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YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENG TU, CHINA

FORTNIGHTLY LETTER

Lu Hui Ching - A graduate of Wellesley's Department of Physical Education, Assistant Professor and Acting Head of Division of Physical Education and Health at Yenching.

January 15, 1945

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

New Year's greetings to you all! This is the first letter of the year and let us hope that this will be the year of our final victory!

Miss Grace Boynton left us very quietly on the morning of the eighth by an army plane to India. Miss Sawyer, a very competent nurse was with her. We hope that this change will give her a quick return to health. Dr. Y. P. Mei left for Chungking on the 17th of December and returned on the 9th of January. Besides attending the Board of Trustees meeting, he also paid social and business calls on the new Government officials especially those who are associated with the Ministry of Education. He also reported that the total sum of the campaign is 13 million dollars up to this date. The alumni feel that safety is the first principle in keeping the money. Mr. Cheng Lin-chuang, the representative of the Chengtu alumni, has gone to Chungking for the committee meeting discussing the safe keeping of the Campaign Fund. I believe that the next letter will give you more details about the result.

On the tenth, twenty-five of our student and faculty volunteers left for Lu Chou for training. The whole University, students and faculty, went for a parade starting out at six o'clock in the morning to see them off. Altogether there were 94 men from the four Christian Universities in Chengtu and Yenching has the highest percentage. We are very proud of them. Perhaps at the beginning of February, our girls who have volunteered will be leaving for their training. Since December, five girls and four boys have left to serve in the American Air Force as typists, interpreters and telephone operators. Miss Chou Chi-Hsin, one of our staff members of the Physical Education Department was also asked to serve in recreation programs at Feng Huang Shan air base Hostels. A Service Committee to the Faculty and Student Volunteers was formed on December 8th. It consists of representatives of alumni, faculty and students. They have done good service and received hearty appreciation from our volunteers.

Mr. Lapwood mentioned in his last letter that under-nourishment was the chief factor in illnesses from which our faculty and students are suffering. As the Head of the Health Division, I am ashamed to report to you that within the last month we have had the following cases of sickness: one case of serious eye operation, one case of very serious pancreatics, two cases of typhus, three cases of bronchitis, one case of compound elbow fracture and one arrested T.B. case broke down again with hemoptysis. Almost all of them are still in the hospital. On top of these, we have ten men students and four women students with quiescent T.B. taking part-time study and half resting in school. Six active T.B. cases are hospitalized in the T.B. sanatorium. The vitamin pills we received from you are distributed among the most needy people as medicine for treatment as well as a preventive measure. We are very grateful to you for this valuable gift.

With the Wellesley Fund on hand this year, the Women's College has decided to spend most of the money on an Economic Nutrition Project which Mr. Lapwood mentioned in his last letter. Around 100 women students and faculty and faculty children are benefited by this subsidy. The plan is to charge only \$500.00 per month for an additional nourishing breakfast every morning. The "food" as calculated by the Home Economics Department give an equivalent value of half a pint of

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milk per day. Some girls have increased their body weight since they have taken the food. Miss Boynton has also contributed a personal fund to give some of the T.B. students and faculty children this advantage free. The Wellesley Fund has to subsidize around forty thousand dollars per month to make up the balance of the project.

Dr. Mei's trip to America has to be postponed until the situation permits him to leave. So we don't know just when he can be there to see you all. We are glad to have Miss Boynton as our ambassador to take you the good will of Yenching

Final Examinations will begin on the 23rd of this month. On the 29th we will have a simple Commencement for the graduates. With some forty boys and girls joining the volunteer corps, ten joining the Air Force, and more than ten having gone to different kinds of war services, we shall have to enroll more new students next semester to fill the vacancies.

By the time you receive this letter, perhaps Miss Boynton will be there to tell you all the news about Yenching. With all good wishes to you all!

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Lu Hui-Ching

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER FROM MISS RUTH E. VAN KIRK

To me the most interesting thing which is happening in China at present and in which Yenching is to have a share is the UNRRA program. Cheng Lin Chuang spent two weeks in Chungking planning with Dr. T. F. Chiang, Mr. Harry Price and others. There is to be a training course here for leaders in relief and case work, for over-all administrators, and accountants. Yenching is to furnish workers for this program. Through the UNRRA the China National Labor Association has been receiving funds from the CIO and AFL which is to be used (1) for the promotion of workers' welfare, (2) for labor creches, and (3) for research in labor problems. Yenching is to help with the administration of these funds here in Chengtu. Already in one very cooperative factory a labor creche is being opened under the supervision of Mrs. Cheng (Kuan Jui Wu) and headed by Ma Ping, Mr. Ma Chien's daughter (Yenching 1944) who is to be social worker for the Labor Association here. The Government is especially interested in the establishment of nurseries in factories. A small charge will be made so that it won't be purely charity. The age range will probably be from six weeks to four years.

We have had word from Grace Boynton that she had arrived in Calcutta and was to proceed to Bombay. To say that we miss her is a very inadequate expression of the emptiness of the department, though Mr. Li is looking after us well.

Chinese New Year will be here in two weeks, so may I wish you all "hsin hsi" (new happiness). May it bring to all the world peace and to the UNRRA success as it tries to help the war-stricken countries.

Jan. 16, 1945

Winter recess -- Now, during the winter recess, from January 13th to 20th, the campus is quiet because half of the students are either in Peiping or in Tientsin. This winter in Peiping is rather warm with radiant sunshine and rarely interrupted by cold blasts and dust storms, otherwise so typical of Peiping.

Interviews of freshmen with doyens -- The freshmen and sub-freshmen students interviewed their respective doyens last week for advice and suggestions regarding their first three months' studies at Yenching. They were also asked to inform their doyens of difficulties in their studies and of possible complaints.

First dramatic performance of the year -- On January 7, 1946 the first formal dramatic performance was enacted by the Yen Chü, a dramatic club for fourteen freshmen and sub-freshmen students. This show took place in Bashford Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. The hall has been cut off from the general heating system due to its infrequent use but it was heated on that evening by two temporarily installed stoves and by an audience of 500 or 600 people in overcoats.

The performance included three one-act plays, of which two were comedies and one was a tragedy. Of the 14 members of the dramatic club, only two had a little stage-experience in middle-school days. But it was surprising to see how well they presented the characters. They were, of course, by no means excellent from the professional point of view, but they struck the audience by their lively and unaffected presentation and by their ingenuity in improvising the scenery. For instance, they tied wooden-boards in the form of doors and windows on to the curtains on the back of the stage, and thus provided a certain illusion for the spectators. This show lasted till 10:30 p.m. and was very well received.

Faculty Club -- The Faculty Club was established on Dec. 4th, and it has since improved very much. Now it occupies three rooms in the President's House: a reading room, a refreshment room and a room for games and chess.

On New Year's Eve, about 30 faculty members joined to celebrate the first Peace New Year at the Club. They had a dinner party followed by various games. New Year's Day saw another festive gathering at the President's House, when the 50 faculty members present made 15 bows in honour of the day and making up for those missed during the last four years. (It is customary in China for friends to make three bows to each other in honour of the New Year. Since 1941, there have been four new year's days on which Yenching's faculty members have not joined together for the celebrations.)

Campus Repairs -- The repairs of the campus are going on steadily, but owing to the cold season the work is limited to the indoor repairs. Part of the

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fourteen unfinished houses raised by the Japanese are still awaiting removal, while others situated behind the Water Tower by the side of the Power Plant have been intended to be used by the planned Engineering College and therefore have got roofs. According to Prof. Samuel Dean it would take much more money to pull down these houses than to complete them.

A great difficulty has been encountered in the repair of the North Campus and of the Science Buildings due to the lack of good materials and high prices. In order to save money, the engineering department has decided to cast radiators, pipe-fittings and perhaps even steel motorcar parts for the use of the University.

In the meantime, the Japanese signal unit which took away the 150 kilowatt Diesel Engine has sent eleven technician soldiers under a lieutenant to instal the engine in its old place. According to the officer, the work will be finished by the middle of February.

Bus service resumed -- The Controller's Office has managed to get hold of 500 gallons of gasoline through the U.S. Marine Corps from the Standard Oil Co., whose agency in Tientsin is now receiving American oil in small quantities. After a suspension of two months the University bus service was resumed on Jan. 12th, but only during the weekends. Tickets for a single trip are sold at CNC\$1.50 each. For the bus of the first trip only between 60 to 70 tickets were sold to the students, with many going by bicycle and many more by train, where the fare amounts to only one-sixth of that of the bus. Owing to the high cost of gasoline, the University is at present unable to lower the bus fare.

Skating Rink -- The skating rink this year appears to be smaller than in previous years, but skating still remains to be the favourite outdoor sport of the season. A shed for the changing of the shoes was constructed by the lake-side. Five workmen are assigned to take care of the rink. The group of skaters consists of some faculty members, a part of the students, and other community members. A lively sight on the ice is the group of faculty children, laughing and cheering. Occasionally a couple of Japanese soldiers and one or two U. S. servicemen are seen there too. Skating, however, has proved to be quite an expensive sport; many students are unable to pay the CNC\$6,000 or 7,000 necessary to buy a pair of skates.

Committee on Student Welfare -- The Committee has announced a change in the payment of the self-help work in adjustment to present situation. The maximum working hours of students are now limited to 30 (formerly 40) a month, but the pay for each hour is increased to CNC\$40 (formerly 30). This new arrangement guarantees a maximum income of CNC\$1,200, sufficient to cover the monthly boarding fee of an individual, which is CNC\$1,000.

The decrease of the boarding fee has been brought about by the second grant of cereals from the local government in compliance with the order from President Chiang. The University has been notified that the students will get more than 10,000 cattles of corn.

The Committee has also sponsored an Essay Contest and has announced three subject: "How to apply democratic principles to the campus life at Yenching", "How to promote the scientific movement in China", "How to promote national consciousness in China"; three prizes will be awarded for each of the topics. Essays must be submitted before April 1st and the results of the contest will

be announced on April 14th. On that date also a debate will take place, the topic has as yet not been announced. Winners will be awarded prizes.

Music -- Mr. Hsü Yung-san of the music department handles all the departmental instructions and extra-curricular activities. The Victrola Concert, revived since Nov. 16, 1945, has taken place every Friday evening in Gamble Hall with an average attendance of from thirty to forty people. On Jan. 9, 1946, Mr. Hsü has added one more item to his activities, when the first "Music Appreciation Hour" was held in Gamble Hall. Between fifty to sixty people came to listen to his illustrated lecture on "Great Periods of Musical History". Great interest in a serious appreciation of music seems to have been aroused by his efforts.

Entertainment for U.S. Servicemen -- Peiping this year has been enlivened in some ways by the presence of many U.S. servicemen, mostly marines. Nearly all of them are in China for the first time in their life. In order that they shall not judge the country by numerous dancing halls and bars which at present spring up like mushrooms, they have been asked to visit Yenching, as the leading Sino-American cultural institution. The Administrative Committee of Yenching has, therefore, approved the establishment of a "Committee for Entertainments for U.S. Servicemen". Its first session was held on Jan. 7th and it was decided to deliver a lecture once every two weeks to a group of American officers or men at Yenching. The lecture is to be followed by tea at faculty homes. Prof. William Hung has been asked to give the first lecture on "Peking Summer Palaces".

CLIS -- A new organization of this year is the "College Life Information Service" sponsored by six junior faculty members. Before Pearl Harbour there existed no organization of this nature. At that time Yenching traditions were carried on from class to class. The new students learned about the past of Yenching, about their professors, as well as the necessary social etiquette, and about world events in general. But things have entirely changed this year because most of the students are freshmen and sub-freshmen, while the few seniors are busy preparing for their theses. These new students have many questions to ask but they cannot very well go and ply the professors with them. This trend manifested itself on several occasions. Hence, the College Life Information Service was set up for the purpose of supplying information concerning the institution, its faculty and staff, its administration, its tradition and on all questions pertinent to the campus life.

The first meeting held by the CLIS -- called CLIS Weekly Forum -- took place on Friday evening, Jan. 4th (which was briefly mentioned in the report on the students in general).

The second CLIS Weekly Forum took place on Thursday evening, Jan. 10th. After a short talk on the "College of Natural Sciences", a "CLIS Poll" was conducted, in which the 65 students present were asked to express their opinions. (The questions were asked and the students expressed their approval by the raising of a hand; otherwise they abstained.)

Student Life at Yenching
(67 voted, incl. 2 faculty members)

- 1. You are quite satisfied with the present student life in Yenching. 7
- 2. You think the present student life needs some improvement. 27

3. You think the present student life needs improvement badly. 28
4. You are utterly disappointed in the present student life. 5

Religious Atmosphere
(67 voted)

1. You think Yenching has too much religious atmosphere. 1
2. You think Yenching has fairly much religious atmosphere. 26
3. You think Yenching has too little religious atmosphere. 11
4. You never pay attention to this question. 29

Teachers
(65 voted)

1. You are satisfied with all of your teachers. 2
2. You are satisfied with most of your teachers. 43
3. You are dissatisfied with most of your teachers. 18
4. You are satisfied with none of your teachers. 0
5. Don't know. 2

Self-help Work
(65 voted)

1. You think the system of self-help work is unreasonable. 6
2. You think the self-help students are underpaid and overworked. 12
3. You think the pay and the number of working hours are reasonable. 33
4. You have never thought of this question. 14

Food Problem
(65 voted)

1. You would rather raise the boarding fee in order to have nourishing food. 13
2. You want to keep the status quo, making necessary changes in the boarding fee in adjustment to the rising prices. 39
3. You would rather pay a minimum boarding fee as long as you have edible food. 13

All-Party Political Consultative Council
(67 voted)

1. You think after this Political Consultative Council, China can rest assured of an internal peace. 0
2. You think after this Council the main problems will be settled, while some minor controversies will remain to be unsettled issues. 36
3. You think the internal strife after the Council will remain as bad as it is now. 29
4. You think the domestic situation will become worse in spite of this Council. 2

Student and Politics

1. You think as students you should pay no attention to domestic and international problems but should be entirely devoted to your studies. 3
2. You think you should pay close attention to them. 35
3. You think you should, besides paying attention, express your opinions in speeches and writings. 22
4. You think you should not only speak and write but also express your opinions through actions (such as party membership, demonstrations, petitions, etc.) 7

YENCHING UNIVERSITY IN CHENGTU, CHINA

FORTNIGHTLY LETTER

Dr. Ch'i-yü Wu -- Chairman of the Department of Political Science

March 15, 1945

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

According to schedule I was supposed to write you on February 15th. But because of my absence from the University in February I had to delay the matter. Recently I made a trip to Na-Shi, near Lu Hsien, in Southern Sze Ch'uan. The purpose of my trip was to see the widow and the children of my fourth brother who was recently killed in the Yun Nan-Burma border. He had been a soldier for over ten years in China's only chemical unit. When he died he was captain of a howitzer regiment. He left two children. Fortunately his widow is a very capable lady and can therefore look after his children. A good deal of tears were shed by her when I was in Na Shi. Her grief over the loss of her husband was deep.

I don't know what I should write. Miss Boynton perhaps has already arrived in the States. If so, you must have already had a good deal of information from her about the conditions of the university, its successes, prospects, as well as its shortcomings, difficulties and problems. W. T. Wu, who is in the States recently to attend the meetings of the Pacific Institute must also have supplied you with much interesting data about our work here. With such abundance of information at your disposal it is difficult for me to write anything. However I will give the following few items.

1. With the coming of the spring the health of our faculty members and students seems to have improved. Professor Chen Yin Ch'ueh, who was in hospital for treatment of eye-trouble, has at last improved enough to allow the doctors to discharge him. So has Mr. Chao Jen Tsun, Professor of Economics, who suffered from very critical pancreatitis. He has been home for over a week now, and doctors say that he may resume work after about one more month's rest. Mrs. Lin Yueh Hwa who was an acute nephritis case has also recovered although she still has to be very careful. So the general health situation of our faculty members is improving.

2. The enlistment movement last semester started by the government has depleted our student body to the extent of about 100 people. In order to fill in these vacancies we had a regular entrance examination in this winter vacation and we took about 100 from a group of more than 700 applicants. This will put our student body in more normal shape.

3. We are sorry to say that recently we had confirmed news to the effect that both our ex-chancellor Mr. Wu Lei Ch'uan and ex-dean of the Arts College, Dr. H. Chow have passed away in Peiping, both because of hemorrhage due to high blood pressure. At first we were skeptical about the authenticity of the news but later on we got confirmation from several reliable sources. Our next tasks are to arrange a memorial service and to look after such posthumous interests of theirs as we can. It is certainly sad to have this news, but I think Yenching people ought to be informed about these developments, sad as they are. Because of this we feel doubly concerned about the welfare of those of our colleagues who still remain in Peiping. Our only hope is that war will terminate very soon so that they can all be liberated.

My personal regards to you all.

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) Ch'i-yü Wu

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

March 20, 1945

Dear Friends of Yenching:

We have good news about Dr. J. Leighton Stuart.

Several months ago we were all disturbed by rumors then in circulation regarding a break in Dr. Stuart's health, even though we felt there was good reason to believe the reports unreliable. Inquiry as to the facts was at once made through the State Department, and a reply has just come to hand dated March 16.

It states that the Swiss authorities, as of February 20, 1945, find no confirmation of the report that Dr. Stuart has suffered a nervous breakdown. He and his two companions, Dr. Houghton and Mr. Bowen, are still interned on the property of A.C. Henning and Company. A friend at Peiping had had letters from Dr. Stuart dated November 5 and 19 and December 3 and 13, acknowledging the receipt of food parcels, and commenting,

"We are as usual healthy, cheery and if not busy at least not idle."

"We are keeping well and cheery except for chapped hands."

The Swiss Consulate General at Shanghai states that Red Cross Christmas parcels have been forwarded to all three men for the fourth time, and that, in addition, they have received food parcels from several friends.

You will all be glad to get this word, and we know you will continue to carry on your hearts and in your prayers all our friends still held by the Japanese.

Very sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Earle H. Ballou
Secretary

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June 1, 1945

To Yenching Alumni in the United States and Canada:

After an interesting flying trip I am now among you here in America. I left Chungking on April 20 and landed in Washington, D.C. on May 1. I am surely happy to be back in America again, and I shall consider it one of my greatest pleasures to be able to visit and talk with many of you about Yenching.

You will be glad to hear that the general outlook in China is much brighter now than it was six months ago and the morale of the population was high when I left. Politically, much more public discussion and activity on national issues are in evidence. With proper preparation and guidance the National Assembly, called for November 12, may really lay the cornerstone for a modern democratic government in China. The economic situation is still serious. But the harvests in West China have been good, and all signs this spring point to another auspicious year. To an agricultural economy, such as China's, this fact is of supreme importance and will help to head off economic collapse. The military developments are much more assuring and it is now conclusively demonstrated that given adequate equipment and supplies, the Chinese army will have an important part in driving the Japanese off the Asiatic mainland.

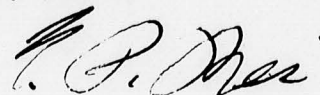
You will also be glad to hear that in spite of the very difficult condition of things, your alma mater in Chengtu is going strong. The faculty are loyal and students hard-working. There are 408 students registered this term. Nearly 70 expect to graduate at the June commencement. Some 13% of the men student body joined the forces last winter. The financial situation of faculty and students is deplorable and desperate. General cost has risen 1500 times and a professor's salary 100 times. That means his purchasing power has been reduced to six or seven percent. The most urgent need lies in health and nutrition. We are trying to find the means to send more vitamins.

The \$10,000,000 campaign was launched in China about a year ago and it has gone over the top after a year's effort. The Endowment Committee has invested all the money in government gold bullion bonds, and the improved government rate for these bonds has placed the University in a very advantageous position. Everybody who has had a share in this campaign rejoices over its successful conclusion and the alumni all over the country are especially to be congratulated for their efforts and the result. The alumni in the United States and Canada are also conducting their campaign toward this endowment fund. When I was in Washington I was told that the Washington Chapter had already reached its quota of \$500. When I was in Cambridge I attended a party given by the Yenching Alumni Association officers of Cambridge and Boston to a group of Chinese young people in appreciation of their contribution to a program that was put on a few weeks ago. That program brought in nearly \$700 and put the local Alumni Association beyond their quota. Such loyalty and support to their alma mater on the part of the Yenching alumni as I meet them everywhere is a source of inspiration and courage.

I have been in America for nearly four weeks now. Needless to say I have been enjoying myself hugely, and I am looking forward to all the new contacts, experiences, and excitement that the coming months will bring. But, in spite of it all, I seem to begin to feel homesick. For a great and old nation is this moment going through her birth pains. A new and possibly even greater nation is being brought into the world. Yenching University is helping this process in a very definite way. I belong there and hate to miss it. I want to have a share in it. And you will too, of course.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Cordially yours,



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Yenching in Chengtu
June 15, 1945

Dear Mr. Ballou:

1. Letters: During the past two weeks we have received no letters from New York. We received, however, Dr. Mei's telegram with some items of Harvard-Yenching finance, and the welcome news that Sailer and Hsu are definitely planning to come out. It also contained news that Dr. Mei was planning to undergo a gallstone operation in July. We hope that when you receive this the operation will have safely passed.
2. Housing Problem: Hua Mei School recently suffered loss by fire which burned down one of their temporary buildings. So their demands that Yenching evacuate their school have been renewed, and they desire the return of their buildings for next semester. We are discussing this with them, and have not yet come to any way out of the impasse, for it seems at present that if we went out from Shensi Kai it would be on to the street.
3. Finances: Owing to the rise in exchange rate being greater than originally estimated, it seems safe to predict that we shall not go into debt this year, although the expenses have been much greater than budgeted. We shall be giving more details next week.
4. Exchange and Prices: Value of greenbacks has soared to \$1150 (Chinese) for \$1 (gold). The United Clearing Board is now asking \$900 per \$1. We expect that exchange will continue to rise. For the past week or two, prices, on the other hand, have been stable, and bankers guess that they will not rise much more, owing to the fact that hoarders are now beginning to put stuff on the market, fearing that they may be caught by the end of the war and deflation. It should be noted that while prices have risen about 1800 times, the value of US\$ has so far only risen about ~~1800 times~~ 300 times, so it still has some distance to go to catch up.
5. University Staff from Missions: Our mission personnel will be down to one (Mr. Hausske) with the departure of Mr. Lapwood, following Miss van Kirk and Miss Stallings. We are asking the London Mission and the Methodist Mission if they will make grants in lieu of personnel. Perhaps you can also say a good word for us with the home Boards.
6. Biology Plan: I enclose a copy of the plan made out by Dr. Chang Tsung-ping and passed by the F.E.C. for the use of the contribution from three British firms. The F.E.C. felt that the money was not needed for ordinary University expenses just now, and that this plan would meet very well the desires of the original donors, who wished to support applied science if possible. The money was all voted to one Department owing to the fact that our chances of getting a good job done under the present conditions here were best in Biology.
7. Health of Professor Chen Ying-Chueh: Doctors here fear that the only hope of Mr. Chen's recovering normal sight is to go abroad for operative treatment. At present he is working through readers and amanuenses. This is very bad news for us, but we realize that his future health is the very first consideration.
8. Graduation: Between 50 and 70 students will graduate this semester. The biggest number is from the College of Public Affairs, with over 20 in Economics, 20 graduate in Science, and a few in Arts. Students have expressed the desire to have a Yenching ceremony in addition to the joint Five-University graduation ceremony. We shall have a separate graduation service.

Copies to Staff and Dr. Mei.
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. . . /s/ Ma Kiam

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Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

NEWS CONCERNING YENCHING-CHINA SINCE PEACE DECLARATION

CHENG TU (Rec'd NYC Aug. 27)

JOYOUS GREETINGS FREE HEALTH EXCELLENT AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS

LEIGHTON STUART

NEW YORK AUGUST 27, 1945

KNIGHT BIGGERSTAFF
AMERICAN EMBASSY, CHUNGKUNG

IS STUART IN CHENG TU PLEASE RELAY ALL OVERJOYED STUARTS PORTERS CABLES LEAVE
STUART DISCRETION PERSONAL MOVEMENTS TRUSTEES AUTHORIZE DEVARGAS RELIEVE
PERSONAL NEEDS YENCHING STAFF

YENCHING OFFICE

CHENG TU AUGUST 19, 1945

BALLOU MEI
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ADVISES REMAIN CHENG TU TILL NEXT SUMMER STOP URGENTLY
REQUEST IMMEDIATE ARRIVAL CHENG TU SAILER SPEER OTHERS IF POSSIBLE GREATLY
NEEDED BOTH ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

MA KIAM

NEW YORK AUGUST 19, 1945

MA KIAM
YENCHING UNIVERSITY, CHENG TU

CONGRATULATIONS SPEER IMPOSSIBLE SAILER COMING PERHAPS OTHERS MEI CONSIDERING
PLANS REQUEST HAUSSKE REMAIN THROUGH YEAR CONSULTING CLARA TRIP CHENG TU CABLE
OFTEN POLITICS TRANSPORTATION FINANCES TRY CONTACT PEKING INVESTIGATE CONVERTING
CAMPAIGN FUND US DOLLARS

YIPAO MEI

POSTCARD FROM MRS. LUCIUS C. PORTER, DATED AUGUST 25:

I have just had the following cable from Lux sent on by Knight Biggerstaff from
Embassy, Chungking: Rejoicing, well, will send later plans from Peking

FROM MR. ROWLAND M. CROSS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS CONFERENCE OF N.A.:

The New York Chapter of the American Red Cross informs us that letters will reach
internees from the Far East on their arrival in Manila, if sent by regular mail,
with three cents postage (air mail will get them to San Francisco more rapidly),
and addressed as follows:

(Name of Person)
Liberated Personnel Section
A.P.O. 501, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

This service is available for citizens of other nations, as well as citizens of
the United States.

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

September 5, 1945

Dear Friends of Yenching:

You have doubtless seen newspaper reference to the fact of Dr. Stuart's liberation, as well as to the contacts already made with those interned at Weihsien. This bulletin is designed to bring you the latest information received here.

On Aug. 27th a cable was received under a Chengtu dateline as follows: "Joyous greetings free health excellent awaiting instructions. Leighton Stuart." The dateline did not necessarily mean that Dr. Stuart was in Chengtu himself when the message was sent; it might have been dispatched from there by some one returning from Peking after making the first American contact with those interned in that city. A long cable from Chengtu on the 28th dealing with several college matters did not mention Dr. Stuart's arrival.

On Sept. 1st the State Department informed us that a message had come from Chungking to the effect that on Aug. 30th both Dr. Stuart and Dr. Houghton (of the P.U.M.C., who shared the long confinement in Peking) had been taken to Kunming. This information, again, does not necessarily imply stopovers at either Chungking or Chengtu. It does, however, suggest that these two men may be on the way to this country rather than among the large number of released internees who are to be taken to Manila prior to repatriation. At the moment this is only surmise, it should be understood. Word received by other agencies suggests by inference the possibility that Dr. Stuart has been taken to Chungking for consultation.

Other Yenching people of whom word has come that they are safe include Langdon Gilkey, Thelma Bosland Liu, George Lochr, Stewart Mitchell, Lucius Porter, and James Pyke.

A message received by Mrs. Porter from her husband reads, "Rejoicing, well, will send later plans from Peking."

You have probably all seen the notice that letters will reach internees from the Far East on their arrival in Manila, if sent by regular mail, with three cents postage (air mail will get them to San Francisco more rapidly), and addressed as follows:

(Name of Person)
Liberated Personnel Section
A.P.O. 501, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

This service is available for citizens of other nations, as well as citizens of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou
Earle H. Ballou
Secretary

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Mr. Carbett

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

China Office
APO 879, c/o Postmaster
New York, N. Y.

11 September 1945

Mr. C. A. Evans
Office of Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I spent last evening with Dr. Stuart and the following is a portion of what was said at that time.

CAE: This letter will be primarily occupied with the damage to our physical plant and measures for its reconditioning.

The power plant. Having not visited the campus myself, and having heard only a cursory report from Stephen Tsai, I cannot go into much detail. We know, however, that one or more boilers were removed, as well as the expensive engines in the power house. To what extent they excavated the long trenches for heat, light and water apparatus, results are not quite clear. Most of the material in the academic buildings seems to have been taken out, which includes radiators. The electric system seems, however, to have fared better. Despite the highly qualified specialist in New York City, who was our consulting engineer, there seems to have been, almost from the outset, some dissatisfaction with the type of boilers used. Apart from this, there may now be technical improvements which would make it a not wholly unmixed misfortune to improve the whole heating system. Perhaps with some repairs to the electric wires and fixtures, we could use the city current until such time as our own plant could be completely restored. As to water, the Japanese have driven another large well near the men's gymnasium. There is, therefore, an abundance of water on the campus, though the methods for distributing it may have to be quite primitive for a while.

The suggestion has come to mind that Sam Dean might reopen his engineering training school on our campus rather than at the Presbyterian Mission in the city. If he and others concerned agree to this, his boys could be employed in making immediate repairs to various aspects of this whole system while gaining practice. His method has always been that of teaching by actual projects of this kind. On my return to Peiping, and after local engineers will have advised with us, I shall try to make a much more detailed report. Meanwhile, it might be worth while to solicit opinions from qualified persons, especially as to the latest improvements in a heating system.

Science equipment. It occurs to me that members of our science faculty now in the States might be mobilized to prepare itemized statements of the apparatus and other equipment necessary for biology, chemistry, home economics and physics, and that American universities and technical schools be appealed to to contribute from their abundance as many pieces as they feel they can spare to enable us to get a start with as little delay and expense as possible. It may not be too visionary a hope that manufacturers could be induced to do the same, especially if this could be thought of as in part an advertisement. Scientific interest throughout China is

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Mr. C. A. Evans
Page 2
11 September 1945

certain to be greatly stimulated by post-war developments. Effort of this sort should be undertaken promptly while the sympathy for China in the first stages of reconstruction is fairly fresh. In any case, our science teachers could prepare lists of minimum requirements to be secured as gifts or by purchase, these to be followed by successive requisitions over the next few years.

Library books. Although our library has been kept fairly well intact, assuming that we can recover most of the books carried off into the city, yet it is already four years behind the times. The same general procedure might be followed as with science equipment in soliciting from educational institutions, libraries, publishers, etc., new books that would be of real value in one or another subject. There seems to have been a somewhat unsatisfactory experience in soliciting too broadly because books are contributed which would scarcely be worth to us the cost of transportation. However, with a number of faculty members in the States unable to return in the immediate future, or staying on in the country for one or another reason, an organization might be formed for preparing selected lists of books wanted and in general publicizing this need of ours with whatever safeguards would seem most desirable.

My trip to USA. I should like to raise the question with the trustees as to whether they would desire my making such a trip before next summer. It looks now as though we may have to have a long winter vacation, when we can provide no heat, and make up the work during next summer. If so, I should be comparatively free for that period. In any case, after our small unit of freshmen and sub-freshmen students, with perhaps a scattering of a few upper classmen and graduates, all get accustomed to our campus routine, my presence would be less important than during the next two or three months. I have nothing to urge myself either way. I feel entirely ignorant as to the present plans of the trustees for financial promotion and the opportunities which will prevail in the country within the coming months. To what extent the highly organized agencies for China relief have preempted the field, how much the post-war taxation and other burdens, together with claims from every part of the world, will minimize any hopes of ours, I can form no judgment. Even more, I hesitate as to my personal fitness after this long absence from the States, and with signs of senility, which may seem more apparent to others than to me. I should, of course, enjoy seeing Warren and Jack and many personal relatives and friends but there is no need for any such trip on any personal grounds. There will also be plenty to occupy me in China in one way or another. With this statement of the case, as far as I can understand it, I have full confidence in the judgment of the trustees and shall do whatever they wish. There may, of course, be some difficulty in getting passage by air and this would be quite an item of expense. If steamer travel is available either going or coming, I might travel that way, which would have the further advantage of placating some of my friends who are insisting that I must have a rest. They will not take seriously my retort that, having had an enforced rest for three years and eight months, I am not looking for any more just now.

Yenching graduates as an increasingly important asset. I cannot resist ending this letter with a reference to the impressions I have had since my release of the loyalty, enthusiasm, and high quality of our old students as I have met with them and heard about them. Beginning in Peiping itself, then in Sian where weather conditions required our spending a night, the students there somehow heard of my presence. Once more in Kunning, and chiefly here, their spontaneous welcome, always in the form of a party in my honor, together with an almost unceasing series of personal visits

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Mr. C. A. Evans
Page 3
11 September 1945

from them in all these places, gives a hint of the resource we already possess. It is much more than solicitude for me personally. After my experience, the reports of which have been spread everywhere and, fortunately for me, greatly exaggerated, I am merely the symbol of what Yenching stands for to them and what they feel has done for them. In all these places I have heard from enough disinterested people high praise of the quality of our students, the increasing number of them advancing to positions of responsibility and leadership, and a certain quality of life which is described even by outsiders as "the Yenching spirit." One concrete evidence of what this can mean is the raising of twelve million dollars in this region toward the maintenance of the Chengtu branch. To be sure, that amount in the present inflated currency has very much less value than it sounds, and when American gold is purchased and the usual 40% demanded by the government deducted, the net result is not great. Nonetheless, to have made such an effort in the hectic conditions of this wartime capital, and to have accomplished so much, is an earnest of more substantial support from them as China returns to a normal peacetime basis and the prosperity of the country progresses with other forms of her awakening. This resource cannot, I fear, be tapped to any appreciable extent in matters of rehabilitation but it ought at least to encourage our American friends to be aware that their investment thus far has seemed so worthwhile.

Chengtu. I am leaving tomorrow for that city to visit our Yenching establishment there. I also hope, while in the city and again upon my return here, to begin to form some contact with those who are working on the old, old subject of the correlation of our Christian colleges. From the little I have heard thus far, this seems more promising at present than ever before.

I wrote a letter by hand on the plane leaving Peiping and gave this to Dr. Houghton to carry with him. These two letters cover more or less the same ground and I cannot be sure which one arrived first.

With heartiest greetings to all the trustees and to yourself and other members of the office staff, the faculty and former students in the country, and to all our Yenching friends in the States, I am JIS

My best regards to former Yenching associates.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Mary Hutchison

Mary A. Hutchison

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Mr. Corbett
September 15, 1945

Dear Friends:

At last, V-J day has come! I am sure that all the people of the Allied Nations were over-joy with the greatest surprising news. Thank the Lord for the final Victory!

We had a grand V-J day celebration on the third of September. Most of us joined the parade in the evening. All the streets were so crowded with people, the greatest group we had never seen before.

Then our next surprise was the news about President Stuart's arrival in Kuming on the 29th of August. We immediately cabled to Kuming welcoming him to come to Chengtu. On the first of September, he got to Chungking where he had a great deal of important business and was interviewed by many people. The whole student body and faculty members and the Alumnae here were excited and looking forward eagerly to his appearing in Chengtu. On the evening of the 10th, we received a call from Dr. H. H. Kung's secretary in Chungking about Dr. Stuart's coming to Chengtu the next day. We got a car and a truck and tried to meet him in the air field. Some 40 students and faculty representatives went. After waiting until eight o'clock in the evening, we returned with a great disappointment. He did not come.

Next day late in the evening, Robert Chao received a message from the A. T. C. Headquarters saying that Dr. Stuart had arrived and was being sent to the city on his way. He finally got to Lichishe, the Headquarters in the city around 9:30 p.m. Robert put him to bed and had a good rest. He did not bring the surprise to us until the next morning.

I can hardly describe all the sentiments, excitements and warm welcome for our beloved President in each one's heart. We tried hard to meet all sorts of people's desires of meeting him and at the same time we were much concerned with his health. We had an official marshal to keep his schedule in a strict business like manner, and tried to protect him from being over tired. His visit was only two full days because he had to go back to Chungking for more important appointments and then return to Peiping to start off school over there. It was decided that the people in Peiping will try to open school there on the 10th of October, admitting only a Freshman class. The Chengtu part will keep on until the time comes when transportation is available and the repairing are mostly done. The maximum time perhaps is one year.

Dr. Stuart appeared to be very well in every respect. It is a marvelous thing that he can live through these three years of hardship in prison and be so efficient immediately after he was set free. He shows his great personality and deep spiritual cultivation. Every one admires his spirit more and more.

Two important gatherings took place in the "only" two evenings while he was here. The first evening on the 12th, was the welcome dinner given in our university by the students and the faculty. The five universities Presidents and a few others were invited to come. The second evening was the Chengtu Alumnae Welcome Reception. About 300 alumnae turn up. The President gave a wonderful speech and every one was greatly inspired.

Dr. Stuart reported that the Yenching people in Peiping are very well. The campus on the outside looks quite alright, but all the equipment and furniture are completely gone. The inside is quite badly damaged. It would take a great deal of money and effort to repair and replace the loss. Dr. Stuart left for Chungking yesterday morning. We are praying that his health will be strong enough to carry this great task. We are sure that he will build up a new Yenching even better than before.

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About the school here, classes have started for a week already. The student body this year is comparatively smaller than last year. The number of students now up to date is about 380. We are facing a very serious housing problem because Hua Mei School wants to move back right away. Now we are trying our best to pull through with the hope that we can return to our Peiping campus soon.

There is not much worth reporting about myself. The only thing is that my health seems better this year. I have gained back about 10 lbs. now. During the summer vacation, I made a trip to Kuming for a month. I had a very nice visit with my sister and saw many nice places and met many of my old friends.

In closing this letter, I wish to send my warmest greetings to you all and wish to hear from you whenever possible. I hope in my next letter, I can tell you a story about our school in Peiping.

Most sincerely yours,

(Signed) Lu Hui Ching

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RADIOGRAM

September 17, 1945

CHENGTU VIA RCA 51 16 0930

CARL EVANS, 150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK

MAIL STUART PEIPING COPY CHENGTU DETAIL DATA BACK SALARIES PEIPING STAFF
INCLUDING NAMES AMOUNTS STOP ALSO FUNDS AVAILABLE REPAIRS EQUIPMENT
CURRENT EXPENSES EXCLUSIVE OF CHENGTU BUDGET STOP PEIPING BUILDINGS INTACT
INSTALLATIONS EQUIPMENT PARTICULARLY GONE STUART HERE TWO DAYS RETURNED
CHUNGKING PROCEEDING PEIPING LATER.

ALBERT HAUSSKE

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COPY

Fu Jen University

Department of Chemistry

Peking (China) Sept. 21st, 1945

Dear Dr. Wilson:

The war is now over for more than one month and still there is no contact with the outside world. The Weihsien people are still there, but I got a very happy letter from Lucy Burt. She will go back to England first before taking up her work here again. There are no communications with Shanghai and even less with West China, so I have no news of your whereabouts and hope that this letter may reach you nevertheless.

About conditions here, I suppose you are better informed than we ourselves. Most people here are still in a daze and cannot quite believe that it is really peace. It seems such an incredible luck for us here that this terrible war has passed over our heads without causing us more than some discomfort and worries. It was no fun of course, but compared with conditions in Europe or other parts of China we really were very lucky.

Personally I am especially fortunate, in that I could continue to work in my field, in beautiful surroundings and without immediate worries about livelihood. I think that it was shortly after you left, that I was evicted, so to speak, from my place in the laboratory, allegedly because of the stink that I produced and the space that I needed. Instead I was given a desolate house in the farthest corner of the Kung Wang Fu, near the pig-sty, but beautifully situated with hills and trees all around. The Kung Wang Fu is the big garden to the East of the university, formerly belonging to a prince, but now taken over by the university including the prince, who is now teaching in the fine arts department. There I had plenty of elbow space though not much else. One chien (room) I partitioned off for my private use and the rest is mainly occupied by a fancy stove built in the style of the alchemists with a coal fire and bellows and some contraptions of my own. On it can be done all standard chemical operations including quantitative ignitions and a great deal more. It is independent of current and any special fuels and has no parts which cannot be replaced easily and from local materials. Of course it has its difficulties and quite a temper of its own, but with some experience it can be managed.

Calcium lactate is still my main product but I am also making U. S. P. NaCl. for injections at a rather large scale; some 800 lbs. so far. I have been working on alcoholic fermentation and produced enough for my own use but the end of the war stopped further development. Then I worked on a great number of preparative projects, partly for private interest and partly because they were needed by the department for use of the students or because there was a temporary demand for them. Among them were propionic acid by fermentation to make ethyl propionate which has a small market for use as a whiskey flavor, vinegar for Dr. Brull's pickled cucumbers, water glass, zinc oxide, phosphoric acid. Ca-phosphate, arsenic acid, glycerine trinitrate for medical use etc. etc. My latest project was to make neocarsphenamine, but there I got stuck in the preparation of Na-hyposulfite ($\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$) and sulfoxylate which are needed for the last step. The main result of this project will be a number of white, black and gray mice which I wanted to use for the bio-assay. I got some white and black checkered ones, which I believe is quite unique. Perhaps Dr. Adolph can make use of my colony when he comes back.

The project has not only expanded in scope but also in space. I built three further houses and adopted two more old ones, one of which was the pig-stable and I first had to evict the pigs and rabbits. Now I have the fermentation vat in there, built into a special stove which keeps the temperature constant within five degrees, without automatic control and only by coal-heating. Altogether I have now built seven stoves for different purposes.

It has been Dr. Brull's and my pride, that our laboratory could continue to operate when all other laboratories were paralysed or handicapped by the lack of standard la-

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boratory equipment, glassware, rubber etc. Nevertheless the project has been self-supporting all through, I have been paying my own salary so to speak and all the buildings and equipment were paid for out of the earnings of the project.

I got the Fu Jen M. S. degree in spring 1944 with a thesis on, "A Fermentation Method of Calcium Lactate Manufacture". Since then I have held the official position of a full time assistant but have also started some teaching. Besides having organized and directing the chemical seminar I am giving a laboratory course in "Microscopical Chemistry". For the first semester I had the help of Dr. Franke but since then have been doing it independently. For the next semester I have announced a lecture course on "Industrial Fermentation".

The work I did and also the teaching was interesting and I enjoyed it very much, but I have a feeling that it leads to nowhere. I got a great deal of experience, but it is rather general, too unspecific to be of much use now. It is the same with my teaching, I know more than the students, but what I know I scraped together from the very few books and journals available here or found out myself. I want to learn something really well, to learn what is known in one field of knowledge from somebody who is himself a real master in his art, so that my students too will have the feeling, that they are getting more than can be put into a book. As an undergraduate I did not feel it so much, but now I see, that there is a very vast difference between a lecture given by somebody who himself really works in and thoroughly knows the field he is talking about, and one that is merely a compilation of textbooks. The spirit of a university cannot be good if the later type predominates, and I am afraid here it does. Even if I would work in industry I would like to do it well and not use antiquated methods only because of insufficient knowledge.

If it is at all possible, I want to stay and work in China, eventually also change my nationality so as to avoid any suspicion as to my intentions and to make it clear that I do not desire the amenities of a permanent guest, but want to accept the responsibilities of a regular member of the community.

Before settling down to permanent work I would very much like to complete my knowledge by some further study in America. The university here has acknowledged my personal share in the values created through my work and offered to pay me for it should I need it. It is now impossible to evaluate the buildings, equipment and stocks, But I estimate that it would come to a few hundred U. S. dollars. So I would need some scholarship also. Is there any hope for me? I realize that the chances are slim with all the soldiers returning and crowding the universities. I am still interested in microbiology, especially fermentations. I would appreciate it very much if you could help me. I also have an idea that perhaps some American firm (say a factory for making yeast) may want to start a branch factory here in China and find it worth while to train somebody new with a knowledge of the country and the language rather than to send some of their old men. It is perhaps a rather fantastic idea but I am catching at any straw, do you see a hope there? Personally I would prefer some scientific research job to a technical industrial one.

What is Dr. Winfield doing, is his work going to be continued? Please tell him my best regards if you write to him. Is Dr. Adolph in China? There was a rumor he returned. To him also my best regards please. Do you plan to return to Yenching? They are starting already, in a small way though, Dr. Ts'ai and Dr. Chang Tzu-kae, I hear, are teaching the chemistry.

Please excuse my talking so much. I have been living like a monk all these years, with scarcely any social contact except Dr. Brull. The members of the faculty here have scarcely any social relations either with each other or with the students, quite different from Yenching. Of my former classmates only Liang Chih-ch'uan is left in Peiping, was Dr. Adolphs assistant, perhaps you remember him. I am eagerly awaiting communications to be restored and to see old friends again. I expect that my parents

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also will come back to Peiping when the Peking University returns, but also from them I had no news for five months. About my relatives in Germany of course I know nothing, I do not even know how to write them, since their former addresses do not exist any more. My sister was heard of last in Austria, I hope she could remain there.

Well the war is over now, the hardships may not be over yet, but at least now one knows where one is going and has something to work for. There is plenty of need even for the little skill and knowledge I have, may I be given a chance to apply it.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Frank Liebenthal

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RADIOGRAM FROM J. LEIGHTON STUART

REMAINING CHINA PRESENT DAMAGE SERIOUS MOST POWER INSTALLATIONS ALL FURNITURE
SCIENCE EQUIPMENT REMOVED MINOR REPAIRING EXTENSIVE MOST LIBRARY BOOKS PROBABLY
RECOVERABLE

STUART

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YENCHING UNIVERSITY

PEIPING, CHINA

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

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STEPHEN I. O. TS'AI, *Controller*
MARY COOKINGHAM, *Field Treasurer*

September 25, 1945

To All Friends of Yenching University:

The news of President J. Leighton Stuart's release on August 18th after over 42 months of close confinement by the Japanese in Peiping brought relief and joy to a host of people in all parts of the world. It will be remembered that Dr. Stuart was at once taken into custody following Pearl Harbor and had been held in company with Dr. Henry S. Houghton and Mr. Trevor Bowen of the staff of the Peiping Union Medical College.

Immediately upon Dr. Stuart's release plans were initiated looking to a partial reopening of the University on the campus outside Peiping. This will take place on October 10th, Chinese Independence Day. Only freshmen and sub-freshmen will be admitted, and there is no thought of a return of the "Yenching in exile" at Chengtu before the end of the academic year. Dr. Stuart has recently been in Chengtu consulting with the group there, but is returning to Peiping for the reopening. Not long thereafter it is expected he will come to this country. He is in good health and high spirits.

These highlights are from a letter to the Trustees and an interview with Dr. Houghton who has already been repatriated. The Trustees have met and in consultation with Dr. Y. P. Mei, Acting-President of the unit at Chengtu who is now in this country as a guest of the State Department, are backing the reopening to the best of their ability. Additional aid will be sought from United China Relief. Dr. Mei is being asked by the Trustees to remain here until after Dr. Stuart's return.

Such a prompt renewal of activity at Peiping is to a large degree made possible by the presence there of a considerable number of able and experienced members of the Chinese faculty, men like William Hung, C. W. Luh, Stephen Tsai and others. These veterans, with Professor DeVargas who has been on the staff of the Swiss Consulate all these years since Pearl Harbor and in whose home Dr. Stuart opened his temporary office, were ready and eager to help in every way and are carrying on as a provisional Executive Committee. It will be remembered that these Chinese were among the group imprisoned and subjected to ill-treatment by the Japanese for periods up to six months soon after the University was closed. Several western faculty members who were interned at Weihsien are expected to assist in the reopening before returning to their homelands for rest and recuperation.

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There will be nothing luxurious about life on either Yenching campus -- Chengtu or Peiping -- this winter. "Property has been very badly damaged but not quite as seriously as we had been told," Dr. Stuart writes. "Japanese vandalism has followed its usual course in carrying away or wrecking all movable equipment and everything that they wished to alter for their own use. All chairs, tables, beds, etc. were long ago taken away. Far more serious is the loss of our costly science equipment, specimens, etc. built up over years. They have gutted the powerhouse, mechanical installations, metal fixtures, etc. in their need for supplying their war industries, though this is not apparently as complete as we had feared. Most fortunately the library has suffered least. Many books are still intact, others have been stored in two places in the city and we can recover most of these." A preliminary estimate of repair costs for the plant is \$500,000, and for educational and dormitory equipment as much again or more. Some of the buildings are still being used as a Japanese military hospital, but these men will gradually be transferred elsewhere. "Students may be asked to bring their own beds, etc.," Dr. Stuart continues, "and there will be all kinds of discomforts; we may have a long winter vacation, with no heating system, and carry through next summer. But we intend somehow to make a start and raise our flag."

Sincerely yours,

Earle H. Ballou

Earle H. Ballou
Secretary

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mr. Ballou
Mr. Corbett
Mrs. Mills

FROM: Mr. Evans

The following cable just received from Chengtu:

"MEI EVANS 150 FIFTH AVENUE NYK

SUGGEST WIT IF STUART RETURNS BEFORE JANUARY SITUATION DEMANDS

DEFINITE REHABILITATION PLANS ENSURE FACULTY AND GENERAL STABILITY -

MA KIAM"

c.c. to Dr. Y. P. Mei

October 6, 1945.

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001-1-151-112

YENCHING UNIVERSITY
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

News direct from the campus has just arrived this morning. Much of this will be used again in an early issue of YENCHING NEWS but you should not have to wait that long for it.

A LETTER FROM DOUGLAS RUGH OF RECOVERY TEAM #2, AMERICAN RED CROSS
ADDRESSED TO THE YENCHING OFFICE AND DATED OCTOBER 11, 1945

"Dr. Stuart has asked that I send you word of the opening of Yenching yesterday, October 10th, on China's "double tenth" anniversary. The Auditorium of Bashford Auditorium was filled by the incoming Freshman Class, with faculty members occupying the front rows. The convocation was a very thrilling experience for everyone present and occurred simultaneously with the official surrender of the Japanese forces in Peiping, the latter ceremony taking place in the T'ai Ho Tien in the Forbidden City. The Weihsien members of the faculty have not yet returned but are expected back on October 15th or thereabouts.

Following the morning convocation ceremony Stephen Tsai showed me around the grounds, where there is not much apparent change. The Japanese had built some brick buildings in the vicinity of the water tower and also the beginnings of an alcohol plant. A railroad extension line had been built into this area so that Yenching now is on the railroad. In what was formerly called the Korean Gardens, over by the Dairy, there are numerous large stock piles of horseshoes and shoe polish, enough shoe polish for all Japanese troops in North China it seems. Also, piles of paper, grain and some munitions in pits. There were caves dug in the banks for storage of gasoline against air raids but the gasoline had been removed.

A few Japanese convalescents were still occupying the mens' dormitory buildings so that the incoming Freshmen men had to occupy womens' dormitory buildings temporarily.

The Yenching Campus was unusually beautiful in the bright autumn sunlight and returned alumni and friends were obviously thrilled at the opportunity of walking freely about the grounds again.

I am inclosing an article printed in today's Peiping Chronicle, giving the names of those who spoke at the convocation. Dr. Stuart is looking well, considering the years of interment he has experienced. The achievement of holding this convocation on the double tenth has truly been a tonic for him. He spoke inspiringly at the morning convocation and again at the afternoon meeting for the Freshmen. Professor William Hung gave what was probably the keynote address in Chinese at the convocation, his first speech since his vow not to speak publicly following the Japanese occupation.

It was my privilege to represent Col. Ramp, Commanding Officer of Recovery Team #2 at the convocation and also the American Red Cross. I can assure you it was a most stimulating and significant experience to see the spirit of Yenching which has survived the trials of these past years and is stronger than ever before. Last spring while serving an airforce unit I had the privilege of visiting Yenching in Chengtu and I can see that when the Chengtu student body finally gets back home here Yenching will prosper as never before. With best of wishes to you, sincerely,"

Douglas Rugh

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FROM "THE PEIPING CHRONICLE," THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1945

"Students, Friends attend Yenching Re-opening Fete

The faces of the hundreds of new students, faculty and guests at the reopening of Yenching University yesterday morning, reflected the joy felt by everyone present. The feeling in the hearts of all as the Yenching flag was once more raised to its former place by Mr. Stephen Tsai, controller of the University, was too deep for cheers, but as the flag reached the top, the Yenching University song was sung with great feeling by the onlookers.

After the flag raising ceremony the students and faculty lead by their president, Dr. J. Leighton Stuart, marched to Bashford Hall where an impressive ceremony was held. After the singing of the National Anthem Dr. Stuart, with his usual ease and facility, welcomed the new students and guests in a short address in both Chinese and English. This was followed by speeches from Mrs. C. F. Wang, acting Dean of Women, Dr. William Hung, Professor of History, Mr. Hou Jen-chih, Chairman of the Student Welfare Committee, Captain H. J. Gravem, Chinese Language Officer, who represented Colonel Julian Frisbie, Father Rabmann, Rector of the Catholic University, Mr. Douglas Rugh, American Red Cross Field Director and Mr. Ho Chi-kung, President of China University. The Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Li Jung-fang, Professor of Hebrew.

At the close of the ceremony the faculty and guests repaired to the President's house where once again after these many years, they found the customary warm welcome with which Dr. Stuart's home has always been associated.

Great credit is due to those whose hard work during the past weeks has enabled the University to function again so soon after its return. In spite of the depredations to which the grounds and buildings have been subjected, all traces of these have been skillfully concealed and the campus, under a perfect Peiping sky, looked as peaceful and beautiful as in former days."

FROM MRS. HAROLD SHADICK TO MARY COOKINGHAM DATED OCTOBER 20, 1945

"Here we are! Looking out on to Sage as I'm writing this in Dr. Stuart's guest room. So very much has happened to us in the last two months that we are still in a daze. After many false starts we left Weihsien in a plane exactly two months from the day the parachute rescue party landed outside the camp. The two hour trip made an almost too quick transition for us from camp to the amenities of Dr. Stuart's house - where only one tub has been ripped out. We arrived in the middle of a reception to Marine officers so that the bulk of the faculty were here - no one knew we were arriving. (Though some of our group had come earlier as we were flown out alphabetically - the Shadicks chewing nails while the Bs and Rs etc. took off ahead of them.)

The campus is lovely - it is overgrown like a jungle and there are some eyesores but the general impression exceeds our wildest hopes - no trees cut down, no serious damage to buildings. Stephen has worked miracles. Our house, freshly painted is being cleaned today and we hope to move in tomorrow. The foreign faculty is shrunk to eight and we do miss some of you sorely but it is marvelous beyond words to be both out of camp and in here.....

Lucy (Burt), Miss Hancock, George Loehr, Jimmy Pyke, Albert Liu, Stewart

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Mitchell, the Deans and ourselves are the Weihsien contingent. Our friends here have been through too much. Many of them, Ruth (Chou), Lily (Tsai) and William Hung show marks of this. The others seem much the same.

We are bewildered and disoriented still, though Lucy, who came two days before us, tells all that she is already feeling more normal so we hope for the best.

Harold joins me in sending love and salaams to you and anyone else near you.

P. S. There is a Japanese bath house in your kitchen, and in both houses 57 and 58 the small rooms have been thrown together - the little lavatories being no more. Your garden is all right. Our lawn is a vegetable patch - even the grapevine and the peonies are done!"

The following digest is from a letter which Grace Boynton received from Agnes Chen dated September 15:

Dr. Stuart spent two days in Chengtu, arriving just after six weeks of rain which had caused considerable damage, but as soon as he arrived "the sky turned cheerful, sunny, as though foretelling the future destiny of our Beloved Community." Robert Chao, as vice-chairman of the War Area Service Corps reserved for Dr. Stuart the suite at the Li Che She which used to be occupied by the Generalissimo.

When Dr. Stuart appeared at the campus at 9:00 A.M. the gateman sounded the gong -- which used to be an air raid signal -- and "firecrackers burst away, and songs and cheers signified how happy everybody was. He certainly looked fit after his long captivity." At 6:00 P.M. the University held a dinner in his honor.

The following afternoon Dr. Stuart held a press conference and many people who wanted to hear him talk walked in as journalists. He visited the dormitories and held a discussion group with the faculty. The alumni gave a tea for Dr. Stuart in the evening. The secretary prepared tea for 200 guests and each person paid \$500 for the food. About 400 people came so the Alumni Association made a net profit of \$40,000. When the profit was announced the alumni cheered Dr. Stuart's magnetic attraction.

Mrs. Sailer has received a cable reporting Randolph's arrival in Kunming.

October 30, 1945

Mr. Corbett
1945 Oct

NEWS FROM OUR BRITISH FACULTY MEMBERS WHO WERE INTERNED IN CHINA

SHANGHAI INTERNEES

Mr. and Mrs. Jowett Murray (School of Religion) From the London Missionary Society, September 28 - "All well. Expecting Repatriation soon."

Mrs. Howard Payne (Mr. Payne, who was Associate Controller, died in the fall of 1942) From Margaret N. Payne who received a letter from her mother dated Sept. 1 - "Mother sounds well and remarkably cheerful, though reading between the lines the food situation has been bad during internment. She hopes to return to this country via the States."

Word has been received that Mrs. Payne was due to reach San Francisco about October 20 but no further word has been received.

WEIHSIEN INTERNEES

Miss Marjory Davys (Teacher in the Senior Middle School) Mrs. Luckes received a letter dated August 27 and reports - "She is very well and recently weighed heavier than for years. She hopes to be home by Christmas or before."

Miss Ethel Hancock (Department of Mathematics) From a letter received by Miss D. L. Hancock - "Thankful for peace. Well. Hope soon Peking."

Miss Hilda Holland (Department of English) Mrs. Holland received the following message dated Sept. 9 - "Well. Thrilled. Thankfully celebrating peace. See you soon."

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Shadick (Department of English) Mrs. E. T. Shadick, Harold's mother, wrote on October 6 - "I have had news that Harold and Nellie are safe and well but I do not know whether they are returning to Yenching or coming home."

Miss Lucy Burt (Department of History) Wrote to Miss Alice Boring on Sept. 2 - "We ourselves are remarkably fit and vigorous, with a really splendid morale in the camp. So far no epidemics since you left - hospital running smoothly - dozens of major operations - nearly 30 births of splendidly vigorous children. The 24 deaths all normal in an out-of-camp way, except two accidents to troublesome body and Mrs. Lawless' death from typhoid. Yenching folks are hoping to get back soon to Peking for instructions and I plan if it is anyway possible to be back in the west for Christmas so that I can be returning to China this time next year, but who knows?"

PEIPING INTERNEES

Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Ridge (Department of English) In a letter to Mr. Ridge's brother Mrs. Ridge tells of her husband's illness and death on March 18, 1945. The following quotations are taken from her letter which was written in April with a postscript added near the end of August when it was possible for her to send the letter.

"His paralysis was much more apparent during the last few months but his mind was just as brilliant and he was preparing for all sorts of work to be undertaken as soon as freedom came. One of them was to be a new guide to Peking, another a new and much enlarged Encyclopedia Sinica for which he had collected abundant new

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material. Then he had just begun on a book about different public characters he had met while out here, and having been here forty years he had known most of the big people both Chinese and foreign. He finished the first chapter of this for my birthday. Another plan was to start a newspaper on the same lines as the "Far Eastern Times" an English-Chinese one he had running in the twenties and which was the best of its kind ever put out in the far east. In his filing cabinet are thousands of notes which I fear no one else is competent to use

"Fortunately we have been able to borrow books which were such necessary mental food to him. He was content, at least outwardly, in great contrast to myself who always kick against the pricks though he said once or twice how much he missed the congenial fellowship of kindred minds such as he enjoyed at Yenching

"I want to tell you about his last hours. It was not until noon on Sunday that I was allowed to see him, (at the French Hospital). He barely knew me but had clear moments now and then. During most of the afternoon he was quoting Latin or else praying. His mind was far above mundane things. He asked me once to sing one of his favourite hymns but only gave me the number. It was:

"I'll praise my Maker with my breath
And when my voice is lost in death
His praise shall still my nobler powers employ"

"Praise has always been his great theme. For many months he led our Sunday services in the Embassy Chapel and preached very fine sermons. The hymns he chose were always of praise. I know how much he enjoyed doing that for he often felt how helpless he was in some things but his ministerial work was an outlet for some of his energies."

Mrs. Ridge writes of her own plans - "If the way opens I want to stay on out here and still work for the Chinese."

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR AMERICAN FACULTY MEMBERS WHO WERE INTERNED IN CHINA

WEIHSIEN INTERNEES

Dr. Lucius Porter (Department of Philosophy) Mrs. Porter has received several communications reporting Lucius' movements. A cable to the American Board states that he and Mr. Hubbard flew from Weihsien to Tientsin. A letter written the last of September in Chungking indicates that Lucius was living in his own house in Peking. A cable dated October 15 brings the news that Lucius is well and sailing for home on October 13. (Probably he is on the Army Transport La Vaca which sailed from Shanghai with 392 repatriates from North China on October 13).

Mr. Langdon Gilkey and Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Stanley (Mr. Gilkey was a member of the Department of English and Mrs. Stanley was Miss Speer's secretary) The cable which reports Lucius' sailing from Shanghai includes the following: "Inform Mrs. Gilkey that Langdon with me. Inform Board Stanleys also."

October 24, 1945

Hwahsipa Student Center
Chengtú, West China
Nov. 12th 1945.

Dear J. L. Stuart
Yenching University
Peiping, North China

Dear Dr. Stuart:

Just like every other former or present student of Yenching were expecting your coming, I had been looking forward to see you with inexpressible joy. My visit to our university in Chengtu was frequented. I was in the party arranged two days before your actual arrival and there waited till late at night. The next day, however, I fell into an illness which laid me in bed for a week and missed the chance of seeing you.

Phillip Ho passed on to me your kind regards. This reminds me of the loving and encouraging letters you sent me when I worked at National Chekiang University, Tsunyi. It brings me to the understanding that even thru those agonistic years your mind and love never let off any person whom you once interested in and cared for. Sure is the love of great spiritual depth which we, your students, have but vaguely apprehended and should learn to imitate and exemplify in our own lives.

I was very glad in hearing about the re-opening of our university in Peiping and specially glad to hear that most of our most revered professors, after long and patient suffering once again began their free service in and for truth. I cannot over emphasize here my anxiety to go back to see you all. It is an anxiety, paradoxically, however, of a joyous expectation.

I was called to be on a touring team of "Youth and Religion" campaign in November 1941, and was in the middle of the trip when Pearl Harbour came. Settling down myself at Tsunyi, I served the students of Cheking University in all three places, Tsunyi, Meikan, and Yenghsing, for a year and nine months. During the time, two student centers were established and self-help students were organized and trained to take over the management of the centers. I am specially glad to report that the Christian Fellowship there had been all the while grows in number and strength, and there it signified a permeation of the spirit of our university group. I was then shifted to Kweiyang Y.M.C.A. as executive of their student department, and remained there 15 months. The work was mainly religion and service work for 7 universities and colleges in Kweiyang, Hwahsi and Peingyueh, and also included, besides helping various city programs, the administration of a night school which had been developed during that year from seven to twenty three classes. In the summer of 1944, an invitation came from the university friends in Chengtu, thru the national ~~admix~~ committee of Y.M.C.A., asking me to come to do religion work on the campus. But the Japanese thrust in that year made the relief work in Kweiyang specially urgent, and I was asked to delay my trip and help We developed programs for temporary dormitories, transportation facilities and stations along the Kweiyang Chengtu highway. Throughout the month of November and the first half of December the whole six people in our department worked constantly eighteen hours a day. In the heat of work, we even nearly forgot that, for a time, the Japanese had been drawing nearer and nearer to the city where we were in.

Ruby came out to Peiping in the winter of 1942. She then finished first her last semester at Chengtu and went to join me in Kweiyang where we married. We came to Chengtu in March. The local Y.M.C.A. still regards me as the executive of their student department but it is the university campus on which my work is centered. Andrew T. Roy initiated me to succeed him as the secretary of the Joint Advisory Committee on Religious Activities, the committee, you may have known, which is authorized by the President to oversee the religious activities in all fine universities. Miss Spicer who extended the invitation for Dr. T. C. Chao to come is the Chairman of that committee. I also

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helped in the Student Center work which deals more with extra curricular educational and social programs. Besides, I am teaching a class on Ethics in West China Union University and learning Greek at the Nanking theological Seminary.

We had a girl baby in March. We named her Alice Joy.

These four years of the busy life of a secretary made me homesick for a quiet and academic environment which can help my intellectual and spiritual growth in a way which the present profession of mine does not afford. The possibility of such a change I have not yet seen. Your advices and helps will be invaluable to me.

Ruby and I want to express here our best personal regards,

Yours respectfully

Frederick Y. Chin.

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