a stable peace, especially in the Pacific area; we thwart Japanese predatory designs without involving ourselves in war with her at a time when she knows herself to be too dangerously weakened to take the risk. With peace thus easily and quickly secured in Eastern Asia we are indirectly aiding England while freeing ourselves for more direct assistance to her. This would also be the kindest course of action to Japan, apart from the other cogent arguments for its thorough-going adoption. By showing them how fatuous are their dreams of conquering China they can end their wavering indecision and its threatening economic and other tensions, while recovering sanity and export trade. If in the process they can overthrow their military dictatorship so much the better.

It would be a wise and gracious bit of statesmanship if at this critical period we took the initiative in abrogating all the treaty privileges which have been forced on China and thus recognize her right to equality of treatment. If Japan wins, or is able to keep her grip on any part of China, we lose these as well as all our interests wherever

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Japan is in control, and if China wins these anachronistic and insulting encroachments on her sovereignty will be cancelled as soon as her Government feels sufficiently well established. But spontaneous action by us now would be extremely cheering to the Chinese nation in its heroic struggle and would neutralize Japanese propaganda at the only point where the western powers are really vulnerable.

The Chinese resistance continues to be on the whole definitely encouraging. The feud between the Kuomintang and Communist Parties is extremely unfortunate but I feel confident that it will not lead to an open rupture nor materially weaken their common struggle against the invaders. In America this issue has caused undue apprehension because of the publicity from several popular writers sympathetic with the communist movement. The estrangement is not as serious as the impression probably created, nor is the issue described in its true perspective in relation to resistance against Japan. For the Communist Party membership is about one-third of the Kuomintang, the territory they occupy is only 5% of that under direct control of the national Government and their military strength is an even smaller percentage of the whole Chinese army. What is much more to the point is the unshaken resolve of the Communist leaders to support the Generalissimo in the War and his similar determination to give them all due consideration provided only there is no military insubordination. That there is much friction can not be denied, nor that this is being aggravated by prejudice, violence, ignorance and partisan bigotry on both sides. But it will not disrupt Chinese unity either during or after the present war. It can also be affirmed that, despite reactionary elements and age-long weaknesses, China continues steadily to progress toward genuine democracy both in aspiration and in actual procedure. But of all these matters I hope to report after my visit to Chungking later on this month. I am leaving day after tomorrow for Hongkong to attend the Annual Meeting of the China Foundation. After that - if the international situation still permits - I am planning to make a very brief visit to the war-capital, and to renew my impressions of trends in Free China.

Since I have ventured to express my desires as to a vigorous American policy of aid to China as the surest formula for curbing further Japanese aggression and thus averting war for us, I cannot resist concluding with a suggestion on behalf of Japan. General Chiang told me a year ago that he would agree to no peace negotiations with Japan unless through the mediation of the President of the United States. Assuming therefore that sooner or later this will be accepted by Japan, I should like to advocate that this take the form of a friendly conference of these three nations as the nucleus of a Pacific Ocean regional alliance or association and the beginning of a more inclusive permanent organization. This could become a section of the new world-order which many hope will follow the present international anarchy. More specifically it will give Japan the most acceptable exit from her present desperate dilemma. It will give her "face" as nothing else could except victorious aggression, and should include the satisfaction of her genuine anxieties as to raw materials, foreign trade etc. This would be a splendidly Christian and far-visioned policy on our part and would, I believe, be eagerly welcomed by the more intelligent leaders in both countries, as well as by the impotently suffering masses.

very sincerely yours,

*Leighton Stuart*

0342



*For transmission to State Department  
U.S. diplomats in Tokyo, Chungking etc*

MEMORANDUM TO MR. R. L. SMYTH

Interviews with Admiral Nomura, with his chief advisor Mr. Wakasugi, with his secretary Mr. Terasaki who went to Washington with him, and with Mr. Tsuchida, charge d'affaires of the Embassy here, have given me the strong impression that the Japanese official concern as to the China War is along two lines. These were all separate interviews, some of them at considerable length, and the similarity points to a common source. The last interview was yesterday, so that the period covers several months.

The first of these is in connection with American aid to China about which they are manifestly worried. They are trying to discover what the extent of this will be, as well as to dissuade our country from continuing it. The other concerns the Communist menace and the feud between the Kuomintang and Chinese Communists.

A fair inference is that at least for diplomatic effort with America these are the issues they have been instructed to urge.

J. L. S.

April 2, 1941

0343

April 5, 1941

Dear Dr. Stuart:

During recent weeks I have been so deeply immersed in this task of raising five million dollars for all phases of relief and rehabilitation in China that I have not gotten around to corresponding with you concerning Yenching matters. But I hardly need to assure you that I'm interested as much as ever in Yenching and the other Colleges, and am looking forward to getting back to 150 Fifth Avenue as soon as this present drive is over.

Meantime, if we can get the funds for China we are now seeking, all the Colleges will be better provided for than the Associated Boards and the individual boards of trustees could hope to accomplish alone - and at the same time the other aspects of China's needs which have been so sadly neglected by America during recent years will be somewhat more adequately met.

The work at the Yenching office seems to be going forward much as usual - and I believe that some special activities which should be of great value to the institution are being instituted.

One letter from you which disturbed me just as I was moving my activities up here was your note of January 21st. That indicated that some of your reports had been lost in the process of distribution. Recognizing the value of these reports we have always tried to guard them carefully. We trust that the losses were not serious. As you say, these reports have now largely accomplished their purpose. But we do hope that you can continue to keep the trustees informed of the work and surroundings of Yenching, even though it may be desirable to save such reports for the trustees exclusively.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially yours,

President J. Leighton Stuart,  
Yenching University,  
Peiping, China.

0344



1941

April 5, 1941

Dear Mr. Stewart:

During recent weeks I have been so deeply involved in this task of raising five million dollars for all purposes of relief and rehabilitation in China that I have not gotten around to corresponding with you concerning Yenching matters. But I hardly need to assure you that I'm interested as much as ever in Yenching and the other Colleges, and am looking forward to getting back to 150 With Avenue as soon as this present drive is over.

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With every good wish, I am

Cordially yours,

President J. Leighton Stewart,  
Yenching University,  
Peking, China.

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American Church Mission  
Anking, China.

Florence, Route I,  
South Carolina,  
April 10, 1941.

*ack by A.C.M.  
4/10/41*

Mr. Joseph I. Parker,  
Yenching University,  
150 Fifth Ave., NYC.

Dear Mr. Parker,

Thanks for the letters - but I left Shanghai  
February 10, so had had carbon copies of both these.  
The letter that Leighton meant was the one he wrote  
while in Shanghai, after I sailed. He said he wanted  
me to see it, and had given the address 281 Fourth Ave.

You needn't be afraid to trust me! I knew that  
there were to be no more general ones, and why! I'm  
not surprised it happened. A lady coming over told me that  
her husband had received a copy of one of those letters,  
sent him by his brother in the States who wished to check  
on a certain item. When I think how carefully I guarded  
my copies ---!

Sincerely,

*Alice Gregg*

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April 15, 1941

Miss Alice Gregg  
Route I  
Florence, South Carolina

Dear Miss Gregg:

Mr. Parker has conferred with me regarding your letter of April 10th covering Dr. Stuart's letter written in Shanghai.

Dr. Stuart, in his usual confident manner, told us that information contained in previous letters had leaked out, but regardless of that to send it to the entire list, and gave two additional names.

The nature of this communication was such that upon receipt I confided with three members of the Yenching Board and the unanimous opinion was that it should be sent to Cordell Hull personally. After due deliberation, the State Department sent us a personal message expressing the definite conclusion that the letter should not be circulated. On the same day we received this message came another letter from Dr. Stuart saying that he had changed his mind and to restrict the circulation to a very few people. When one considers that the original list grew to nearly four hundred, it can easily be seen that some leakage must occur.

As a result of these actions, no copy for distribution has been made and the original is closely guarded in our safe. This is all the more necessary in view of a letter received from Dr. Stuart dated March 13 indicating an entirely different attitude, and which apparently was inspired by the change in conditions at Peking after his return from Shanghai.

In essence this last letter indicates that all preparations have been made for leaving the campus, and diplomatic relations have been established with a neutral country to care for the property, and there is an indication that it requires only a minor slip to precipitate drastic action.

I am glad to have this word about the lady having received a copy of one of Dr. Stuart's letters through her husband. It is only an indication of how widely spread these letters became and how necessary it is to comply with the instructions of the State Department that they be kept for the use of the Yenching Trustees.

0348



Miss Gregg

- 2 -

4/15/41

We are calling a meeting of the Board of Trustees to take up this matter, and we should have some action the latter part of the week.

Very truly yours,

C. A. EVANS,  
Acting Executive Secretary and  
Associate Treasurer.

CAE/B

0349

April 23, 1941

President J. Leighton Stuart  
Yenching University  
Peking, CHINA

Ack  
5/29/41

Dear President Stuart:

We are in the midst of a publicity movement with the hope of securing large sums, although totally inadequate for relief in China. United China Relief, Inc. is the organization carrying the burden of publicity and, above all things, they need information and assistance.

I am in receipt of a communication from Dr. B. A. Garside, Executive Director of United China Relief, urging us to ask the foreign members of the staff in our China Colleges to write as many letters as possible telling of the situations and needs in their particular locations, and sending such letters where they will get the widest attention here in America. This also applies to Chinese staff members who have friends in America, and the request is that special attention be given on focusing this work during the next few months. Such letters should be informative as to conditions and needs, not only in the institutions themselves but in the surrounding areas. It might be helpful also if some of these letters were sent to home town editors and other places here in America where they would get the widest distribution and publicity.

If anyone finds it difficult to write to a large group, our office shall be glad to receive such letters and mimeograph them, and mail to such lists which may be submitted to us by individual staff members. SPEED IS IMPORTANT.

Mr. Henry R. Luce, a member of the Campaign Committee for United China Relief, Inc., and his wife will leave on the Clipper which will carry this letter to those in Southern and Western China. They will endeavor to obtain last-minute information for campaign purposes, but the intimate everyday contacts of you good people is necessary to give the right flavor to publicity. Please keep your constituency well informed.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS,  
Acting Executive Secretary and  
Associate Treasurer.

CAE/B  
~~Via China Clipper - 4/26/41~~  
c.c. via air mail to Pacific Coast -  
"President Garfield"

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Confidential

Chungking, April 28, 1941.

To the Board of Trustees:

This is the ninth day since arriving here with my faithful travelling companion. We were to have left this morning, but as we were starting for the airfield a message came that there would be no airplane leaving today. This is an illustration of the uncertainties of travel in this area now. I therefore find myself at leisure for the first time since arriving here and shall take advantage of it by writing you.

The flight from Hongkong here furnished graphic evidence of the effectiveness of the Japanese blockade. For this air route is almost the only access to the war-capital and to Free China in general. There is the Burma Road but that involves first of all a long sea-voyage to Rangoon, together with all the delays of a hastily built roadway, over-crowded with trucks, inadequate facilities of all kinds, constant Japanese bombing. It can at best account for 4,000 tons per month and there are tens of thousands of tons of military or other urgently needed government as well as private supplies awaiting shipment. My old friend and fellow-trustee of the China Foundation, Dr. J. E. Baker, newly appointed Director of the Road, told me at our recent meeting in Hongkong that he was thinking of limiting the traffic exclusively to military purposes. The rainy season is about to begin when for several months the Road is all but impassable. So that route for ordinary passengers exists chiefly in theory. Individuals or small groups, with light baggage and sufficient hardiness, can still struggle through the coastal blockade by devious constantly shifting and always dangerous routes requiring weeks in transit. From Peiping Chinese can travel by rail toward Hankow and then overland into Chinese controlled territory, but foreigners are no longer permitted by the Japanese to do so, and Chinese must run the gauntlet of Japanese and Chinese sentries, both sides being equally suspicious. The air-route from Hongkong is therefore the only one that does not involve weeks or even months of tedious, hazardous and costly travel. Over it must pass mail, supplies urgently needed but not too weighty or bulky, government officials, foreign visitors, and all those who for personal reasons have occasion for this journey. You will not be surprised that reservations have already been made to the end of July for the trip from Hongkong. From Chungking out seems not quite so much in demand. From Hongkong the plane takes off about three or four in the morning in order to be beyond Japanese occupied territory by daylight, and returning it aims to arrive in the evening. We were told to be at the airport by 2:30 A.M. The British censorship is now extremely rigid which with the customs, passport and other formalities require time. Personal baggage is rigidly limited and cannot be much exceeded even with payment, for space and weight are precious commodities. People also and what they carry on or with them are carefully weighed. Each plane in this direction carries millions of dollars in bank notes which are, however, valueless until finally stamped in Chungking.

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This is the long and slender bottleneck through which the beleaguered national government and people of China, or those visiting them, can keep in communication with the outside world. There are rumours that the Japanese intend to bring pressure on the British Government to close this vital outlet. As to munitions there is, in addition to the Burma Road, the north-west passage from Russia which is at best very unsatisfactory because of physical hindrances, and has only a tenuous assurance because of the vagaries of Soviet politics. Smuggling is of course constantly in operation and helps to maintain a trickle of essential supplies such as gasoline. The Government controls at least two seats on every plane which explains why we have been able to make this trip. Ours was a non-stop flight making the 700 miles in 4½ hours. We packed our bags with only the minimum essentials in order to fill them with as much as we could carry of the many things we were asked to take for friends. These included watches, fountain pens, medicines, shoes, clothes, dress material for President Wu Yi-fang of Ginling College. One of the greatest hardships in the interior is apparently the dearth of new books and magazines which the postal authorities have felt compelled drastically to limit in order to provide for first class mail.

One of your number, Mr. Henry Luce, and his wife are due here in a few days and preparations are already being made for their reception, as well as for the much more serious problem of their transportation. He is due in Hongkong May 5, and my steamer has postponed its sailing to that same date, so that I am hoping to have a glimpse of them if the hours of arrival and departure permit.

This is my fourth annual visit to the war-capital about this time of the year, once to Hankow, and now for the third time to this City. As on the previous trips I have talked with almost all of the high officials, most of whom are old friends, with our Ambassador and other foreign diplomats or correspondents, with our graduates and other Chinese of different types. The impressions are fairly clear and consistent. I shall try to describe them objectively. Nor is there need for elaboration because in the main they are in accord with preceeding communications of mine.

Most important of all, there seems to be no weakening in the will or the ability for continued resistance and in the determination to recover the integrity and independence of the entire country. This is certainly true of the Generalissimo who, despite mounting internal and international problems, is maintaining his resolute purpose and his cheerful confidence as well as his physical vigor. The injury to his backbone received at Sian which seemed to have healed is again giving him trouble. This may be a symptom of the nervous tension he is under. There are rumours that various important personages, including the Ministers of Finance and War, are seeking for peace. I talked intimately with each of these men, both of whom I have known for many years, and received the opposite impression. Nor have I been able to sense such a tendency elsewhere.

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Apart from morale, munitions adequate for the kind of fighting Chinese armies have been conducting are manufactured within the country, the man-power is improving in quality and is inexhaustible in numbers. Although in no sense a financial expert yet I have the distinct impression that the government monetary procedure is sound and that, with the American loans and stabilization funds it can stand the strain at least for two or more years longer. Dr. Kung is severely criticised from many standpoints, and doubtless more scientific methods could improve the whole system of national finance and especially the employed personnel. On the other hand he has characteristics which go far toward neutralizing these deficiencies. He is one of the most maligned men in the Capital and much of this is understandable. But I remain convinced of his genuine honesty, patriotism, piety and unsparing devotion to the numerous worthy causes he sponsors. Too many of his subordinates have exploited their opportunities for graft, the critical situation calls for unpopular measures, for all which he gets the blame.

The two most serious internal factors are the high cost of living and the communist issue. Commodity prices are soaring and money is depreciating to dangerous levels. Rice is not only sold at many times the normal price but is becoming scarce. There are the menacing hints already of rice riots. This is largely due to profiteering, especially by the remnants of the notorious old provincial rulers, which makes it a delicate political issue. The salaried classes suffer especially and of course the capital abounds in such government employees. Artisans and coolies get high wages and are faring well, as is more or less true of the vast farming population. But this economic hardship to the more intelligent elements breeds discontent, shatters morale, tempts to illicit sources of income and stimulates an unwholesome recklessness. This last is further aggravated by the constant danger of losing all in air-raids. A chauffeur makes more than a cabinet minister; a pair of woman's silk stockings costs more than the monthly salary of a bureau chief. Despite all this there are displays of luxury in entertaining and in dressing which jar harshly upon one who has heard much of war-time hardships. In the one remaining hotel for foreign guests which has not been bombed I have seen weddings which were almost shockingly elaborate. American pilots tell of luxuries for prominent officials which must be stowed into the planes from Hongkong although medicines or other supplies are thereby displaced. Stories of this sort abound and reveal weaknesses which give concern. They also provide material for the vigorous communist propaganda. On this latter subject I must somewhat modify what has previously been written. The Communist problem will not lead to civil war except perhaps in small and sporadic outbreaks. But it is causing estrangement and mutual suspicions or fears. This is due partly to genuine misunderstanding aggravated by the lack of any satisfactory procedure for exchanging views or grievances. But there is a deepening ideological breach. The Kuomintang is becoming more dictatorial in method as well as attitude, and is thus somewhat in danger of destroying within the

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country under its control the very freedom which it is striving to win back from Japanese aggression. This alienates youth and all those of liberal tendencies who are charged with communist leanings and often severely punished. The emotional reactions thus tend to influence each the other side. When the war is over there may be a period of internecine conflict or of somewhat totalitarian suppression by the dominant party. On the other hand, Chinese have their own means of settling disputes, and long residence in this country makes one cautious about pessimistic dogmatism. I have recorded thus frankly the discouraging aspects of the situation. These cannot be ignored nor minimized. To some extent they are the inevitable consequences of a long and very exhausting war. One wonders that they are no worse. And in any case I do not believe that they will too seriously impair the spirit of continuing resistance.

The Generalissimo reminded me more than once that what he had said to me last year had been modified by international developments. This is realized by everyone here. The government leaders are extremely competent interpreters of world events and are watching these with intense interest. They recognise that it has now become a world-wide struggle of the freedom-loving peoples against unrestrained military aggression, and especially that for all practical purposes America, Britain and China are allies. Japan must therefore soon decide whether to carry out her Axis obligation and incur the enmity of these three countries or radically to abandon her present policy of imperialistic domination. Events in Europe seem to point toward a lengthy war in which we shall become more involved. North America may even possibly become the directing centre. If so, the speedy elimination of Japan as an active factor has many advantages and can be attained with relatively insignificant commitments. Or if Japan adopts the saner course it can only be through an appeal to the American Government to negotiate with that of China with a view to an equitable peace. So that we can be no longer dissociated from this Eastern Asia conflict or the New Order to be established here.

It is a more congenial topic to report on our own graduates here, and I can do so with only the slightest touch of the somewhat depressing overtones in national affairs. From the time of my arrival they have been calling on me or doing something for my pleasure. There are at least two hundred and fifty of them in the city and its decentralized suburbs, all employed, most of them active and enthusiastic. Not many are yet in high positions, but they represent a high average of reliability and with fine ideals which after all is far more to be desired. They are in almost every phase of government, educational, religious and other employment. With butter almost as rare a luxury here as coffee one brought me a tin from his own dairy as delicious as that from an American farm. The (official) Central Daily News and International Publicity Bureau are practically under their control. So on throughout. The comment is frequently made - thus confirming my own biased impressions - that there is an intangible

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spirit which somehow distinguishes them. Certainly one could not ask more loyalty to their alma mater nor expect more fidelity in their various tasks than they are showing. One evening they had a beautifully planned welcome dinner at which Dr. Kung presided and spoke at length. Fortunately Dr. Paul Monroe could also be included. He described himself as the oldest alumnus present having been given an honorary degree by one of our original constituent colleges in 1913. Another evening a smaller group met with me to revive a project launched last year entirely on their own initiative of having a Yenching High School in this city. It would also provide a hostel for new graduates coming into Free China or others passing through, and serve as an alumni club house and university headquarters for this whole area. This enterprise had been allowed to go by default because of incessant bombings and difficulty in corresponding with the other alumni centres in the South-west which were to have been associated with it.

Several of these other associations have been writing me about visiting them also. But that will be impossible this year. I was to have left Hongkong tomorrow morning by steamer for Macao where we have about 50 graduates. But that trip must be cancelled because of the failure to leave here today. The day following a similar reception has been arranged in Hongkong where we have somewhere between two and three hundred graduates. The airplane due to arrive tomorrow morning with the son of President Roosevelt ought to be able to carry us back the same day. Otherwise we may arrive too late the next day for this much anticipated gathering. But after touching on the increasingly grim international issues which are ever creeping closer to all of us it is inexpressibly heartening to close on this note of joy in all the evidence of the infusion of new life into this ferment caused by the impact of modern warfare upon a social structure unprepared and weakened by age-long shortcomings. Such modern educated youth has the promise of helping toward the rebirth in patterns and with energies fitting it for its enhanced position in the new commonwealth of nations which should be born out of the present turmoil.

Very sincerely yours,

*J. Highton Sturck*

P.S. Hongkong April 30.

We arrived safely last evening after mild excitements which suggest rather faintly the hardships of the city we left. We were told to be at the airfield at 8.00 A.M. to be ready for air-raid alarms. The start would otherwise be made at 2.00 A.M. A few minutes before noon the signal came. We took off and dodged Japanese planes, waiting on hour at Kweilin for dusk. Today's papers report that Chungking inhabitants were in their dugouts from noon till nine in the evening. Fortunately there are now virtually enough of these for the whole population of nearly 400,000. There was no raid. We saw Capt. James Roosevelt arrive and be welcomed with Chinese hospitality. He is said to have wanted some such experience. My hour's wait in Kweilin was enlivened by a representative of the local alumni association who had ridden on his bicycle the seven miles out to the airfield for three successive days hoping to persuade me to break my journey and visit them.

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April 30, 1941

REPORT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY

On March 15th a letter came to hand from Dr. Stuart. It was addressed to the Secretary, and, in his absence, I opened same and, after reading it carefully, called Mr. Tsai who was in the office that morning and, in confidence, showed the letter to him. Mr. Tsai expressed grave fear that it would be very dangerous to send this letter out to those on our special list of friends.

Shortly thereafter, Mr. McBrier came in and I referred it to him without comment. His reaction was that it should be suppressed, or at least referred to the State Department in Washington, D. C. for advice.

Conferring together, it was decided that an approach be made to one of our trustees in close contact with the State Department, and, if possible, confer with other Yenching Trustees. After a careful check of the list, Dr. Lloyd Ruland was the only one available and the letter was referred to him. Dr. Ruland's first reaction confirmed the opinion of others, and on Monday the communication was sent to Hon. Cordell Hull personally. No reply was received until on March 27th when Dr. A. L. Warnshuis called by telephone and reported a conference with members of the State Department wherein it had been decided not to make any recommendations by mail, but that the personal opinion of all those familiar with the letter was that they should be held very closely, and that there was some surprise that previous communications had been distributed so widely.

As a result of this advice from the Department, the letter has only been seen by - other than those mentioned above - the following:

Dr. E. C. Lobenstine

Mr. Louis Wolferz

Dr. Claude Thomson

Mr. J. I. Parker

Dr. Lucius Porter

and lately by your President, who expressed the opinion that it should be suppressed.

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