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*Yenching*  
*Publicity Reports*  
*Newsletters, 1927-1930*  
*news releases*

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COPY to Mr. Garside

INDEXED

PEKING

Excerpt from letter of August 2, 1927, to  
Mr. & Mrs. Wheeler from Sidney D. Gamble

"Here in Peking we are very much concerned about the future of Yenching University. A few radical students caused a little flurry early in June, but although other schools closed without final examinations, Yenching finished the year's work and graduated a fine class of 116 students of which 29 were girls, and including 20 pre-medical students. Summer school is now in full swing with over 100 pupils. There are many more applications for the fall than can possibly be accepted. The University has a wonderful opportunity for service and influence and is doing splendid work. There being every likelihood that it will be a long time before the Southerners get to Peking, and with their program becoming more and more reasonable, we feel confident that Yenching will be able to adjust to any new political situation and will have a growing influence in China."

*Campaign office*

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Copy to Mr. [Name]

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# PEKING UNIVERSITY

(CHINESE NAME—YENCHING UNIVERSITY)

PEKING, CHINA

AMERICAN OFFICE

150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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## OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

J. LEIGHTON STUART, PRESIDENT  
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October 11, 1927

To the Friends of Peking University:

Although the daily press has been full of news items regarding war and unsettled conditions in China during the last six months, you will be glad to know that Peking (Yenching) University has been able to carry on its work unhindered. This is largely due to the fine relationships established between the faculty, the student body, and the government under the able leadership of President J. Leighton Stuart.

In a recent letter Mr. Sidney D. Gamble, a secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in Peking, and the author of a well-known volume on Peking, writes:

"Yenching finished the year's work and graduated a fine class of 116 students, of which 29 were girls, and including 20 pre-medical students. Summer school is now in full swing with over one hundred pupils. There are many more applications for the fall term than can possibly be accepted. The University has a wonderful opportunity for service and influence and is doing splendid work. . . . We feel confident that Yenching will be able to adjust to any new political situation and will have a growing influence in China."

We have more recently received the following cablegram direct from Peking, dated September 19, 1927:

"A GOOD OPENING, FULL ENROLMENT; THE OUTLOOK IS ENCOURAGING IN EVERY RESPECT."

One of the very reasons why China today is going through these birth pains is because of the new life engendered by such institutions as ours. China will find herself; how soon this comes to pass will depend in part upon how steadfastly the friends of China stand by at this particular time and support faithfully the institutions which make for peace, law and order, and a regenerated society.

You will be interested to know that President Stuart, at the request of the Trustees, is coming to the United States and is this week landing in Seattle. During his brief stay in this country he will be meeting groups of friends of the University in a number of larger cities to give them the latest news of the Chinese situation. He can be addressed in care of this office.

A new issue of Peking News will be published soon and will be forwarded to you. It will contain authentic information of present conditions in China and in Peking University.

We wish to send you this brief statement now to report that the University is going steadily forward in its service, that Dr. Stuart will be in this country during the coming months, and that we appreciate your interest in the University and count upon your continued sympathy and support.

Faithfully yours,

FRANKLIN H. WARNER,  
*President, Board of Trustees*

ERIC M. NORTH,  
*Secretary, Board of Trustees*

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*Inf General*

Yenching University,  
July 1, 1929.

Dear Absentees:

Perhaps you would like to have some little account of the wind-up of the session. Very different it was this year from last when we were thrilling to the sight of the new Nationalist flag fluttering from our hastily erected flagpole, and speculating anxiously whether the President, bottled up in Tientsin, would be able to get through to Peping in time for the closing; with no train service to Peitaiho, and members of staff going on furlough starting off in motor cars on a bandit-infested road. This year there was no untoward excitement to mark the great event in our history, the induction of our first Chinese Chancellor. Peace reigned within and without the fold, and the proceedings went forward with an unfulfilled solemnity that made one almost fear that in spite of her brief record in actual years, Yenching has in spirit reached a peaceful and hoary-headed old age. The closing events led off with sundry meetings of august bodies. On Friday the 21st the faculty members of the Administrative Committee of the Harvard-Yenching Institute traveled into Peping to hear the chairman present his annual report, which with the addition of two words was accepted in toto. Mr. Chen Yuan was appointed Acting Director of the Institute and Mr. Porter Executive Secretary. On the following morning cars arrived out from Peping bringing the members of the Board of Managers to the annual meeting which was held in the President's house. The writer who in the capacity of recording secretary has attended meetings of the Board for many years, was torn between a longing for those old prolonged and stormy sessions which lasted sometimes far into the late afternoon, when great and terrible problems of policy and finance hung in the balance; and a certain satisfaction in the consciousness that affairs

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in the University are at last running so smoothly that our meetings seem to have attained the appropriate academic level of dullness. However, with such vivid personalities as we still retain upon our Board we are for the nonce saved from this sad fate. The Board no longer sits formally on the candidates presented for degrees, this matter having been handed over to the Council. The Annual Reports having been previously circulated, they were adopted without comment. New members were welcomed, among others, the Rev. John Hayes whose active interest will preclude the possibility of anyone falling asleep, and who opened up discussions on so many topics that the President began to look quite alarmed; Mrs. Wong-Quincey, Mrs. Y.Y. Tsu, Rev. T. Cocker Brown (L.M.S. Shanghai), the Principal of Jefferson Academy, etc. The coopted members will from now on hold office under an arrangement which necessitates the retiring of two members each year and the appointment of two new members. The reports I inclose for your consideration. These will not be printed in their present form, but will be worked up into a little booklet like the one prepared for us last year by Mrs. Sharman.

The weather, true to Yenching tradition, was very hot. The Induction Exercises began at 2:30. The audience, literally sticking to their seats felt thankful that they were neither clad in heavy academic gowns nor seated on the platform where there is no cross current of air. The said platform on this occasion groaned under its burden of dignitaries, which included administrative officers, deans, Members of the Board of Managers, and official guests, some forty all told. The decorations presented no startling innovations. The procession, headed by the marshal Mr. C.F. Wu, marched in to the strains of an appropriate burst of music played by Jean Stahl from behind the curtains, our own orchestra having disbanded and the Marine Band not being available on this occasion. The Government

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representatives for some reason did not appear, but the American and British Legations were well represented in the front row by Mr. McMurray, who grew paler and paler with the heat as the afternoon wore on, and a large and stout Counsellor from H.B.M. Legation ( Sir Miles being in Nanking) who grew steadily redder. Very proud indeed we felt of our Chancellor as he rose to speak for the first time in his new office, and very delightful it was to watch the expression on the President's face as he handed the big seal of office to his colleague. If we all did not know <sup>of</sup> the tremendous fund of energy that is in him, his unquenchable ambition and the great dreams that he still dreams for Yenching we might have felt that he was saying the old words "And now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace." He was heard to remark afterwards in a tone of deep satisfaction, "I do believe that the Chancellor really feels that he has a place in Yenching at last". Ceremonies and congratulatory speeches ended, the procession filed out and everyone foregathered at the President's House to partake of iced punch and greet the new Chancellor. The President escaped from the trammels of office on a long horseback ride, and in the evening the Decoration Committee, weary but willing, set up upon the stage in Bashford under the able direction of Dr. T.T., the chancel appointments from Ninde Chapel which were carried over bodily; scattering in flight from the stage, members of the Senior Class who were rehearsing for class day. The Baccalaureate Exercises can only be reported from hearsay, the writer being a member of the Decoration Committee and too exhausted to appear next morning. The service was reported as being a very beautiful and dignified one, Chancellor Wu preaching the Baccalaureate, and the President's prayer for the graduates in the words of Mr. Nash, "the most beautiful I have ever heard." An imperishable memory to one member of staff brought up in ecclesiastical circles was the sight of the preacher gracefully wafting a large fan as

the sermon proceeded. On Monday afternoon the Council met, and the Deans in turn presented their respective candidates for degrees and diplomas. With the exception of two unfortunate gentlemen who were advised to return for another semester's work, all names were passed. Dr. Homer Lew tendered his resignation as chairman of the Agricultural Experiment Station in order to take up work in Manchuria which he had contemplated for some time. This resignation was reluctantly accepted. Mr. Ma attempted to resign from his office of Director of Student Welfare but was unsuccessful in this effort. Monday night was Class Day, and the lengthy proceedings which included the usual speeches, playlets, musical items, etc., were much enjoyed by a large student audience. The faculty representation was not large.

Commencement Exercises began at 10:00 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the academic procession filing in to the martial strains of the American Legation marine band stationed in the gallery. The "Mu Ti", Mr. Porter's gift, stood on the table in the centre of the stage. Long indeed was the procession of students coming up for degrees and this did not include the graduates of the short courses. The latter ceremonies were this year of a semi-private nature, the Yu Ke Commencement taking the form of a dinner to staff and students at the President's House, and the Education Short Course Exercises a garden party on Dr. Galt's lawn. The regular graduates formed up in long lines below the platform from which descended when each batch came forward, the <sup>respective</sup> Dean armed with the diplomas, Mrs. Y.P. Mei (acting as Dean of Women for Miss Stahl) with the hoods, and the President to transfer the tassel on the mortar boards. The Chancellor smiled benevolently upon this scene from his chair of state on the stage. As these proceedings, <sup>as</sup> were all the others, conducted in in Chinese for the most part, the writer is saved from the task of reporting



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all that was said. Commencement over, all repaired to a spot just west of the Biology Building where a very fine new flagpole was presented with due formality to the University by the Senior Class.

For one week quiet has reigned in and around the deserted University Halls, but this morning again they resound to the tramp of many feet as the Conference Room is besieged with students registering for the Summer School. The Summer School this year is no farce. All departments have been made to feel that they must take their full share in this activity and it has been very widely advertised outside the University. Mr. Henry Chou is director assisted by about 30 members of staff. About 180 students are expected, one-fourth being outside students. A new ruling bans our own students from living in the dormitories unless they take work in the school or under the personal supervision of a member of staff. The members of staff who are bemoaning the fact that they must stay here this summer will be free for at least two years before their turn comes round again.

Preparations for the Formal Opening have been going forward very briskly this spring. The delegation from abroad is not expected to be a large one, and it is hoped that these visitors can be entertained largely in our own faculty homes. Miss Mills is in charge of hospitality. There should be a large representation of China guests including our alumni and alumnae and it is hoped to entertain these also on the site. Dramatics are in charge of Mr. Shadick, Information Bureau Mr. Nash, Literature Mr. Hsu Ti Shan, Stephen Tsai is Executive Secretary and Mr. Porter Marshal, etc. The invitations are being engraved at the Bureau of Printing and Engraving and are being sent out very widely to friends in America and Great Britain and to institutions of learning all over the world. Thus do we emerge from the obscurity of a small unknown college

into the "fierce white light" that beats upon the great Universities of the world.

I will not dwell upon the charming weddings that graced our campus this spring for I am sure you have all had very full accounts of these events. Mr. and Mrs. Wu Wen Tsao left for the South and will return in the autumn to a brand new house now going up in the ~~Tung~~<sup>han</sup> Ta Ti. Mr. and Mrs. Y.P. Mei are already settled in the Hung's house and entertaining with much joy and pride at many little dinner parties. Mr. Barker has brought back a very delightful little bride from Japan and who will be a most welcome addition to our community.

The Landscape Committee has been much cheered by a most magnificent gift from Mrs. Marmon of \$10,000 gold for campus improvement. The work is at the moment necessarily at a standstill, for the planting of deciduous trees for this spring is finished, and the rains this year unseasonably late that the large numbers of evergreens that are so unseasonably have been purchased in the Temple of Heaven nurseries cannot be planted until there is more moisture in the air. Dr. Farr, the moving spirit on the committee, has departed for Peitaiho fairly overcome by the heat. We are hoping to do a lot of sodding when the rains do set in, and by the middle of August things will become very active again. Dr. Farr has worked very faithfully and successfully this spring on rockwork in the bunding of the lakes and ponds, and in natural effects outcropping from the hills. His real love of this work has made him a very valuable addition to the Committee.

Houses are springing up like mushrooms in the Sun Nan Ta Ti. The Library is acquiring a coat of paint, and the Auditorium in Bashford is at last being taken in hand by our Chinese adviser, Mr. Kuo and promises to be a very beautiful hall when finished. The Formal Opening looms ahead to spur on these improvements.

The President departed last Friday to attend the meeting of the China Foundation in Tientsin and will take in Shanghai on his return trip. As Phillip Fu accompanies him on this last venture it is rumored that plans are being set in motion for the securing of another dormitory.

Members of staff who have not gone off in search of rest and change and who are not teaching in our own Summer School are spreading our fame elsewhere. Dr. T.T. Law and Dr. T.S. Chao will both be away most of the Summer attending conferences of one kind or another. Miss Wood is teaching in a mission summer school, Dr. J.C. Li goes to Hangchow to some summer scientific institute, Dr. C.W. Luh to a Y.M.C.A. conference in Yutaoho, Shansi, etc.

Members of staff going on furlough have already departed, the Sailors and Ritters traveling via Pacific, Dr. Brown, Nancy Cochran and Augusta Wagner via Siberia. The Shermans left in May. The Learmonths have also gone home to England for the summer; Nancy Cochran will also return in September.

A little playlet written for the benefit of departing members of staff and acted at a garden party in the Lang Jun Yuan may amuse you and is included in this packet.

Please forgive this very hurried scrawl written this morning in a noisy office and with many interruptions. Wishing all of you who are coming back this summer a very pleasant trip and with very pleasurable anticipation of seeing you again,

As ever,

"The Editor".

McCoy  
file ✓  
Yenching University

December 12, 1929.

Dear "Absentees":

It is some time now since my last budget of news was sent you, and before the Christmas season is upon us I will try to send you some brief account of our doings during recent weeks. I was somewhat nervous as to the effect that last frightful avalanche of material would have upon you, but letters recently received crying out for more, encourage me to proceed.

I am most happy to announce to you that the Department of Journalism is contemplating the issuing of a little monthly publication which plans to give a resume of our happenings out here, and when this appears you will all be sent a copy, and there will be no further need for me to continue this somewhat uneven form of correspondence. However, the first copy is not yet out, probably because the department has had one member of staff in the P.U.M.C. with a light case of scarlet fever, and upon his return to the fold, the head of the department retired from the scene with Flu. By the beginning of the New Year we will hope the plan will be well under way.

The President left us towards the end of October to attend the Institute of Pacific Relations at Kyoto, and administrative affairs have been in the capable hands of our Chancellor's office and of Dr. Galt who vibrates between the President's office, the Treasurer's Office and the Department of Education, not to mention a thousand and one committees. For in spite of all attempts to the contrary, committee meetings seem longer and more frequent than ever. Many apparently are the problems that still assail us, and of course, there may be further trouble ahead with the political turnover which seems now imminent. Our Chinese

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colleagues seem somewhat fearful of what it may mean for us, with the left wing coming into power. It is certainly a novelty to be in Peping when a war is brewing, and not to feel that one is in the centre of the maelstrom. We are in a backwater now, and no longer is Peping alive with rumors as in the days of old. One very favorable result is the seeming lack of interest by our student body in the march of events in the south. They are far more interested in the prospects for a good ice-hockey team that has a chance of winning the championship of North China, and in the organization of dramatic societies, etc., than in the political situation. The fact that Tsing Hua is buckling down to work this year --their President seems a genius at making them study-- no doubt is having its effect on our group. Unless trouble comes from some unexpected quarter, there seems little prospect that the war will affect our small community, unless of course, the fighting comes north. One of our Deans has commented on the good spirit abroad among the students this year, their interest in their studies, and what is more important still, a very increased interest this year in religious affairs.

The Yenta Christian Fellowship. The Fellowship has been greatly encouraged by the very large group of new members admitted, 181, most of them students. News of the Fellowship doings has been fairly well featured in the pages of the weekly bulletin, so there is little to add. The foreign children's Sunday School is in a flourishing condition this year under the very able leadership of Mrs. Barbour. They have their little services in the Sage Hall Chapel, and very often invite their elderly friends to join them in their worship. The Sage Chapel is this year also used for the early morning communion service conducted by Dr. Faucett. The morning service is Chinese is as popular as ever. The afternoon service in English is this year chaplained by Dr. Lucius Porter, and as one might expect, it has not been dull. Dr. Porter himself has

preached several times, very fine sermons. One somewhat conservative member of staff remarked that he considered Mr. Porter as fine a preacher as Mr. Bentley, which from him was high praise! Mr. Porter has also for the first time introduced the full Episcopal service each month. This is taken by Dr. Faucett. The choir in charge of Mrs. E. O. Wilson has been trained to sing the responses in proper episcopal style and they do it superbly. Mr. Faucett's first sermon was quite a novel one. He explained that for the first time in his experience, other denominations had asked him to worship with them, using his own form of service. He seemed much touched by this. I have so often heard that episcopalians are exclusive that it was rather interesting to hear the matter put the other way round. Miss Wood has led services of worship, and Mr. Nash has given us a very interesting account of his Christian belief. Business meetings are held on occasions after the service, and the congregation are asked to vote on questions of procedure. The plans for our Christmas services have not been announced but I will send you an account of these later.

You will see by the weekly that two faculty discussion groups this year are in full swing. These occasionally have joint meetings, as well be the case this evening. There is a movement abroad among a certain group to protest against the government regulation for compulsory military training for students. The Fellowship of Reconciliation have been stirred by this and the discussion groups are meeting before possibly bringing the matter before an open faculty meeting.

The University Council. A member of the Council on being asked what the Council had been doing this autumn, humorously remarked that their sessions had been mostly taken up with long discussions on the new revisions in government regulations which appear with startling rapidity. After an afternoon's discussion it was usually decided not to do anything for the present.

Social and Visitors. Never has our campus in all its history been visited by sommany distinguished personages as during the past few months. Scarcely had we drawn breath after the formal opening celebrations than a perfect flood of visitors began to pour upon us. Two very large international conferences held in Japan recently, the Institute of Pacific Relations and the World Engineering Congress, have been largely responsible for this. The conferences were both held about the same time and large numbers of the delegates streamed over to China on their way homewards. Many came with letters of introduction to members of staff and were entertained privately. Others came in groups as University guests. There has been no lack of special lecturers! We have heard everyone's private impressions of the Kyoto Conference, what it accomplished, what it did not accomplish and what it should have accomplished. Our engineering friends seemed a little more reticent. Two ex-governors of Hawaii were entertained at lunch by the University, and were joyously received by our little Hololulu group (the wife of one, who is a member of the governing board of the University of Hawaii, wrote us afterwards a very charming letter saying that she and her husband had been so interested in Yenching that they wished to make us a little gift). The son of <sup>Ramsey</sup> ~~MacDonald~~ the Premier of Great Britian made heroic efforts to inspect us. He had been out in the Western Hills and his chauffeur took him all the way back to Peping before he could be persuaded to turn around and bring him out again to Yenching. After some delay at the gate --our gateman in his zeal to keep out the <sup>hoi polloi</sup> ~~keypley~~ invariably pickés upon our distinguished guests as being the most suspicious in appearance --he found himself at the President's House and having interviewed a guest who was unable to talk to the chauffeur in Chinese, nothing daunted, finally arrived

at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Barbour in the Tung Ta Ti. Mrs. Barbour who was bathing the baby descended to find the son of Ramsay <sup>MacArthur</sup> on the doorstep. His note accepting our invitation to visit us arrived next morning! Perhaps the visitors we enjoyed most were a group of some thirty odd members of the Engineering Congress, including wives and daughters. They were traveling in charge of the American Express and having spent all day and a very cold and windy one, inspecting the Summer Palace and the Western Hills arrived, cold, hungry and tired at teatime at the President's House, to be greeted with a royal welcome from the Social Committee. They delighted in the homemade cakes and sandwiches after hotel fare. They were tremendously keen on inspecting us and showed a most intelligent interest in all they saw. One elderly lady who was being escorted by a <sup>Mrs. Currie</sup> member of staff to see the Women's College said casually, "How much does it cost to put up one of these buildings? I think I should like to give one". The member of staff having no head for figures was quite unable to supply the data for this startling proposal. However, at the tea she was introduced to the treasurer and had a long talk with him, and according to his report, she was also interested in the cost of establishing a School of Engineering. Let us hope that this "bread upon the waters", will have its return. We heard most pleasant things about our own delegates to the conference. Dr. P.C. Hsu has been spoken of by many as having made a very favorable impression. Dr. Shuhsi Hsu's speeches on the Manchurian question have been referred to as very brilliant if somewhat provocative. Dr. P.C. Hsu has come back with the very interesting proposal that an exchange professorship should be established with the theological faculty of Doshisha University in Kyoto. Such a one has already been established between St. John's University in Shanghai and St. Paul's in Tokyo, financed by Japanese Boxer Indemnity funds.



Two large round-the-world tours are expected in January. We are now on the list apparently of the "sights of Peking". In fact the officers in Bashford are urging the General Faculty Executive to vote a small fund sufficient to keep a self-help student regularly available for escorting tourists around the campus, so much of our time has been taken up recently in this service.

Lecturers. You may gather from the preceding paragraphs that we have not lacked for special lecturers. Mr. Barbour, chairman of the University Lecture Committee little knew the arduous nature of his duties when he so lightly assumed them at the preessional conference. We have had Professor A.J. Toynbee of London University, Mr. Cummings of the Secretariat of the League of Nations, Dr. Boudreau of the Health Section of the League, Dr. S.K. Datta of Calcutta, Professor Park of Chicago University, etc. etc. We had a very interesting visit from Canon Streeter, the great English theologian on his way back from Kyoto. He spent four days at the University, held four open lectures on Science and Religion attended each time by about one hundred students and faculty, and many little discussion groups with members of staff. His lectures in Peking were very popular, about five hundred students attending each time. He looked the real Oxford don, tall and gaunt, with long white beard, and many mannerisms. His lectures are to be translated into Chinese and published in the "Truth and Life". It is hoped also that they may be available in English for many who heard him would like to read and ponder upon what he said.

Athletics. There is little need to commend on athletics, for there was a very fine report by Mr. Wee of his plans for this year in the weekly recently. The Men's Gymnasium is this year quite a social centre and is much used by the men students, ping-pong tables have been get up and hand-

ball courts, and students flock there in the afternoons and evenings. We still badly need a Student Union where they can assemble for other social purposes. The old Coop Store and its attendant group of buildings has disappeared forever from the scene. The Store is now located inside the Power House wall and is entered just inside the Chengfu gate. Mr. Wee has now designs upon the much fought over piece of ground occupied first by the Agricultural Department, and now being used by the Practice Schools of the Department of Education. A special committee has been sitting on the claims of the athletes to this section of our campus, and the matter now goes to the Council to give them something to do. To the consternation of the Women's College Mr. Wee advocates an athletic field to be used in common by both men and women! He is now working on the organization of a football team composed of both Tsing Hua and Yenching students to challenge Tientsin. Thus he hopes to bury the hatchet.

Miss McGowen, our new athletic instructor in the Women's College, is very enthusiastic about her work with the girls. In Sage Auditorium pending the completion of the Women's Gymnasium, on Monday and Friday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 Chinese co-eds may be seen learning the folk dances of other nations, and thus assisting cultural contacts so much talked about just now. When I asked a member of the Women's College just now what problems are being discussed this year in their faculty meetings she assured me the main problem up before them at present was that of mixed dancing, and such delicate matters as to whether the women students should be allowed to dance in the Men's gymnasium, etc. Feminine indeed are the Yenching co-eds, if one may judge from the story told by Miss McGowen recently. She had some difficulty in encouraging her pupils to do some very necessary, though uninteresting exercises for flat feet. But when the ladies in question were told that certain young foreign bachelors on the staff had commented on the fact that some Chinese girls

walk badly and have ugly feet, there has been no lack of zeal on the part of the said ladies to correct this defect. Dramatics

Dramatics. The "Je Nao" is going forward this year on its own momentum. There is no lack of enthusiasm. The Christmas program has now become a time-honored custom, and this year, as so much time was taken up with this matter in the regular meetings last autumn, the matter was put into the hands of Miss Boynton and Mrs. Shadick with power. On Friday next a little Christmas fantasy for children written by Miss Boynton, will be given in the afternoon, and on Saturday evening two plays, "Something to Talk about", which depicts an amusing scene with a burglar in an English country house on Christmas Eve, followed by some scenes from Sheridan will be given. I will try to send you a copy of Miss Boynton's play.

The students under the leadership of Victor C.Y. Chou have organized a Varsity English Dramatic Society, and after several meetings with faculty advisers (all members of the Je Nao) they have decided to prepare for a performance in the spring which will satisfy their long-cherished desire to appear on the stage in Peping. Tryouts for three plays which have been selected will be held in the Auditorium next Tuesday. A very fine performance was given some weeks ago by the Chinese Student Dramatic Society. Enthusiastic members of staff who were present declare that it equalled the performances of Mei-lan-fang. One dramatic episode, is related which was apparently not anticipated. The villain in one piece, fiercely painted and "beautiful with barmers", after much heroic and splendid gesture, seated himself on a chair with such a flourish that his elaborate headdress bounced from his head and rolled upon the floor.

Book Club. Those of you who faithfully read the pages of the weekly will have seen the noble efforts of Mrs. Maxwell Steart<sup>w</sup> this autumn to start a Book Club. This has received enthuseastic support.

of some twenty members. It is to be run something on the order of the one which has been in operation for a good many years in the P.U.M.C. The books will be selected by a committee from lists sent in by the members. Two book clubs of the month have been subscribed to, some fifteen books are being ordered for this year, and members are loaning from their private libraries until the club book shelves are well filled. As book reviews are most misleading, the said committee would much appreciate knowing of any new books which any of you might think appropriate for the use of the club. The books will be kept in shelves in the main Library. ~~Their~~ ultimate disposal is not yet decided, though a number of the members would like to see them turned into the general use of the Library after two years, as is the procedure I believe in the P.U.M.C.

The Riding Club. This club is also a new venture this year, and so far has been most successful, so much so that an order has had to be issued that "Daisy" a docile creature eagerly sought by the beginners, shall not go out more than once each, <sup>day</sup> so much is she in demand among our more timid members. There are four ponies in the club, and they are very comfortably housed by the permission of Prince Tsai Tao in some of the old buildings just outside the inner east gate of the Lang Jun Yuan. A fall of snow which has been coming down for the past few days and has covered our campus and the western hills, is giving the ponies a rest at the moment!

Landscaping. This activity is at a standstill ~~for~~ the present, but will begin active operations again in the spring. Mr. Parr is now holding the position of Executive Secretary with an office in Bashford. The little pine trees which were put out in such numbers last summer after the rains are now all carefully sheltered from the cold north winds behind rush screens which add quite a rustic note to our appearance.

Personnel. Mrs. Frame and Miss Mills are still away on their tour of inspection of schools in the south. They have completed their tour safely in spite of the war, and are now in Shanghai waiting for a boat which will bring them home in time for Christmas. Mr. Tsao I is away this month visiting our groups of alumni in adjacent parts of the country. He also expects to return for Christmas. Mr. Tsai (Stephen) went off to Shanghai last Saturday accompanying his father who has been spending some months with him at Yenching. He also hopefully expects to return for Christmas. Dr. T. T. Lew who was to go to Shanghai to represent the Chancellor at the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration of St. John's University, had to postpone his trip at the last moment. He was arranging to leave just about the time the railway line between here and Shanghai was broken, his only alternative being to catch a boat at Tsingtao. Railway facilities between Tsinan and Tsingtao were at that time too uncertain. You will all be interested to hear that Mr. P.C. Hsu has been chosen as one of the four scholars from China, Great Britain, Germany and the U.S.A. to spend a year in Geneva studying problems in preparation for the Y.M.C.A. conference to be held in Cleveland in the near future. Permission to release him for next year has been given. Mr. de Vargas has been invited to lecture in Harvard University next year under the Harvard-Yenching Foundation. This matter has not yet been finally settled pending a further cable from Harvard but as the de Vargas are due their sabbatical year beginning next summer, it is quite probable that they will spend part of it at Cambridge. We are hoping that Mr. and Mrs. Fetter of Princeton will spend next semester at Yenching. Mr. Fetter has been with the Kemmerer Commission in Shanghai and Nanking and would come as Visiting professor to the Department of Economics. You will all understand that many of these matters are more or less confidential at least at this writing. Mr. Groff of the Department of Journalism on his return from the P.U.M.C. joined Mr. Wee in the President's

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House. Mrs. Wee is still in the south. There seems little news from the Women's College. Miss Wood is this year living in one of the dormitories. Three new members are in the Dean's Residence, Miss Gertrude Wood, Miss Veghte and Miss McGowen. A new secretary is expected in two month's time for the Harvard-Yenching Institute, who has been acting as secretary-librarian to the Slavic Department of Harvard University. Her name is Miss Olga Jahr.

Grounds and Buildings. The new Women's College Residence situated in the south compound is now (one half) finished and is occupied by Misses Speer, Stahl, Mills and Chen I. The old de Tscharnier house, No. 9, beyond the Ritters has just been purchased by the University. The work on the Women's College Gymnasium is going forward rapidly, and it is expected that it can be used by next summer. The Men's Dormitory will be ready for occupation, so I am told, in the spring, and the Warner Gymnasium completed next fall. The Men's Athletic Field behind the gymnasium is now being cleared and should be in proper shape with its running track early next spring. The land immediately south of Dr. Galt's residence has been purchased and will be used for the future residence of Mr. and Mrs. Nash. Negotiations with President Hsu' for the purchase of the Tien Pei Yuan are at a deadlock. President Hsu's latest decision is that he has definitely decided not to sell. This is a disappointment to the School of Religion. The Luce Pavilion, one of the most picturesque of our smaller buildings is now in constant use by our students. It is used for group meetings in something the same way as the President's House, and can accommodate about fifty students. It was used for the first time two weeks ago for a retreat of two days held by the faculty of the School of Religion for their students and graduates now working near and in Peking. Some eight or nine of the latter attended and it was felt by all to have been a very great success.

Today I am sending you the speeches that were made on the Tuesday afternoon of our formal opening. Although they are somewhat belated, owing to the fact that the member of staff who made notes on them, lost his notes, for some time, yet I thought you would be interested in reading them, especially the Chinese speeches.

You will also find in the packet a little monthly publication which is to be issued by the Department of Sociology.

We are sending today to the New York Office the large group picture taken on the Tuesday afternoon of the formal opening with all the dignitaries assembled for the academic procession before entering Bashford. Any of you who are interested in seeing how we and our distinguished guests looked on that historic occasion, may see us in all our glory in the office.

Hoping that you have all had a very happy Christmas, and wishing you all a very happy New Year,

Yours,

"The Editor".

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Yenching University

January 13, 1930.

Dear "Absentees":

We all hope that you have had the very happiest Christmas possible. As I spent most of it in bed with Flu and know only from heresay of all the pleasant events that were going on, you are fortunate in having an abler pen than mine to tell you of our Christmas here on the campus.

"Yenching's Christmas weather came a little early. A fine fall of snow about a week before the 25th turned the campus into a white wonderland. Skating and riding had to be suspended, but there was a fine effect of green wreaths under snowy roofs, and the President's House was decorated within an inch of its life, and boasted the tallest Christmas tree on campus with real colored electric lights. Rumor hath it that the merry married man in residence there, prepared hanging mistletoe, but that the bashful bachelor, who is his house-mate, nervously negatived the idea. (The alliteration in this last sentence requests your applause) The Social Committee also tells us that on seventeen nights in December the President's house was used for entertainments of one kind or another. The snow was a little dusty by the time the festive season was really upon us, but then we were all so optimistic that its pristine purity was preserved in our own minds and we all said "Perfect Christmas weather". Probably the first of the Christmas events was the little play about the Doll's Dressmaker which the Je Nao presented on the Friday afternoon before Christmas to Yenching Children. Papas and mammas, and spinster and bachelor well wishers had all turned to but a helping hand to amuse our younger members, but the one who really made the fun of the afternoon possible was "Auntie Hildy" beloved

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of all little people in Yenching; she was chief coach and costumer, and contriver of ways out of all difficulties. The little play is included herewith and absentees can imagine the thrill Janet, a very appealing good child, Smith had in acting in the same play with her papa and the abandon with which H. C. Chang played the impatient Jack-in-the-Box, and the skill with which Lucius, painted a most ferocious blue, did a dance as Russian doll which would electrify the most energetic Muscovite. Parents and nurses were ~~study~~ sequestered in the back of the room, and a crowd of children occupied the front seats. Grace Smith told the story of the play in Chinese for those who didn't understand English, and from the attention and glee of the Chinese children, one would judge that they followed it all. The account would be incomplete without respectful admiration of Lary Mead junior in his office as collector of tickets.

The next evening the Je Nao entertained the grow-ups. Various dinner parties preceded the hour of the performance, and Sage Auditorium had a pleasant suggestion of family conviviality as the audience arrived. The program included scenes from "The school for Scandal" and delicious farce with a Christmas Burglar motif called "Something to talk about". Great credit for the acquisition of 18th century costumes and <sup>wigs</sup> ~~and~~ goes to Mrs. Harold Shadick who managed to <sup>beautify</sup> ~~switch~~ the very creditable array of the beaux and the single lady out of the bewildered but obedient cooperation of a Chinese tailor.

The next day, Sunday, brought the Christmas services. Both chapels were brave with Christmas greens, and Ninde Hall had a beautiful gold star hung against the blue curtain behind the altar. The morning service was crowded and was remarkable for its Christmas music. The afternoon, the children gave a beautiful pageant of the nativity in the time reverence and spirit of worship which belonged to the days when such representations

were common in church chancels.

Christmas Sunday night the whole community had a rare privilege in hearing ~~selat~~ions from "The Messiah" given by the chor~~us~~s. Miss Stahl at the piano and Mr. Barbour at the organ in the balcony of the auditorium recreated the beauty of the familiar themes. The soloists were Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Wiant, Mr. Shadick and Dr. Faucett, and the chorus gave a splendid account of its careful work. Dr. T. C. Chao read the parts which were not sung. The audience numbering hundreds of students listened with reverent appreciation, and as one looked about at their serious attention, one marvelled that this could be in China.

Monday and Tuesday, classes were taught as usual, but a holiday feeling was abroad and Tuesday evening at five, we went joyously to the Candle Service in Ninde chapel. The choir came in bearing lights which were set in order upon the altar, and candles stood at the sides of the chapel on window sills. This was the only light as we listened again to the Christmas story and heard again the Christmas hymns.

There was high glee all over campus that night- in dormitories and in faculty homes. At nine o'clock the Christmas carolling started, and bands of singers with violin and guitar went all over the compounds to sing to us. They got home, we hear, some where around two in the morning.

The community meeting on the Day itself was at morning service at half past ~~ten~~. Yenching certainly went to church with great assiduity during the Christmas season, and the attendance on Christmas Day morning was the largest of all. Benches over flowed, people squeaked into the gallery, faces beamed, students and teachers squeezed into congested places, and after worship the "Merry Christmas<sup>s</sup>" were fast and furious.

The Yen Ta Fellowship had its student entertainment on Monday night, and its good time for servants and workmen on the previous Sunday evening.

Neither program was exactly ideal, but each year seems to make progress in the direction of more fun and less confusion. A very able committee (composed of C.W. Parr, C.F. Chou and K.A. Wee) was at work on Faculty entertainment of students, and the parties were as numerous and as gay as ever. The teachers were encouraged in their offer of hospitality by the appreciation of their guests. This year no student was asked to a house where he was not personally known by his host. We were told that a student who had felt rather lonely and "out of it" last year, became a most enthusiastically loyal member of the University because he said, "Every single student was asked to a teacher's home at Christmas time." All Christmas Day Mr. Wee and a group of well-selected hosts and hostesses kept open house in the President's residence on the hill, and students streamed in and out as they chose. Kung Ch'angs and schools for the poor had their jollifications too, and no part of our group was without some experience of Christmas open-heartedness.

Everyone was thankful to the Government for permitting a two day holiday in honor of the Founders, which with us was the 25th and 26, and then for ordering a holiday in New Year week. New Year's Day saw us all gather in the President's house to make our bows to Chancellor Wu, and that night the Student Government Association celebrated with an entertainment which was enough to wear out Hercules and to wake the dead, but which afforded a proper conclusion to the holiday doings."

G.M.B.

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Chinese Dramatics at Christmas Time

"The University has seen many dramatic productions, from benefit performances by Mei Lan-fang, China's foremost female impersonator, to amateur attempts of Western style plays by faculty and student groups. But seldom has Bashford auditorium been filled to capacity as on the evening of December 30, when

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the University Chinese Classical Dramatic Club presented its second production within a month. If anyone should want definite evidence that acting is almost second nature with a Chinese, no better proof could be produced than to witness the performance presented that evening.

It was a revelation to find representatives from office and library staffs and from the different colleges, proudly strutting as emperors or great military heroes; or, yet again, demurely stepping into an imaginary room as a dutiful daughter-in-law. I said colleges, all except the Women's College, as the maidens who sang so perfectly in falsetto, were all men, following the ancient Chinese tradition that only men should take the women's roles. The illusion produced by make-up, costume, ( my, what slender waists!) and voice was so perfect that even one's own students could not be recognized.

Portions of four plays were produced: "The Fate of the General", "Summer Snow", "In the Wu Lung Yuan", and "The Wonderful Pearl". As is usual in a Chinese theatrical entertainment, the very best in point of play, song and actor, is reserved for the end. So, to cap this entertainment a complete play, with an all-star cast, was presented, entitled: "The Romance of the Happy Couple."

You, who are far away from us here, when you think of old Peking, often have a dream-picture of a Chinese romance. We are only sorry that you could not have been with us to get the thrill of this last play, which came as a glorious climax to the entertainment provided by the students to celebrate the New Year.

After admiring the sureness of the actors in their conventional gestures whether in a martial scene or a quiet one by a lotus pond; and moreover, delightfully pleased at the beauty, variety and appropriateness of the costumes; then finally sensing the enthusiasm of the students around you in ~~the~~ exquisite lyrical passages so correctly sung,--after all this I say-- you ask some questions as to the producer and number of rehearsals necessary

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for such a finished performance, you receive in answer that it was a well-known professional actor who coached, giving from four to around ten rehearsals for the different scenes, you are indeed astounded and are ready to agree with the statement in the introduction to the program, "that this performance should convince everybody of the younger generation's able fulfillment of its responsibility with others to preserve the ancient culture of China."

G.L.

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Christmas in the President's House

With a gayly lighted Christmas tree spreading its colors around the room and with streamers drooping lazily overhead, the President's House presented a colorful setting for entertainments of a Christmassy nature during the festive season just passed. The occupants of the house decorated the large sitting room and the dining room almost two weeks before Christmas, with gay, red and green streamers, radiating from the six lanterns and from the corners of the room to the center of the ceiling from which point a large bell was swung. Wreaths hung in the windows, and a huge tree that towered to the ceiling was placed near the north door of the large room. This bore the many colored lights presented by guests of the house last year, Dr. and Mrs. Corwin. During the evenings the tree was lighted and from the paths leading around the lake, as well as from the island, the multicolored lights could be seen spreading forth their spirit of Christmas.

The house proved a most popular place during the week preceding the 25th of December, and the ten days following, in so far as an advantageous place for giving entertainments and dinners was concerned. Hardly a day passed but that some group was not occupying the house. Among the entertainments given during the season of Christmas were: Football dinner given to the members of the football team by their coach, Mr. Huang Hsien-ju; a farewell

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dinner given in honor of Miss Hymens of Tsing Hua University by a small group of students, and sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. C.F. Chou; a breakfast given to the members of the advertising class in Journalism by their instructor; a Harvard-Yenching dinner; a dinner given to the Leather Tanning students; a dinner given by the Directors of the Student Welfare Division with C.F. Chou as host; a Christmas dinner given by the occupants of the house; and a Chinese feast given for the entertainment committee of the Yenching-Nankai get-together, during the latter's visit on the campus. Several teas were given, and the house was used to receive the members of the Nankai athletic teams before the banquet given in their honor in Sage Hall. Probably the largest group ever entertained in the President's House was on Christmas Eve when a few short of a hundred students gathered at the house to celebrate the occasion. Games were played in which the whole group was able to take part, after which refreshments were served. Before the group departed to break up into various units to tour the campus and compounds to sing Christmas carols, the entire body took part in a hunt for two presents which were left at the house by Santa Claus. The occupants of the house, Messrs. Samuel D. Groff and K.A. Wee were hosts, and the residents of the Deanery, Misses Adeline Veghte, Marguerite McGowen and Gertrude Wood acted as hostesses. "

"The Bashful Bachelor".

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CHRISTMAS FOR THE POOR

"The Christmas Entertainment given by the Social Service Department of Yenching Christian Fellowship, was held for both the servants of the University and the country people who live nearby or in the villages around Haitien, within two miles. The chief purpose of this entertainment was to share our happiness to those who do not know Jesus at Christmas time and to promote education. There were about 1500 people attending this entertainment

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although we had tickets to limit the coming. The programs were not very long, but were given by different groups of people. Two plays which signified the importance of education were given by the members of the Social Service Department, and songs were given by some women students. Especially interesting were the two Chinese operas given by the servants of the University. The entertainment lasted three hours. The country people were contented with it, and the servants enjoyed it especially, for they had taken a part in it."

A student contributor.

#### Christmas for the Sunday Schools

There <sup>are</sup> eight Sunday Schools of the Yenta Christian Fellowship which are scattered about in the three villages adjacent to the campus. Each Sunday morning the student teachers go out to these different <sup>Centres</sup> to carry their message. The children of the different Sunday Schools, seldom have a chance to meet together. It has become a tradition that every year during the Christmas season, the teachers plan a big party for all the Sunday School children to meet together to celebrate Christmas. This party has always been held at Yenching for this is the only place where a room can be found which is large enough to hold all these children, for the number is about four hundred altogether. The party this year was planned about a month before Christmas and it was held on December 25. The program committee and announced the events well in advance to the individual teachers, each Sunday School group had a part in the program. For some weeks in advance the children were busy learning two Christmas hymns and Bible verses which were sung and recited altogether during the part of the program which was a service of worship. The children carried home paper bags of fruit, cakes and candy and a small gift, the Fellowship supplying the money for these. The children enjoyed themselves very much and after it was all over they had a picture taken.

A student contributor

In order that you may be assured that we are not given over entirely to frivolity, you will find in this budget of news a collection of Council Minutes, together with the Regulations of the Ministry of Education. You will see from the Council Minutes that this English translation is not an official document, the translating work having been done in our own Registrar's Office for the convenience of those of us who do not read Chinese.

I mentioned in my last letter some agitation in faculty circles over the regulation which calls for compulsory military education training. A number of meetings were held by the faculty and the matter was discussed at the compound suppers. You will see from the Council Minutes the final action that was taken there. Some of our Chinese colleagues wisely pointed out that a protest from a foreign Christian university might do more harm than good, and one mentioned that not so long ago, during the latter years of the Great War, he had searched the city of New York in vain to find a pulpit that denounced war. Perhaps as we are so newly registered under the government it is a little early to begin an agitation of this kind.

You will be sorry to hear of the serious illness of two of our members of staff. Dr. Ch'en Tsai Hsin has been threatened with lung trouble which he thinks he contracted during his stay in London last year, when the weather was unusually severe, and has been ordered by the doctors to take possible a year's complete rest. Mr. Bergein Stelle, the new member this year of our Department of European Languages, has been in the P.U.M.C. for nearly two months running a temperature the cause for which was a mystery to all concerned. The verdict yesterday was that a streptococcus germ had been discovered, and that even if he pulls through, it will be a long time before he will be fit for work again.

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Happening to meet the acting head of the Agricultural Experiment Station on campus two days ago, I asked him how things were going in his part of the world. He tells me that the whole staff is very busy just now conducting the three weeks course for farmers, which is apparently proving a great success. Twenty-four candidates were received, the only entrance requirements being that they should be able to read and write. They have come in from the surrounding villages, each one paying the large sum of \$3.00 for the entire course, including their board and lodging, which is furnished in the Yen Nung Yuan. They are apparently very keen students and are entering with great enthusiasm into the sixteen courses that are offered. The group included one veteran of fifty-six.

The Yenchinian committee is very active this week, and a photographer in Sage Hall is being kept busy taking individual portraits, and groups of all varieties, for the issue of 1929-30. The Yenchinian for 1928-29 appeared some weeks ago and we hope that all of you who duly subscribed have received your copies!

The new sub-committee of the Social Committee which this year is to arrange entertainments in the President's House for purposes of conviviality and good fellowship among the faculty (not teas) announced this morning that the first party will be held a week from Saturday. We hear rumors of bridge, but although there have been a few hints from some of our younger members of staff for dances, the social committee has ordained that not during the absence of the master of the house can these be initiated.

The faculty are rejoicing over "last classes" being held today. On Monday, examinations begin, and then comes vacation. The weather has been so extraordinarily cold that we have not yet heard of any trips to the hills. It is hard enough to keep warm at home. Great drifts of snow have been lying in the hollows of the Western Hills unmelted for over a

month.

The Athletic Department has this year been carrying on nobly with a very inadequate budget. It has become almost an object of charity, and although it has our deepest sympathy in its distress, it is almost impossible to find money to relieve the situation. If any of you have athletically-minded friends who have money to give away, there is no place here where it could be better spent at the moment.

Those of you who are members of the "Je Nao" will be interested to know that our order of plays has arrived from New York, and that among the some fifteen or twenty there are very few "duds". This was rather good guessing, for ordering from a catalogue is mere speculation. The committee in charge of the spring performance has now something to work on. I am sorry you could not have been with us last night at 11 Lang Jun Yuan, when Bernard Shaw's "Catherine the Great" was produced in full costume and in a wonderfully spirited manner. The cast included Mr. and Mrs. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Shadick and Mr. and Mrs. Mead.

I should like to add that the children's play written for Christmas at Yenching is from the pen of Miss Boynton. I see that she has modestly omitted her name.

With all good wishes, and do let us hear from you some time, so that we may all know what you are doing with yourselves this winter,

"The Editor".

P. S. You are asked to excuse the very poor typing of this letter. The Chinese copyist has evidently found some difficulty in deciphering faculty handwriting.

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*File used in Feb. 1931  
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Peking News*

*Mr. H. H. ...  
Please return  
L. M. ...*

Yenching University  
April 1, 1930.

RETURN TO  
YENCHING UNIVERSITY  
150 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

Dear Absentees:

I am reminded on looking at my calendar that it is some little time since you have had a budget of news. Alas! the Journalism Department has not yet felt itself able to take over the pleasant task of "spreading the news", so once again you will hear from me. You will, however, find in the packet some bits of students news sent down by Mr. Hin Wong's class in Journalism, which have been specially written for your consumption.

The year has been progressing smoothly as far as one can judge. During the winter vacation there was some slight agitation in administrative circles due to a sudden interest evinced by the government in possible political agitators in our midst, which showed itself in the arrival of officers of the law at our gates who desired to interview certain students. However, the said students having "gone to town for the weekend", the gesture ended at that and our fears died away.

The Chancellor's Office reports that regulations and changes initiated by the government are being slowly and carefully introduced, and that since the New Year there is little to report in the way of radical change. The burning question of compulsory military drill has been shelved for the year, but it is expected that it will have to be put into active operation with the opening of the fall semester.

The enclosed minutes of the University Council meetings will inform you as to what that body has been concerning itself with.

The General Faculty Executive sits long and faithfully dealing with the hundred and one matters, big and small, that come up with unfailing regularity. The minutes, by action of the committee, are now open for all members of the faculty to peruse, but as one might expect, very few find the time to sit down quietly in the President's Office and read the weekly rulings of the powers that be; possible, because the President's Office

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is hardly the spot one would choose for quiet reading!

Sociology news you will find fully written up in two issues of the little booklet which is now being regularly issued by the Department. You will also find a circular letter from the College of Applied Social Sciences.

Our Cheelbo Students who arrived to spend this second semester with us after the closing of the Arts College during the strike, mention of which you have had in my last letter, have been squeezed in wherever there was a vacant spot in the dormitories, and in a small house rented in Chengfu from which they hie to and from the refectories, and class rooms. There are thirty-five men, all good students we hear.

Student Welfare Committee. One member of staff was overheard to say recently, that in his opinion the reason for the absence of "student troubles" this year, has been due to the splendid work of the Student Welfare Committee. The committee which in the past has come in for a good deal of criticism, is this year receiving some well-merited praise. Acting on the principle that students when not engaged in their academic duties, must have an outlet for their superfluous energy, and that if this is not wisely guided in the right direction, it will show itself in agitations and criticisms of an unpleasant nature, the committee has been most actively endeavoring to find and encourage hobbies and various outlets for the energy of those students who are not athletically minded. At the beginning of the academic year an interview was held with the editorial staff of the Student Weekly, and the staff was urged to do its very best to discourage would-be agitators from printing abusive criticisms of the university administration and staff. If such articles were sent in for publication, it was suggested that an interview with the writer and an encouragement to lodge the complaint directly with the office or with the Dean of the College concerned, might have much better results than the old method of using the Yenching Weekly as a means of airing private grievances. The results this year have well justified this advice, for the paper has been freer than ever before from

such write-ups. With an even more constructive purpose in view, the committee has definitely set about encouraging hobbies in the off hours. Just before the mid-year examinations, through the good offices of the Welfare Committee, a very fine exhibition of Chinese modern paintings and script was held in the President's House. Mr. Chi Ju Shan (now with Mr. Mei Lan-fang in America) was largely instrumental in bringing out three experts in the fields of landscape, animal and flower painting, Messrs. Hu Pei-heng, Wang Meng-po and Lin Yen-chih. About one thousand persons from Yenching and Tsing Hua visited the exhibit, listened to lectures and watched the artists themselves demonstrating their methods of painting and writing from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. The students were greatly interested and are looking forward to a second exhibition, this time of old masters, which is being arranged for shortly. The committee has been much encouraged by Dr. Galt's endorsement from the scientific standpoint, the encouragement of such hobbies being apparently the latest method practised in American institutions as a solution for student "troubles". The committee has sponsored the organization of student trips in the University truck to the Western Hills on Saturday afternoons. These have been most successful and popular with the students, and the truck has been filled to overflowing each time, the return fare being thirty cents (even at this low rate the truck has paid for itself and for the road taxes!) The last trip was held on the day of the Men's Athletic meet, and was mostly composed of ladies. They thoroughly enjoyed their climb up the old stone road back of Pien Ssu, frisked over the highest ridges and came running down the steep paths in the Hunting Park in time to spend half an hour drinking tea before the truck left for home. The students are beginning to organize their own outings, and various organizations and students clubs have commandeered the truck for all day excursions, the reservations being made through the Welfare Committee. Photography is being encouraged both as a hobby and as

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a means of self-help; also, music, both Chinese and foreign; also Chinese drama. The latter activity became so popular with a certain group of students that when during the recent famine drive, after staging one very successful performance out here the troupe prepared to repeat it in town, the Dean of the College of Natural Sciences was reported to have firmly requested that the students cease their dramatic activities for the time being. The said Dean admitted that one of the leading actors was one of his own students, and that he was so beset by admiring fellow-students to appear in town, that he (the Dean) was seriously contemplating hiding him away in his own house so that his laboratory periods might not suffer. We are happy to report that when the hint ~~was~~ given, it was taken without protest; and when we remember how keen is the urge to appear ~~in~~ town among our student actors, this is surely a very pleasant reminder that our students are not always "bolshy" when not allowed to do what they want. The Public Performance Committee is now functioning under the wing of the Student Welfare Committee. Miss Boring, it may be recorded, who has always had much at heart the interests of the former committee, is unstinted in her praise of the present arrangement, and in the splendid assistance that Mr. Chou Ching-fu is giving to Mr. Ma in these difficult contacts with students.

Merging of Student Self Government Association. You will see from the news items from the Journalism Department that the long-discussed union is about to become a fact. In fact, the matter has already been approved in principle by majority vote, it being understood that there will be equal representation on committees; and, the constitution and other details of organization are now being thrashed out.

When I asked a member of the Women's College faculty what was their feeling on the matter, she replied, "Why not accept gracefully what you cannot prevent happening?"

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Self-Help. About 90% of the 150 men and women students who applied at the office this year have been given work, some temporary, some permanent. Scholarships are as yet far too few. You may be interested to hear that during the year 1929 a sum of \$1,520.00 was loaned to students studying at the University. The students to whom such loans have been made during their stay with us, are paying back their loans steadily. During the same year \$1,068.11 was paid back to the office from students to whom this money was loaned during their period of study at Yenching. The Peppermint Farm received a very generous donation of \$500 from Mrs. Blair who visited us at the time of the Formal Opening. Twenty-five students worked steadily on the farm during the autumn season, and the spring work will soon begin. Mex. \$450 was procured from the distilled oil, 60% of this money coming to the Self-Help Bureau. About 17 additional mou of land has been rented this year in order to enlarge the farm. The Student Service Bureau has also with the approval of the G.F.E. taken over the guiding of tourists around the campus. We have had frequent visits from school groups and always have a number of visitors when round-the-world tours are in town.

The Passing Tourist. We are looking forward to a visit shortly from a very enterprising group of students from Pomona College. We have received frequent and lengthy letters of the intended visit, which indicate that they are taking this trip to the Orient much more seriously than the usual light-hearted college graduate who drifts in and out of Peking on a tour of the East. The intention of the group is apparently to stay in the dormitories, but I have not yet heard how the Welfare Committee is meeting this desire on their part. They arrive on May 1st, with the intention of making Peking this "centre of their study" of North China. Only yesterday a letter to the President was received from a lady writing from Berkeley, California, who is apparently organizing a tour of the East in connection with the Raymond and Whitcomb Travel Bureau, asking if "you or your faculty

or students can do something for the entertainment of my party". A letter from President Campbell of the University of California endorsed the proposed trip. It begins to look as if we no longer needed to devise ways and means of luring the passing traveler (and possible donor!) to our gates. The ladies in charge of the handkerchief kung-chang open a little stall in the Peking Hotel each time a tour comes to town, and have usually sold from four or five hundred dollars worth of handkerchiefs. The little pamphlets I enclose are distributed.

Cooperation with Middle Schools. As a result of the discussion at the pressional conference on the subject of our responsibility to the middle schools from which we draw our students, a committee has been working most actively along this line. Mrs. Frame and Miss Mills made a trip south before Xmas, and Mr. Y.P. Mei is starting off on his travels with this end in view in a few days time. A few weeks ago the University held a conference with principals and headmasters of senior middle schools in North China. Forty representatives of these schools were present including teachers from Taku, Tientsin and Changli.

Famine Relief Drive. You have seen no doubt references in the Weekly Bulletin to the drive for famine relief which was recently held. The faculty were solicited for funds and contributed \$1053.00. The Women's College sent in \$134.16 and the Men's College \$86.10. The students, apparently feeling that their showing was somewhat small, decided to make a further effort, and with the assistance of the Welfare Committee, undertook to raise a considerable sum of money through two Dramatic Performances. The first performance which was held in Bashford brought in \$800. This was a most amazingly good performance, the most amazing part of it being the acting done by our own students. Their knowledge of the technique of the stage, the freshness and vigor of their interpretation, made their acting, to me at least, much more interesting than the more polished but



somewhat hackneyed acting of the professionals they had brought from town to assist them. Flushed with this success they prepared to appear in town, but as I have already mentioned this further effort on their part was not encouraged, either by the Welfare Committee or their teachers. Nothing daunted, they set to work to make the performance in town a complete success, and they certainly succeeded. They not only procured the voluntary services of some very famous amateurs, among them the son of Yuan Shih Kai and Prince Pu Tung, but they sold every ticket in the house. The Kai Ming theatre was crowded to the doors, people stood in the aisles, and Mrs. Hsiung Hsi-ling was reported to have said that the boxes could have sold for \$100 instead of the modest \$8 that was asked for them. The visiting actors generously refused to be "feasted" before the performance according to Chinese custom, or to have railway fares paid for them, asking that all proceeds go to famine relief. This performance cleared \$1037.52 and the drive ended with a grand total of \$3110.98 clear profit to be turned over to the famine committee. Please note that the faculty were not urged to buy tickets for the second performance as it was considered that they had already done their bit, and the students worked hard selling the tickets to their friends in town. About the time of the drive Mr. Grover Clark who had just returned from an inspection of the famine area lectured at the University. It is by far the most terrible famine that China has suffered for many years, the famine of 1920-21 having been as nothing in comparison with this. If any of you have a chance to hear him speak, or to read what he has to say, I advise you to do so. He spoke most highly of the splendid cooperation of the present government, in the work of famine relief, and mentioned that whereas in 1920 about 85% of the funds came from abroad, now about 85% are raised in China. He said too that there had not been one single case of bandits stealing either money or grain intended for famine purpose.

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Lectures. Mr. Barbour is certainly to be congratulated on the type of lecturer he has brought to the University this year. The lectures halls have been filled to overflowing; in some cases many turned away from the doors. He has not used the auditorium for these lectures, and it is quite evident that we badly in need of a hall in size somewhere between the auditorium and the McBrier Lecture room for popular lectures of this kind. When Mr. Pei, the discoverer of the "Peking Man", or "woman<sup>a</sup>" as she is believed to be now, came out to lecture to us, people stood outside in the flowerbeds, and Mother Lew was seen standing upon a chair peering in through the window. The bulletin has I think given you the names of most of the lecturers.

Memorial to Dr. Sun Yat Sen. Some weeks ago we honored the memory of this great leader. The Sunday morning and evening services of that week were memorial services following the order of the service conducted by Dr. T.T. Lew and Dr. Y.Y. Tsu on the occasion of Dr. Sun's funeral. On the day itself, Wednesday, a very large number attended the assembly in the morning. We also held a memorial service for our student who was killed in the political riots in Peking. The monument which used to stand on the side of the road leading to the President's House has now been moved to a little hollow in the hill below the Women's College Administration Building and just south of the Library. Dr. T.T. Lew allowed me to send you the order of service for the Memorial Service for Dr. Sun Yat Sen. I may say that not only did he preach at the evening service in Yenching but in the P.U.M.C. in the morning.

Musical. Though somewhat out of date, I am enclosing the program of the student recital held in the Auditorium in January. It was certainly a delightful evening and we no longer need to go from a sense of duty, but to really enjoy an evening of good music. Those of you who left in the early summer will notice great changes in the Auditorium; new chairs; false

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ceiling, false walls which now conceal the hideous piping which used to adorn the walls at the side of the stage; shining black pillars, and gaily colored ceiling beams; and our latest addition, our new velvet stage curtains ordered from America which noiselessly glide back and forth, as Mr. Jimmy Chuan poetically states "like a court lady sweeping in with a train". We no longer feel as if we were sitting in a great draughty barn. The stage looked very dignified on the occasion of the recital, the performers, mostly girls, emerging from the folds of the green curtains in their gorgeously colored silk gowns. Would that the masculine element at Yenching would on occasion of this kind return to its own dignified garments. The chairman of the Department of Music sets a good example in this, and seems to enjoy donning his Chinese clothes when he appears upon the stage.

Landscape. Landscaping has been going forward with great strides during the last few weeks. The committee sits regularly every Friday morning now, and there is no lack of business to attend to; listening to the plans mapped out by the Executive Secretary, Mr. Parr; pouring over lists of trees, shrubs, etc., making plans for the proper watering of the lawns, etc. Mr. Parr is working most energetically with a double supply of workmen during these busy months. Trees are being supplied free from the nurseries for the open spaces in the residence compounds, to encourage the landscaping of some of these waste places. Mr. Parr is just at present working on the hills in the vicinity of Bashford, and we have hopes that our hills will soon begin to take on the appearance of the lovely old hills in the Lang Jun Yuan, and in another hundred years or so that they will be just as beautiful.

Athletics. It would be very hard indeed in a letter to give you any idea of the many activities in this field now that Mr. Wee is back with us. Perhaps one of the most thrilling and unexpected of our successes this winter was in the field of ice hockey. Not only have we risen to compete with the very best teams in North China, but the Yenching team brought

home in triumph from Tientsin the cup of the Junior League. Several of our players played for the Peking Interport team which very nearly won the Wharton Cup. Bi Lao Yeh was heard to remark on his return from one of the matches in town, "Why I don't have to defend Yenching any more at the Peking Club, everyone thinks it is a wonderful place now that we have such a good ice hockey team". Thus are we borne to fame on the wings of ice hockey! Our most outstanding players were Gordon Meiklejohn (who played for the University of Wisconsin team) who was by far the best ice hockey player in North China this winter, the brothers Verevkin who ran him a close second, and the two sons of the Chinese Consul in New York, Eddy and Art Young. The spring season is opening with a vengeance. Last Saturday afternoon an athletic meet was held on our new field which has just been put in shape, and many and varied were the contests that took place there. Baseball seems the popular sport of the moment.

The Je Nao. has had one of its best seasons and last Saturday for the first time in the history of Yenching produced light opera (or sections of it), with two quartettes in "The Gondoliers", It was a great evening and delightful to hear Mrs. Wilson again in Gilbert and Sullivan, also Mr. Bevan, who never fails to provide the comic element. The singing was really lovely. I hope this is only the first of more productions of this kind. At a previous meeting a most delicious rendering of Stephen Leacock's "Mr. Q" was given with Stephen Tsai and Mr. Sam Groff, two of our new and most promising young actors in the leading roles. We did not imagine that it was possible for Mr. Tsai to assume a countenance of such babe-like innocence. Both these young people are to appear in our spring plays.

Following our time-honored custom the spring brings with it a budding desire to appear on the public stage, and incidentally to replenish our treasury. Members of the Je Nao who read this page will I am sure be interested to hear what wild ideas are circulating in the minds of the

small committee in charge of the matter. While strolling home to the Lang Jun Yuan one afternoon to the first meeting of the above committee, a new member who has been bursting with enthusiasm all through the year, suddenly said: "I have a brilliant idea. Why shouldn't we give our spring plays in the old garden which has a real Chinese private theatre. I was walking in it yesterday, the one opposite our front gate". The idea was no sooner presented to the committee as it sat drinking tea, than everyone began to think it was a brilliant idea too. We flew to house 11 for our precious store of plays which we have just secured from America to decide what were most suitable for such a setting and it was not long before someone shouted, "Scenes from Marco Polo". The said play had been read during the winter by L.C.P. and it was a study to watch the faces of our Chinese members of staff especially during the scene when the boastful Marco returns to unfold his great accomplishments to the Great Khan. We decided that that one must be given, and a perfect Marco is with us this year in the person of Mr. Sam Groff, tall and debonnair, and with a certain air of assurance. Mr. Jimmy Chuan is to be the Great Khan. Wan Ying is toying with the idea of playing the princess, and Mr. Chou Ching-fu, has accepted the part of the philosopher, having a very charming way of doing most cheerfully anything that he is asked to do. Dr. Parr is to put on a little Irish out-of-door play, and has promised to train his troupe of actors in the "brogue". Whether we will have a third play or not is not yet decided.

Personnel. I think I mentioned in my last letter the illness of two members of staff. You will have heard by this time of the death of Bergen Stelle. The death of one so young and full of promise is always doubly sad, but in thinking of him one is reminded always of the splendid courage with which he faced the certainty of death for so many weeks before the end came; and the many members of our community who went in to the funeral

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which was held in town will not forget the look upon the faces of his father and mother as they followed his coffin after the service, a look that brought to mind the words of the Psalmist, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me".

You will be glad to hear the Dr. Ch'en Tsai Hsin seems to be well on the road to complete recovery. He is allowed to do some teaching in his own courtyard, and says himself that he feels quite well again.

New Cars. You may be interested to know that we have three new cars on the campus now, Dr. Galt, Mr. W. W. Davis, and Mr. Holm being the proud possessors of new Ford Sedans.

With all good wishes, and hoping to hear from some of you soon of your doings abroad.

As ever,

"The Scribe"

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Yenching University  
June 25, 1930.

Dear "Absentees":

Documents of various kinds have been accumulating for your perusal during the past few weeks, and now that the rush of term is over, the graduates safely hooded and degreed and a joyous group of faculty off to Peitaiho this morning on a special train, I will try to send you the news of the months of May and June.

Election of Deans. Perhaps the most important event which took place shortly before Commencement was the election of the Deans for the next two years. There was a considerable amount of interest and speculation in faculty circles as to who the lucky or unlucky candidates might be, depending entirely upon one's personal evaluation of this honour. There was little question about the deanship in the School of Religion. Dr. T.C. Chao patiently shouldered the burden again to the satisfaction of all members of the school. There was some question about the procedure to be followed in electing or re-electing the Deans of the three undergraduate colleges. According to our own constitution "the university shall elect a dean of each college", but according to recent regulations from the Ministry of Education the chancellor has the sole right to appoint. He gracefully waived this right which necessitated calling meetings of the three colleges concerned. Dr. Shuhsi Hsü was re-elected Dean of the College of Applied Social Sciences with Dr. Leonard Hsü running him a close second. Dr. Stanley <sup>was in</sup> was also re-elected Dean of his college but as he leaves at the close of this academic year on furlough, it was necessary to find someone to act for him during his absence. A very happy choice was made in Miss Alice Boring whose enthusiasm and administrative ability are well known to us all. She is approaching this difficult job with some

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trepidation in view of their enlarged budget and the supposition that money is the root of much evil, and says that "if we are all good friends in the College of Natural Sciences at the end of the year, then I will indeed feel that I have not been a complete failure". The Department of Psychology being now enclosed within the fold of the College of Natural Sciences, Dr. C.W. Luh was no longer eligible for re-election, and a new dean had to be found for the College of Arts and Letters. Mr. William Hung was elected by a large majority, the news cabled to him in America and his reply was anxiously waited for. When it came it was a very definite refusal, and a second meeting was called at which Dr. I.T. Hwang and Dr. Henry Chou received the highest number of votes. A majority vote was then called for and Dr. Chou was elected. He rose from his seat and vigorously protested that he could not accept the deanship, but owing to considerable pressure brought to bear upon him his protestations have been waxing feebler and we hear this morning from the Chancellor's office that he has at last consented to assume office.

Commencement. The graduating exercises went off very delightfully this year (see exhibits A ~~and B~~ ~~C and D~~). Perhaps the two outstanding features this year were the wonderfully cool weather we have been having which added greatly to the enjoyment of the occasion, and the smoothness and despatch with which the events were run off. The Board of Managers met on the Saturday preceding. There was a good attendance, and the business of the day consisted of the circulation of a monumental amount of mimeographed material which the Board hastily recommended should be "taken as circulated"; (This consisted of reports from Chancellor, deans, treasurer, committees, etc. etc. (see exhibit B) the passing of the names of the candidates for B.D. and the M.A. and M.S. degrees; the approval of slight amendments to the constitutions of both the university and Women's College constitutions (necessitated by recent orders from



Nanking); the approval of an insurance, endowment and annuity plan for staff members; and finally, the re-election of all the old officers and committee members for 1930-31, with two new members, Dr. S.T. Wang of the P.U.M.C. and Mrs. C.C. Lin, to take the place of the two members whose terms of office expire this summer. Mr. John Hayes was elected the new chairman of the Grounds and Buildings committee. He should add a lively element to that serious-minded group. We hear that his occupation of the chair at a meeting which was held shortly after was most successful, business being carried through <sup>wrk</sup> much speed. As ability to speed up a meeting is surely the most admirable virtue a chairman in Yenching could possess, we need have no fear for our grounds and buildings, even though Mr. Hayes, when this honor was thrust upon him protested that he had never taken a course of architecture in his life. The business of the afternoon over, the members of the Board now sadly in need of refreshment, adjourned to the dining room of the President's House where they mingled amiably with the graduating students who were being entertained at a farewell reception by the chancellor and deans.

In the evening, the Phi Tau Phi Society met at the Dean's Residence and several members of staff and some thirteen of the members of the class of 1930 were admitted to the fold.

Sunday morning was a lovely, cool day, and the Auditorium looked most impressive with the Ninde Chapel chancel furniture on the platform and the new velvet stage curtains hanging in place for the first time. The attendance though not large was sufficient to sprinkle the large hall adequately. Fans waved gently on the platform and below as the chancellor delivered his farewell message to the graduates who in brave array, flanked by such members of staff who had not already left on furlough or for Peitaiho, adorned the front seats. We hear that one conscientious Dean who had every intention of presenting himself on the platform at Baccalaureate, was

prevented from so doing by the Business Office which, strictly obeying instructions, refused to give him a gown because he had failed to sign up for one in advance. The feelings of a humble instructor who had suffered the same disappointment were much relieved when she heard that the Dean had been similarly treated (They all shall equal be, professor, chairman, coolie, dean, instructor, fellow, cook or bean, etc." see exhibit E "The Wandoliers")

On Monday morning ~~the University~~ the University Council met at the President's House and passed on the aspiring candidates. Only one, a third year premed. Chu Kwei-ching, could not "make the grade", so was not able to secure his B.S. degree this year. On Monday afternoon a rehearsal was held as usual in the Auditorium in preparation for the graduating exercises the following morning. Although we were not present we heard that "there were wigs on the green", there being apparently some difference of opinion in the minds of the marshals and others as to the mode of procedure. In fact, one Dean informed me in a whisper the next morning that it was really quite like the comic opera which had been presented in the Dean's Residence the week before (see again Exhibit E "The Wandoliers"). No doubt, if the firm and experienced hand of Lucius had been at the helm, all would have proceeded on that afternoon without a hitch! However, the next morning not a ripple marred the solemnity and dignity of the occasion, and all who were present remarked that it was one of the best Commencements we had ever had. The American Marine Band played the usual inspiring quickstep to which the procession came marching in, the graduates smiling and bowing to their mothers and fathers, little brothers and sisters, and friends who filled the hall and gazed proudly upon them. The Board of Education was represented by a very tall and dignified gentleman who marched in with the chancellor and who made the usual complimentary speech. Neither the chancellor nor Mr. Chen Yuan wore the foreign academic gown. Are we alone in longing for the day when Yenching may see its graduates adorned in gowns which bear the stamp of an academic tradition which was old when Europe first began to

honour her scholars. If I were a Chinese student and a graduate of a Chinese institution I should prefer to wear a Chinese gown when I walked in academic processions abroad. But then I'm not. Our new acting dean Boring was in her place on the platform and read the names of the candidates her college was presenting for degrees.

Exit for the Summer. The day after Commencement busses were working over time carrying students and all their effects to Peping. A special train left for Peitaiho in the morning loaded with mothers and children and a few fathers for escort as the staff began to break up for the summer. This year quite a number of our Chinese families have gone to the sea; the J.C. Lis to occupy the old Gibb house with the Holms, the Shuhsi Hsus who have bought the Burgess house, the Stephen Tssis, the Henry Chous, etc.

There was quite an exodus of members of staff before Commencement this year. A special train via Siberia was made up in Tientsin by Mr. Evans to leave about June 13, and quite a number of our community took advantage of this opportunity to have their tickets bought for them, and their affairs generally managed. Alas! for those who put their trust in Mr. Evans. He convinced that exchange was going down put off buying the tickets of the party until it had risen to the tune of several extra hundred dollars per ticket. Mr. Evans name was not popular among those who traveled on that train. Brief notes have been received from Mukden and points farther north that all goes well so far. Although it was a rainy night when they left there was a great send-off from the Peping station, the university truck and all the available cars on the campus bearing in the friends of the departing ones. Miss Gouldy was in the party, Ruth Stahl, Mr. Hsu Pao-chien and several students who are planning to study abroad; Mr. and Mrs. de Escharner with their new baby; Mr. Shadiok arriving five minutes after the train was scheduled to leave (fortunately it was late in starting) much to the consternation of the Beddow family whose two children had been entrusted to

his care; and finally, the entire Parr family with an unbelievable amount of hand luggage and food, who shepherded to the station by several determined friends actually arrived before the train had left. An account of the preparations of the Farris for their departure to spend the summer in Ireland would fill a volume; in defense of Harold we should report that he was helplessly left to pack himself up, Nellie having departed some weeks before via Canada, it not being considered safe for her to run the risk of traveling through Russia. Grace Boynton followed the party a few days later to spend the summer with her father in England, and George Loehr left in solitary state the day after. George will join the European Languages Department on his return.

We are this year much to our regret losing some members of staff who have become very popular with both faculty and students during their stay with us; Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Stewart from the Department of Sociology (they are spending part of next year in Russia and will return to California for further study), the Chou Ching-fus from the Loan, Scholarship and Self-help office (Mr. Chou is leaving us to take up agricultural research work with the Kailan Mining Administration, and though they have only been here one year, they have won for themselves a very warm place in the heart of Yenching) The Women's College is losing a number of its members (none by marriage this year) Dr. Sui Wang and Miss Helen Pei from the Department of Education, Miss Huang from the Department of Geography and Geology, Miss Newell from Sociology. There were some anxious weeks when we heard that the Meis had resigned to join the University of Amoy, but fortunately for us they have been prevailed upon to stay with Yenching. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor will be away in Shanghai next year, and Miss Spear and Miss Cheney have departed to America on furlough. Mr. Porter has gone to California for the summer, and Mr. Barbour to Edinburgh on receiving very sudden news of the illness of his mother. Word has come since he left that she is better. This has nothing to do with exits, but it occurs to me that you may be interested to know that the

morning paper announced the birth of a son to the Baron and Baroness von Stael Holstein of the Harvard-Yenching Institute.

We hear that next year our ranks will be increased by two young graduates from Princeton, and the Women's College is also expecting some youthful new members.

Grounds and Buildings. About a month ago when a substantial sum of money was cabled out from New York for new residences and improvements to old ones, building operations began on the campus in a very lively manner. You will find three new two story houses in the East Compound, and two new houses in the South Compound, one of these being the Nash's new house. So far, no other assignments have been made for the new houses. Several Chinese houses have also been bought or leased in Chengfu and Haitien. The Tai-tais who read this epistle may be interested in some changes of residence on the campus next year. The President's house is now deserted, and having gone through some spring housecleaning at the hands of the ladies in charge, is awaiting the arrival of the President about the end of July. The Wees, now numbering three, have already moved into the Parr's house in the garden for the summer and will transfer from there to the de Vargas house in September. The Nashs have vacated the Li Ping-hua house which the Martins from Tokyo (English Department) will occupy. The Adolphas are moving into the Taylor house. Mr. Loehr's small abode will be occupied by Mr. Samuel Groff, with possibly an additional room built on for Billy Band. The Meis have moved into the S.D. Wilson bungalow. There are few changes in the Lang Jun Yuan. The E.K. Smiths are moving out to occupy a lovely old house and garden in Chengfu, and the Henry Chous will take their place. The Stewart house will be invaded by single ladies. Miss Boynton is fulfilling the desire of her heart in living in a little house in Haitien near the activities of the Kung Li Hui church. Miss Boring so far as we know is to be alone in House 11. Mrs. Hsu Pao-chien and the children will stay on in their little house in the garden while Mr. Hsu is away in Europe and America. The Shadick's house

will be occupied by Messrs. Bevan and Biggerstaff. The arrival of the Hin Wang household has increased the population of the South Compound by some seven or eight children. At any rate they are more in number than the Chuanse Athletics. Tennis players among you will be interested to know that a new faculty central tennis club organization has been completed, practically a majority vote having been cast in favor of the idea. The next step was to find a central location for the courts. The G. and B. last week consented to the use of land east of Sage which used to be the old strawberry field of the Nung K'e. The land directly to the east of this in the vicinity of the two old wells will be given over to the Landscape Committee for nurseries and greenhouses, and to the east of this again there will be tennis courts of the men's college. The land west of the Porter Lodge, formerly used by the men's college for tennis and football will be abandoned in the autumn. As this land is low lying it is useless for a large portion of the tennis and football season. I believe experiments to reclaim it with ashes and drainage schemes are to be undertaken. But, to return to faculty tennis. The use of the land is, of course, only temporary until required for new buildings or some other purpose. We hope, however, possession being nine points of the law, that this particular stretch of land will not be taken from us. The Landscape Committee is much in favor of its being put to this use, particularly because the fate of the periphery motor road has now been settled. It is to run up on the high path between the President's House and the old British Concession, and a group of well kept tennis courts with faculty and students disporting themselves thereupon should offer a pleasing view to the eye of the visiting motorist. We are hoping that six <sup>faculty</sup> tennis courts may be ready for use by September. The club is planning to take over a little two chien building against the wall belonging to the Landscape Committee formerly used as a tool house, where tennis shoes, rackets and balls may be parked, and from which it may be possible to serve tea of an afternoon when tournaments are on. Non-playing members of the community are already inquiring if they may join as honorary

members, so we may look for some social conviviality as well as tennis on this spot in the future. The compounds are still undecided about the keeping up of their respective courts, so the hope of using their backstops has been abandoned for the moment, and the club is planning to use for the present backstops made of rushes. The fees will be no higher than for the old clubs.

This year, as no doubt the teaching members of staff will all willingly testify has been an exceptionally good one for study. It has also been a very good year for athletics, as you will see from the report that a student in the Department of Journalism has prepared for you. The chairman of the Athletic Department announced with pride yesterday that the books had closed for the year without a deficit, which considering the minute size of the budget allotted, seems worthy of praise. We seem now to be undisputed champions of anything one can be champion of in North China. For the good of our own souls let us hope that next year some formidable opponents may arise to challenge our supremacy. Some mention must be made of the "Yenta Bat", a new and very splendid idea which came into being this year. Our curiosity was first aroused by the appearance of very gorgeous orange tickets bearing the mystic symbol, a bat, which were sold for seventy-five cents and announced a social event of some importance to be held in the courtyard of the President's House. Most of us were somewhat vague as to the nature of the evening's entertainment, but on arrival we found a scene of great gaiety, the small court and verandahs of the house filled with banqueting tables. All the spot lights the Je Nao had ever owned had been borrowed for the occasion and played upon the scene. The Hawaiian Orchestra beautiful with "leis", I believe that is the correct spelling, ~~added~~ a very popular number ~~to~~ the program, and human pyramids (composed of members of the volley ball team) arose on what looked like rather rickety tables, and we held our breath till they descended to terra firma. There were speeches, college songs, and the presentations of all the athletic awards for the year. Even the ladies had had their field day and were presented by appropriate cups and banners by their Dean. The two best speeches of the evening were given by Dr. Tyau and Mr. Wee on the place of

athletics in our academic life. The "Bat" cleared expenses with ten dollars to the good. (C)

Visitors. We have had a number of distinguished and interesting visitors to our campus during the spring months. Mr. Eddy's visit was a great success if one could judge by the large audiences that filled our auditorium each time he spoke. The students seemed intensely interested in the topics he discussed, and large groups followed him to Tsing Hua when he lectured there. Mr. and Mrs. George Dutcher spent some weeks on our campus under the auspices of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He conducted a number of seminars and open lectures, and though the attendance was not large, he seemed quite satisfied with the quality of his audiences. We are at the moment entertaining on our campus a group of very delightful young people from Pomona College. They are making quite a prolonged stay, living with the students in the dormitories for the most part, and each one making investigation along the line of study in which he is particularly interested. Some of them have gone out to the famine area at the invitation of Mr. Todd. They have added their bit to our community life, helping out wherever they have been able. They will be here for several weeks longer. We might also mention that Mrs. Feng Yu-hsiang paid us several visits during her stay in Peking.

Chapel Services. The Sunday morning Chinese services have been very well attended this spring, largely by students. At the vesper services the faithful few among the faculty attended regularly, and Mr. Porter has been elected to act again as chaplain of this little group next year. During May and June the vesper services were held on the Island, Mr. Porter taking them himself. These were even better attended than those held in Ninde. I would like to make some mention of the Easter services, because they seem to me to have been specially memorable. Perhaps the weather had something to do with this, and the fact that they were mostly held out of doors on the Island close to our new Pavilion. On Thursday evening, Good Friday Eve, the chaplains planned a picnic for all members of the Fellowship, the staff acting as hosts to



the students and workmen. This was very enjoyable, Peitaiho picnic baskets and ice-cream freezers arriving in great numbers. Each little group consisted of eight or ten persons. Supper over and the servants having departed with the **empty** baskets, the members gathered closer in front of the Pavilion where as the evening closed in Dr. Chao conducted a very beautiful service followed by the Holy Communion. On Good Friday, in the afternoon, another service was conducted by Dr. T.T. Lew in Winde Chapel. The service was in Chinese and followed the form of a ritual specially prepared for this occasion by Dr. Lew himself. Easter Sunday was another lovely day, and large numbers of worshippers gathered early on the Island. The choir emerged in procession from the Pavilion. The annual baptism service was this year conducted by Dr. Galt. As I remember baptism services at home, it seems to me that Chinese babies on these occasions behave with ~~unusual~~ decorum. Perhaps the precepts of Confucius on the subject of behavior have already penetrated their small souls. Miss Myfanwy Wood preached the Easter sermon in English. The custom of all eating luncheon together in the dormitory after the Easter Service was not followed this year.

Two services will be held as usual during the summer months, a Chinese service in the morning and the English service in the afternoon.

There is, I believe, a plan for opening a little chapel in Chengfu village if the approval of the missions responsible for this particular field of endeavor is secured, which can be used as a sort of laboratory for the students in the School of Religion. It is not intended that it should in any way rival the work done under the auspices of the Kung Li Hui in Haitien, but to serve those Kung Ch'ang workers and university workmen and their families who do not live in Haitien and who would appreciate their church building a little nearer home. Dr. J.F. Li is to have charge of the opening and operation of this new church.

Meetings. A meeting of the general faculty conference was called recently to approve a few minor changes in the constitution. (see exhibit D)

The chancellor's office thought this a good opportunity to hear reports from all standing committees for the year. I refrain from enclosing copies of these. They are mostly in Chinese, and if you wish to consult them you will find them duly filed in the office. Those of you who wish to know what the University Council has been doing this spring will find records of this in this same exhibit.

Landscaping. There is nothing very startling to report, though Dr. Parr has been working steadily on the remodeling of the hills in the vicinity of Bashford. Thousands of trees have been moved from the overcrowded nurseries to unused land west of the Women's College twin buildings. Both East and South compounds have planted a great number of trees this spring. A number of trees and shrubs were procured from the Antung nurseries this spring and seem to be flourishing in their new environment. The committee has a very interesting addition to its numbers in the person of a middle aged gentleman named Mr. Pao who sent to England in his youth with a group of Chinese boys for purposes of study. He went to school in Canterbury and finished up at the Royal College of Science in London. He is a trained geologist, so his assistance in rock work is very valuable. He comes on a very meagre salary, in fact that of a head gardener, but as gardening is his hobby and he is anxious for an out of door life at present, he seems quite happy in his work, directing the squads of coolies who are at present working on the campus.

The Yenchianian for 1929-30 has been suffering vicissitudes. The committee in charge made elaborate preparations for an issue of this annual which would far outclass anything that had been done before. True, the budget was short a few hundred dollars, but the committee went forward hopefully banking on the sympathy of a member of staff who last year had helped them out of their difficulties with a very considerable sum of money. But alas! no help was forthcoming from this quarter this year, and the printer in town refused to proceed further until cash was in hand. The poor

Yenchinien is for the moment stranded. When I asked a member of the committee what they were going to do about it if they couldn't raise the money, ~~but~~ he told me that they were waiting for Dr. Stuart's return and were quite sure that he would find the money so that it could be issued in time for the opening of college. There is no lack of faith among the students in Dr. Stuart's ability to get them out of their difficulties.

The Fine Arts. The Choral Society scored another triumph this year with their spring program, which though quite an ambitious one was well performed. The// spring recital of the Department of Music was also another delightful evening of music (see exhibit E). We must not fail to mention the pleasure given to the community this year by the very small people who have been studying music under Miss Vighte, and Mr. Wiant. They had their own recital too in Sage Hall one Saturday afternoon. One gathered from the very obvious agitation written upon the faces of the respective parents as their offspring mounted the platform, that the former were infinitely more nervous than the children. Very charming indeed was the afternoon program and broad were the smiles and deep were the bows of the youthful artists. The Meads, Wilsons and Harbours contributed generously to the program, and Mother Lew beamed proudly upon one grandson who mounted upon several large volumes on the piano stool gravely played his little piece.

An exceptional amount of dramatic art has sprouted forth this year from all quarters. I have already made some mention of the Chinese dramatics conducted under student auspices. The work done was extremely good, and furnished not only much diversion to those who participated, but to the large audiences of students who attended each performance. We need have no fear that talkies (which have reached Peking but not as yet Yenching) movies or western forms of drama will stifle this ancient art of China. It flourishes in most robust form in our midst. We do not have the flying towels, but the loud shouts of "hao, hao" when an actor performs some intricate and difficult turn of speech or action, show indisputably that the love of the Chinese drama

is real and strong, even among very modern minded young men and women. The English Dramatic society which was organized this year, gave a very creditable performance with the friendly aid of some members of the English Department and others. Miss Boynton gave the final polish to a little episode from the French Revolution, Miss O'charan coached "The Purple Chamber" and Mr. Parr "The Proposal". The members of this society are most of them graduates from the Peking American School, or have studied abroad, and they are thoroughly at home in the English language. The performance was a distinct improvement on the English play given at the time of the formal opening.

The "Je Nao" rose to great heights this spring and staged a performance which drew quite a distinguished array of theatre-goers from Peking. The program we planned was an ambitious one, and consisted of a large portion of "The Gondoliers" by Gilbert and Sullivan, and a scene from "Marco Millions". We ran it two nights, the first with cheap admission for students, and the second with supper included for faculty and guests. On both nights the courtyard of the Wilson house in the Lang Jun Yuan was crowded. We had our moments of anxiety; once when we feared a deluge of rain might ruin our plans, again when our tenor suddenly decided to go to Sui Yuan a week before the show; and when our leading lady in "Marco" fell ill, and Nellie Shadick had to be rushed into the breach. But the fates were kind, the weather turned out to be perfect, a Pomona student with a fine tenor voice stepped in at the eleventh hour and saved the day, and the leading lady rose from her bed and astonished us all with a more charming interpretation of her part than we had ever dreamed her capable of during the rehearsals. The students enjoyed the musical comedy best many of them attending both performances and even asking that a third might be given, but the stars of the evening were undoubtedly our Chinese actors in "Marco". There was one young lady fresh from New York who declared that <sup>in</sup> our costumes and ( borrowed from the Chinese stage) and in the acting of our Chinese members our performance excelled the one she had seen in New York! At any rate we were all very pleased with ourselves, and

our gate receipts allow us to purchase wigs for next year, and add considerably to our dramatic library.

"The Gondoliers" having appeared <sup>first</sup> in the bosom of the Je Nao, made its fourth bow to society at the farewell party given for the departing friends, held in the Dean's Residence. The changes it underwent you may see for yourselves in exhibit E which I enclose and which you are requested not to take too seriously. This is positively the last appearance of "The Gondoliers" but Mr. Nash, who is an ardent Gilbert and Sullivan fan, is already planning a production of "Trial by Jury" for next year, and with himself and Mrs. Wilson in the title roles, such little details as a few sopranos and tenors seem quite negligible.

Mr. Bentley's efforts to interpret his beloved Shakespeare were brought to mind one spring afternoon by the old swimming pool in the Lang Jun Yuan when Miss Boynton's and Mr. Shadick's sophomore students invited us to see them play scenes from "As You Like It". Our knowledge of "As You Like It" was a considerable help in understanding sometimes just what was being said, but it was very charming to look at, and the acting of at least two of the Rosalinds and a Phoebe or two was extremely good. This last sentence may be explained by the fact that each time the curtain was rung up a complete new set of actors appeared, which though somewhat confusing at first added interest. A very prolonged interval during which time even Mr. Bevan's repertoire of Shakespeare songs, sung to the accompaniment of a portable organ, was exhausted, was later explained by the fact that <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ melancholy <sup>Jay</sup> pedaling frantically to the scene clad in his jester's outfit, so effectively ripped up his costume that much sewing together of seams in one of the adjacent houses was necessary before he was fit to appear in public.

Summer Plans. This year, as perhaps you already know, we are running no official Summer School, but reading courses are being arranged for students who are staying in the dormitories. About 200 students including women will be in residence during the summer. Only those students who

bring a signed statement from their dean to the effect that they are doing make work or special reading, are allowed to remain.

Sociology and Journalism. The latest news from these departments you will find in the little periodicals specially issued. (see exhibit F)

Conclusion. We may conclude this very lengthy epistle with a few comments on the outside world. You are no doubt all frantically reading the news of the war in China, elaborated and well prepared for American consumption, and wondering how it is all affecting our lives out here. I may say that most of us know as little as you do. On enquiring at the chancellor's office a propos of possible changes in our relation with the present Ministry of Education, the probability of northern agitators being able in any way to upset the present government was dismissed with a wave of the hand. On the other hand, we who are unable to read the Chinese papers, would understand from our morning perusal of the Peking Leader now in the hands of Mr. Lennox Simpson (Putnam Weale) that the fall of Nanking is only a question of moments, and that Chiang Kai Shih is on his knees begging for mercy. I may say that according to the Leader, he has been in this position for some weeks now, but so far as we know Nanking has not yet fallen. The rumors are that the Legations are all moving to Nanking in August. They would apparently imply by this gesture that they are in support of the present government. With Yen in control here in the North it is becoming difficult for them to maintain their dignity as it were between the devil and the deep sea. A public statement from the American Minister appeared recently in the Leader stating that the American Legation was moving to Nanking on the first of August, lock, stock and barrel. I have heard since that the minister in question was extremely annoyed with whoever was guilty in ~~letting~~ releasing this information somewhat prematurely.

Our neighbor Tsing Hua has been in difficulty this spring. You may have heard that at the earnest request of the students President Lo handed in his resignation and left the institution. A Yen Hsi-shan appointee,

Mr. Cao Wen-shen who is a Tsing Hua alumnus, appeared on the scene early one morning about two weeks ago with a bodyguard, but was refused admittance to the campus. After a somewhat lengthy parley at the gate, he was allowed to enter and after discussion with the student leaders promised to retire from the scene. The grievances of all sides have been aired in the papers. The students are now requesting that no appointment be made until their return after the summer holidays. The alumni have been trying to smooth matters out, with what result I know not. On all counts the situation is somewhat of a muddle to say the least, and its final solution probably hangs on the results of the present civil strife to the south of us.

This letter is already much too long and very hastily written for which your forbearance is asked ~~for~~. The Journalism Department has not yet come to our rescue, which explains why you still continue to hear from me. In closing may I say to those of you who are about to return to Yenching how very happy we all are at the thought that you will so soon be with us again, and to those of you who are not returning this year that we wish you all a very happy and profitable and not too homesick year wherever you may be.

Very sincerely yours,

"The Scribe"

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