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Yenching University, Peking
Feb. 6, 1952

Lapwood China Letter 1952 No.1

Dear Friends,

In our last, we dealt rather fully with the Study Groups organized among the faculty, workmen and staff of the University. In this letter I want to give you a short account of the most recent movement which is sweeping the whole of China with terrific force -what has come to be known as the "anti-3 Movement", i.e. anti-waste, corruption and bureaucy. But before we get down to the actual description of the movement, it is necessary to go back a bit to see why such a movement is necessary, especially just at this time.

Those of you who have been in China will not need much remeinding of the age-long tradition of bribery and corruption in official circles, squeeze in all walks of life, misappropreation or wanton waste of public funds and materials wholesale avoidance of tax-paying except by the poorest classes, and the buying off of the courts by the rich. These things had been going on almost unchecked for hundreds of years and had come to be accepted as inevitable. During the war when some more than usually flagrant case of corruption was brought to the attention of the KMT leaders, a clean-up was ordered nd a few folk were shot as a public example, or to impress the representatives of the allied nations. But such actions became cynically referred to as "swatting flies and sparing tigers", since the worst cases of corruption were to be found in the highest political circles, not excluding the KMT "Royal Family" itself. Many fine and honest folk hated this state of affairs and wanted to change it, but they had no power to do so on anything but a small local scale. No nation-wide attack on the problem seemed possible at that time.

In vivid contrast to this state of affairs was the Communist tradition in the guerilla areas during the war -simple living conditions for all ranks, low salaries, no squeeze or acceptance of "gifts for favors past or to come, and a general gradition of hard work, enthusiastic self-sacrifice and incorruptobility which was noted and commented upon even by observers who were by no means sympathetic with the Communist regime.

After the capitulation of Japan, graft and corruption reached a new high in the KMT-controlled areas. So that when the new regime took over the major cities and gradually came to control the whole mainland of China, every one watched to see what would happen. At that time there were not enough trained workers to fill all the numerous posts in the civil service and government offices. So the government was forced to rely on all sorts of people, many of whom had been officials under the KMT.

At first no merchant dared to offer anything even to minor officials, but gradually feelers were put out -at first small gifts which when accepted were followed by expensive meals at leading restaurants, and finally the more or less straight bribe. Old ways die hard and some of those who had reaped many benefits from their official positions in the past, began to hope that they could once more feather their own nests with impunity. So, almost imperceptibly the old ways began to creep into the new set-up. Those who were old Communist Party members, who had taken part in the Long March and faced the rigors of life in the Old Liberated Areas, remained, for the most part, above such practices. But a few of them, placed in new circumstances in comparative comfort, with their official position calling for better clothes and food, well-furnished houses and offices, cars and so on, began to be affected by their surroundings and by their new power, and gradually allowed thier personal prestige and comfort to count for more than the good of the nation and people.

During last year the newspapers reported several cases of large-scale corruption or maladministration in high circles. tThe cases were thoroughly examined and the facts made public through the papers. The punishment was heavy by western standards, the death penalty being meted put to those found guilty of misappropriation of vast sums of public money, while others were given long prison sentences.

Then, about October 1951, there began in the Northeast what was apparently a Mass-Movement aimed at rooting out this cancer from that particular area, which contained a large part of China's heavy industry and where political consciousness on the part of the workers had already reached a high level. Toward the end of the year, this mpvement came into North China and Mao Tze-tung, in his speech on Jan.1 urged the people of the whole country to dig deep into the roots of the problem. No person, office or institution was to take for granted that it was free from graft, waste of bureaucracy, and a house-cleaning was to be made throughout the entire country.

The first step was to hold mass meetings at which cases were quoted and instances

given to illustrate the various points. Graft and waste could be easily defined, but when it came to bureaucracy, it was not so easy. In general, it seems to mean the attitude of a person who throws his weight about and acts like a petty dictator and does not work with a team, neither trains junior members of his staff or listens to their ideas.. It has come to have the meaning of being out of touch with the people, those below in an organization.

Newspapers and magazines carried stories and comic strips, trams and buses carried amusing cartoons of seven ways in which dishonest conductors cheated the company or the public, posters blossomed on every wayside notice-board. Each department of this university had cartoons on large blackboards in the hallways; the Chemistry Department prepared a cartoon strangely reminiscent of Pilgrim's Progress, heavily laden workers struggling up a steep path, the dividing of the ways with a horned devil urging the weak to take the path over the precipice, while uniformed officials waved the strong up to the sunlit heights of national prosperity and honest administration.

Next came the "stirring up Meeting" held in each institution, office, factory and street, led by the local party leaders and others. The following sort of stories were told:- the merchant who failed to give receipts for all purchases in his shop, thus robbing the country of millions in sales-tax; the high official in the Bureau of Communications who had his floor paved with expensive Philippine wood blocks, thus wasting the country's foreign exchange; the hospital which had enough of a certain rare drug to last for a thousand years. Then came the impassioned plea for every one to search his actions, his thoughts, his inner motives as a preliminary to a confession of guilt. Every one was urged to "come clean" in every detail and a specified time limit was given in which to confess. After that others would be given a chance to bring in accusations, and it was indicated that those who has made a clean breast of it would be dealt with more leniently than those who continued to try to hide their guilt or who would not admit their sins and shortcomings. Admissions came rolling in, large and small, and endless meetings were held in every organization at which folks confessed their sins of omission and commission.

The climax was usually a "Mass Meeting for Struggle", the struggle being aimed not against the people, but against certain conceptions of life. At some meetings there were violent expressions of public opinion against thise who had long been known as perpetrators of wholesale graft and corruption, and such people were made to stand or kneel before their accusers, and if sufficient proof of their crime was on hand they were taken off to the Police Station straight from such a meeting. There they would await trial by the People's Court. Sometimes when the crimes were fairly minor, if they had voluntarily confessed, they were encouraged to go on with theri work with the promise to do better in the future. Just what happens next is not clear. The courts are working over time to examine the big cases.

Here in Yenching cases of waste and corruption have been brought to light, mainly in the offices of business, the Cooperative and the powerhouse, as well as on the farm and dairy. Examination into the truth of the accusations is now going on. Students were organized into groups to help check over all inventories of furniture and materials. to uncover cases of waste or of uneconomical tying up of capital in horded goods. Libraries were carefully checked and missing books noted. In one unusual case it was found that valuable originals of some foreign books had been replaced with local cheap reprints. Students could not at first see the need for complete sets of Mathematics Journals, on the ground that they never referred to them ! But on the whole this Spring-house-cleaning has had a salutary effect on the whole university, and a new standard of personal responsibility for public property has been set.

But the most significatn and far-reaching effect of this movement, as far as Yenching is concerned, will probably be in the realm of personal relations. In the past, workmen and low-ranking staff members had not taken the chance to say what they really thought, even though of recent years they have been represented on University committees. The set-up was democratic, but the form is not of much use if the spirit is lacking. In too many cases workmen and staff membmers were afraid to make suggestions of criticisms for fear of retalistory measures because in the past it was dangerous to make your superiors lose face. Now as our administrators make an honest effort to examine their own attitudes, thinking and actions and are willing to acknowledge mistakes and failures in the past, and with a new frankness on the part of workmen and servants and juniors which has opened their eyes to many injustices of which they were ignorant, there is growing a new spirit of democracy to give meaning to our democratic procedures. In a time like this, cases arise where accusations are made out of spite, ill-feeling or jealousy ; criminal or unpatriotic motives

are imputedto those who have worst been careless or thoughtless. At present accusations must be accepted by the accused, but later "checkers will check to see if they are malicious or unfounded.

We are now having holidays for the Winter Vacation. We took a few days off at the beginning to relax, read Wodehouse and a few Whodunits. I had two days of complete change, staying in the city, but was quite glad to return again to the hurly-burly of family life Ralph had his break in the form of a long walk with a friend which took most a day and covered about 16 miles of the countryside.. The children have been concentrating for about an hour a day on English lessons and have spent the rest of the time skating, playing marbles, and learning a game which is a cross between Warrams and Snooker.

China New Year was celebratedwith quite a lots of noise and traditional jollification this year, though many of the old customs are dying out gradually. Very few smear the mouth of the Kitchen God with sticky toffee before sending him up in smoke to Heaven to report on the doings of the family during the year, but the children still buy the sticky toffee for their own delectation. We wondered whether fire-crackers would be classed as "waste" this year, and apparently some local administrators tried at first to suggest this idea. But the higher-ups apparently gave their blessing to a custom so dear to the hearts of the children, with the result that friends in the city reported the noisiest New Year's night in many years. I paid a visit to the fair at Liu Li Chang a few days before New Year's , and it was crowded with cheerful neatly dressed family groups, all buyung long sticks of toffee-apples , goldfish,diabolos,paper windmill toys, cross-bows, glass toys, figures made of rice flour -all very much like the ones we used to buy when we were kids. We saw only one old beggar,and evn he was quite warmly clad - a great contrast to the whining band in rags and tatters who used to haunt such fairs in the old days.

With all Good Wishes for 1952,

Yours aye,

Nancy Lapwood (Mrs. Ralph Lapwood)

To: NFF

For: ☑ Information ☑ Retu
☐ Action ☐ File
☐ Comment

From MCR

File

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Yenching University, Peking
Feb.29, 1952

Lapwood China Letter 1952

Dear Friends,

This letter will be very much a continuation of the previous two - mine about Study Groups, and Nancy's about the Anti-3 Movement (Anti-corruption, waste, and Beaurocracy). I shall write mainly about the discussions and talks centered on the groups which combined teachers and students of the Physics and Maths Departments; I hope that I can thus go into enouth detail to give a realistic picture of the extension of the Anti-3 Movement into the region of academic life.

We began quietly with a discussion in the Maths faculty group of the meaning of the Anti-3 Movement and the need for it. This went over the ground which Nancy described last month. The information was shared and the question "Why should university faculty join in?" was worked over. The answer was that in a movement which concerned the whole life of the nation, which aimed to create a new atmosphere, no one could stand aside. But on the whole, we thought of ourselves as a cheering squad rather than struggling in the arena.

Our next meeting (same group) was an attempt to apply rigorous standards of honesty and austerity to ourselves. At the time this seemed a big forward step. We owned up to carelessness over library books, other public property, failure to buy bicycle licenses, wasteful use of budget, and such things. On the whole there was little to say, for we were an honest crowd, and we had had little money or equipment to waste. But to admit mistakes at all before colleagues was quite an effort, and we felt that we had taken a first step in frankness and the abolition of "face". The main concrete result which emerged was that the Maths Library had been very carelessly administered, and many books lost.

Next we joined with the students an faculty of the Physics Department for a more intensive discussion of "What is waste?". Various purchases made during the past year by the Physics were analyzed. The attitude was somewhat as follows:- Yenching budget comes from the national income, which is mainly acquired from the grain tax on peasants. Even a small sum represents many days of hard work on the part of some farmer. The government wants to observe rigid economy so as to reduce the load on the peasants. Therefore it must judge carefully between the needs of different institutions, and in each institution expenditures must be thought of in relation to the whole national situation. So, for instance, the purchase of an electricdrill (to be used only occasionally) when we already had a hand drill; or of an extra camera, was condemned as wasteful. The purchases fell within the budget, but the idea that one should try to spend up to the budget lest the balance be divertrd to some one's else use was considered as narrow departmental loyalty which obscures the more important loyalty to the ordinary people. As the various items were considered, some were approved as examples of justified expenditure, some stigmatised as examples of waste. The final test was always that of benefit to the Chinese people., and this meant the workers -manual laborers - who make up the best mass of the population and whose labor is the primary producer of the nation's wealth. Another point that was emphasized was that narrow departmental loyalty or institutional loyalty is inevitable in competotive society, and is strongly developed in such a society, while in a planned society it is a handrance and must be subordinated to larger loyalties and objectives.

The next meeting opened a new phase. The Chairman of the Physics Department (also Associate Dean of Studies -which position supersedes the job of Dean of Science) gave a long talk, which was an admission of mistakes and oversights which he had discovered in his work, and an analysis of the reasons. This talk was given after it had been carefully worked over in committee several times, and set the tone for similar talks by the rest of the faculty. The principle which governs his and all other self-criticisms was that all attempts at self-justification should be banned. Concrete situations should be described, so that others might help in the analysis of the causes of failure. I quote here directly from the notes which I took on this talk :-

" I now see many errors of the past, mostly unconscious. I have learned of them from criticisms received during Anti-3 Movement. These errors arose because I thought from the standpoint of my own advantage. Self-sufficient - onlooker . Question of "Face". My inner dynamic was self-protective individualism -purely academic attitude. I see here the influence of the old society -capitalist education and worship of knowledge.

NFF MCR (M)

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"I supported the Anti-3 Movement, but when the waste in my own department began to be exposed, I unconsciously began to be passive. My "Face" was involved. Now I see that such an attitude can not be justified in a Department Chairman, and helps to hinder national development.

Why when the university was closed by the Japanese in 1941 did I not escape into the Hills (where Chinese guerillas operated) or engage in underground resistance work? Personal considerations, but a planned society demands a new standpoint. I took a purely / academic attitude, search for truth for its own sake. I did not see that such a man can become the tool of others. I now realize that a scholar must be politically alert. I went blindly. Beneath such an attitude lay personal ambition : I hoped to make a name in Physics. So I regarded administration not as a privilege of service, but as a waste of my time (which I desired to spend on science). Thus I administered half-heartedly. I ought to have thrown in my whole energies.

In national movements (such as Resist America-Aid Korea), I have been a bystander. I agreed intellectually, but my will and emotions were notmobilised for the common good. I did not feel a sense of belonging.

I have always taken considerable pains to be friendly all around, never angry or offending people. Now I see this as an "unprincipled cordiality". When students criticised a teacher, I did not take the matter up with that teacher, but tried to smooth it over. This was a failure of responsibility toward both sides. When a student needed severe warning, I spoke gentle unoffending words. Why? This desire to please everybody,- like a shopkeeper - is a mark of the old society, a method of self-protection.

Looking at my teaching, I see lack of adequate preparation, especially in the Freshman course which I looked on as beneath my dignity.

I failed to build teamwork among the staff, or to inspire them. I did not consult with them properly. I was guilty of "bureaucracy" in this field.

I have been reading MaoTze-tung's short essay on Laissez-faire Individualism and I see myself pertrayed there. Now I see the need to change. I want to serve the people, starting right in my own department amon students, teachers, and workmen . My attitudes and decisions must be made on principle. So I am determined to enter more fully into our political studies, and apply them in every part of life."

(Note:- it is necessary to remember that the word "political" as now used in China has a purely good connotation, and a very wide scope. I sometimes think that "religious" / would be a better translation, or "ethical", for the keynote is service of the common people. and "political studies" include an emotional attitude and the action of the will.)

My own reaction to this talk was of admiration of its frankness and correct self-description. I had never heard anything like it before outside the Oxford Group. But the leaders of the students and faculty were dissatisfied. A two hour meting brought volumes of criticism, which were summed up in the following four points :-

1-Failure to analyse the reasons for lack of teamwork within the department.
2-Failure to analyse adequately the effects of capitalist and American education.
3-Lack of clear picture of the meaning of being a "People's Teacher".
4- Lack of struggle.

The last two of these need further explanation. A "People's Teacher" does not mean a man who goes out to do mass education. It means a man whose vocation is teacher and whose whole life - choice of job, choice of course material, attitude to students, attitude to government - is determined according to the criterion "What is best for the Chinese People?" Moreover it means a man who is able to stimulate and inspire his students to the same attitude.

The conception of struggle is an essential of marxist thought. It is being applied all around us. People are taught not to be afraid of conflict and struggle. but to welcome it as an inevitable requisite of progress. It is considered that real unity comes only as a result of successful struggle, and the kind of unity which comes without struggle is suspected as superficial. If a man's self-criticism shows little evidence of struggle in thought, it is suspected as not going deep enough.

So the Department Chairman had a severe grilling from his students and associates. In fact it was realized afterwards that although motives had been good - a desire tohelp- an atmosphere crept in. Henceforth the method was changed, and discussion was held in small groups. which communicated their results to the steering committee, which then selected key problems for discussion in general. Stronger efforts were made to avoid the hostile or cross-examining attitude in discussion of a self-criticism.

After several days of consideration of the criticisms submitted to him, the Department Chairman made a second report. This was shorter and ran as follows :-

" I learned a lot from your criticism. I had not gone deep enough. I had not really hated the faults which I had described. I see that I have been careless of students and undemocratic in the department. failing the students and consequently the country, and it did not worry me.

"It was inadequate to call myself an "individualist" . I should have pointed to personal ambition - the desire to make and leave a name, which took me into science a field with the chance of permanent achievement. I see my life as a student dominated by the desire to get ahead, to go to America to study, not because our people needed that, but because that would advance me personally. With the same ambition I undertook research -not considering the topics on the base of the people's need. In America I caught the prevalent attitude toward a professor's job; research first, advanced courses second, fundamental courses last. I saw many professors regarded as eminent, who were not responsible toward their students. They concentrated on their research., and lectured badly. When I came back, I brought that attitude with me. Now I see it as part of the competitive individualistic system based on capitalism, and I reject it. I want from now on to plan my teaching and research to be in every phase and in its order of importance of maximum use to the ordinary people.

"I am disgusted by that "politeness all around" attitude which hindered the effectiveness of my work - behaving like a capitalist merchant. Because I did not care enough for my associates, I failed to help them; because I did not care enough for the Chinese people, I wasted budget money on unnecessary expenses. When the government cut the work of the 1949 class to three years, I emphasized the fact to them that it would not alter their status of treatment, instead of the privilege of going out to serve. Students have rightly criticized me for such failure to grasp what is important.

"I have seen the hatefulness of my personal ambition and my blind worship of American capitalist ways. I want to beat down that selfish "I" and that foreign idol. My old ways were shameful and I want to pull them up by the roots and make a new start. In the past I wanted to make a name for myself; now I have no greater desire than to serve the people, and become identified with them. To be one of them, to join in the dignity of their labor in the building of a peaceful world and a new China, to be emotionally at one with them, to be a "People's Teacher" ; this is the meaning of life."

The general reaction to this talk was one of welcome and approval. The students felt happy and looked forward to a new relationship with their Chairman. There seemed to be a new unity within the department, especially after all the teachers had made similar reports. The Chairman himself felt as if he had been released from a great burden.

This is a fairly typical example of what has been happening among our faculty. We are too near to it yet to see how it will effect the life of the university. So far 110 teachers have made their self-criticisms, and 80 have been felt by the listeners to be adequate in their depth of sincerity and desire to change.

So much is happening so fast. As one of the teachers of the Western Languages said:- "I seem to have lived through many years in this last week ".

No one knows when the University will start classes (after winter vacation). the determination is to complete the A-3 M first, and then have a week of consultation between the students and faculty about courses, then begin -perhaps in two weeks from now . We shall probably go on later in the summer to make up, this movement is regarded as of such importance ,not only in Yenching, but throughout the country, that everything is being dropped until this is over."Over" means when the different groups and organizations have really cleaned themselves up and are ready for a fresh start.

Letters are going in and out smoothly -about two weeks by airmail from you to us. All books which I have ordered in the past two years have come through, and all scientific journals. Other magazines are doubtful.

Living costs remain stable, and all of foods in adequate supply. The range of manufactured goods produced in China extends rapidly, and the quality improves. The A-3 M will certainly effect considerable improvement in quality, for one of the strongest attacks has been on manufacturers who have deceived the public -adulterating drugs, putting in materials below specification , selling defective goods, making inordinate profits.

We have had two good snowfalls lately, making a lot of difference to the harvest prospects. There is still some skating, but the sun stands higher each day, and temperatures are too high except in the mornings when no one has time. there are plum blossoms and jasmine in the shops.

Yours as ever , - Ralph

File

Dear Friends,

The latest number of the People's China contains very interesting pictures of the building of the Chung-chengtu railway, which is already more than half completed, and will be running regularly by Oct. 1. When Nancy and I travelled by bus or post-office truck between those cities, we saw in many places stretches of embankment, and occasional indications of work being carried on. It had been that way ever since early in the century, and there seemed no likelihood the trains would ever run. People who remembered boat travel before the building of the highway, or the ten-days journey in a chair swung between two men, considered the two days spent by bus an enormous improvement. But soon a few hours will suffice. The magazine stated that all the supplies needed were produced in China. This seems even more of a triumph than the completion in two years of a project which had staggered along for forty.

There is mention of assistance from Russian experts. I think it is safe to say that most big projects now have Russian advisors, who bring experience appropriate to Chinese conditions. But now, three years after liberation, there is no sign that the Russians are here in any other capacity than as advisors. It seems that they come for a limited number of specified assignments, and are not seen where Chinese talent and experience are judged adequate. For instance, as far as I know, none of the universities here, or PUMC, have added Soviet advisors. In Yenching we have had occasional visiting lecturers. Usually they speak to students of both Yenching and Tsinghua. One sees Russians shopping in the city, but they are quiet and self-contained, and mix little with the Chinese apart from their jobs. The reason Russians are welcome and Russia is regarded with friendly feelings is that Russia is the prime example of a nation with a planned economy, run by and for the working class, and China is determined to go the same way. People here are coming to understand more the meaning of a socialist or communist economic order, and to appreciate these as desirable. The enormous progress made in the past three years convinces them that such ideas are not wild dreams, but obtainable objectives, which will be reached under the leadership of the Chinese Communist party, and in the strength of the awakened masses. Capitalist economy is more and more regarded not just as inefficient, or a system that is passing, but as an evil and hateful thing, where a minority enjoy privileges and pleasures ~~the~~ at the expense of the majority whose physical labor creates them. So capitalist ways of life, habits of thought, motives and desires, are to be struggled against, expelled from mind and life, scorned and hated. Books which describe capitalist life and society in appreciative terms are regarded as evil influences, and it is demanded that they be removed from the shelves of public libraries. Magazines such as "Life", which most of You probably regard as superficial, but amusing, are here regarded as subtle and vicious propaganda for an ideology of selfishness and exploitation.

Two evenings ago Nancy took Peter, Joan and Stephen to see the film "The Liberation of Thibet", while I did the baby-sitting. We are seeing a lot of films at Yenching these days. About once a week either the Union or the Sino-Soviet Friendship Assoc. puts one on. Apart from the cartoons for the children, they are all educational or political in spirit.

The children had their spring holidays last Thurs. to Sat., and we decided that it was a good chance to take them into the city to see the Temple of Heaven. We picked a lovely day, and travelled by municipal bus to the HsiChihMen. There is now a regular fifteen min. service from Hsi Chih Men to the Summer Palace, and our West Gate is one of the stops. Then we took a tram through the city down to Tien Chiao. This was one of the many recently remodelled, and was very smart and clean inside, and had a woman driver. The bus and tram services inside the city are now very frequent, and except at short rush periods, one can get around comfortably and fast over many routes.

The Temple of Heaven is certainly magnificent. In my memory, I had forgotten some of the nobility and vastness of the design. All the buildings are in excellent repair, and the grounds are being improved in many ways. Each hall has a descriptive notice, of which a typical one ran as follows :-" It was from this hall that the feudal Emperor went out to pray heaven for the prosperity of the empire. This was merely a superstitious cloak to prevent the people from seeing how they were being exploited. All this beauty was created by the sweat and blood of the peasants, who enjoyed none of it. While we condemn the injustice and oppression of the Emperors, we recognize the wonderful skill and sense of beauty which resided in the laboring people who created this temple, and we rejoice that now at last their descendants are able to enjoy the fruits of their labor". Much point was given to this comment by the sight of cheerful school children performing folk dances on the broad

top of the Altar of Heavenwhere the emperor used to make his yearly obeisance.

On such trips the children always make many friends. On buses and trams Peter was soon in conversation with his neighbors. We were sometimes embarrassed by being mistaken for Russians,and clapped by parties of schoolchildren and their teachers. But even when people discovered that we were English, they showed us great friendliness,whatever they might think about our government.

Leaving the Temple of Heaven, we took pedicabs. It is very pleasant to see the general cheerfulness of the pedicab men these days. When I first visited Peking in 1933 one of my impressions was of the friendliness of the people,typified by the rickshaw pullers.Returning in 1948, I was distressed to see the change: the people still friendly, but so worried about liveliness that there was little cheerfulness.Rickshaw men fought for passengers,and tried every stratagem to get more money from them. Many were sick or too old to work,and their clothes were in rags.I do not say that the present situation is perfect, but at least, the men are fit and cheerful and better clad,and we are seeing more and more of the type who own their machines and take pride in keeping them in smart condition.

Today we went out for lunch at a local restaurant. It was much changed after the most thorough house-cleaning it has ever had.A new drive for cleanliness is on, with especial attack on rats.All along the streets or by the walls of isolated cottages, rat-holes, or potential ones, have been blocked and lime-washed.Practically every one in Peking has now been inoculated against typhus.It is universally believed that American planes have dropped typhus-bearing fleas in Manchuria.

Throughout the country the Anti-3 Movement has given place to the Anti-drought preparations. We have done well this spring with late snows and subsequent rain, and the ground is damp and the winter wheat looking fine.But rain through spring and summer is uncertain and the government is nothing if not thorough. At the last snowfall, snow was swept out of streets and courtyards and off of roofs,and mixed into the soil of the fields , lest any precious moisture should evaporate.Ponds are being deepened,new wells dug,ditches lined, so that every drop of rain that falls can be held and used.This widespread small-scale preparation augments the splendid big schemes for water conservation, flood prevention, and irrigation of which you can read in People's China. The attack on the local Hun River has already begun.

This morning when Peter and I were out for a run in the Old Summer Palace,we got into conversation with a farmer who was resting. He told us that in the Land Reform,he had received 6 mu of dry land and 3 mu of irrigated land for his family of wife and 5 children.Previously he had rented 6 mu of dry land only, so he wasbetter off.But last year he was sick and had had to borrow money,which he is repaying at 50% interest, so it is obvious that there is still improvement needed for the peasants' livelihood.His eldest son is at school, but the family eats only millet or maize with salted turnips, they can not afford meat or fresh vegetables.But he has hopes that if he keeps well, and gets some extra handicraft production, he can do better for his family.

*** In this letter, I have not continuedmy account of the anti-3 movement in Yenching, as there are a good many key questions which I can not yet answer.Some persons who have been sharply attacked are still working over their self-criticism .To some actions we are still too near to be able to see them in correct perspective. The criticism of Yenching's past,and of cultural imperialism, with the corresponding rise inpatriotic spirit, and determination to be dependent on no one, have reached a higher pitch,and have been more general than at any time before. I hope to return to this question later. ***

Yenching campus is just entering on the glories of the spring blossoms.Forsythia and wild peach are in blossom, with apricot and Judas trees to come soon. The campus is in very good shape.All old trees with holes in them have been cemented up,and new trees planted.Market gardening goes on with real success near the hua-tungtze and in the west field, which though poor for dry crops is excellent for irrigated vegetables. With the pleasant weather the numbers out for morning exercise have reached an all-time high.

The next main item for discussion will probably be the combining of the universities.We understand that Tsinghua people have come around to a more cooperative attitude, lessening the problems concerned. Engineering will certainly be concentrated at Tsinghua, and for the time being the combined university will be centered on this campus, with some new buildings put up near by.Some courses will be given in the city until building here has gone further ahead. We have no news of details,and few persons know to what department or course they are likely to be allocated.

Best wishes, from Ralph

Extracts from other letters received

A-From Withers Green in Hongkong written April 18.

He forwards the Lapwood letters and comments on the paragraph which is starred (*** ***)as follows :-

"Dr. Kilborn of West China was with us a weekend told us that Mr. Hubbard had come from the north and said that of the three foreigners in Yenching, two were under house-arrest, and Lapwood was not. He also said that C.W.Luh and T.C.Chao were also under house-arrest. When I asked why, he said that it was probably over the "San Fan"(the 3 anti movement-anti-corruption, anti-waste, anti-.....) House arrest is the practice until the arrested have cleared themselves.

"Calline says that the last of the American Board Mission are out of China.

"Dr. Kilborn is staying in Hongkong about three months to complete a textbook on Physiology and post back chapter by chapter to Chengtu (West China University) for translation. This is at their request ! and he has promised to do it !

" Regulations vary from region to region. Dr. Kilborn travelled out with four familes with about 70 pieces of baggage between them. Sometimes one can get away with paintings, embroideries or potteries, but usually one or more of such things will be confiscated. But nothing can be taken out that shows that you ever had any Chinese friends . He posted out scores of book parcels which have reached Hongkong and Canada safely.

"An Australian C.I.M. has come from house-arrest in Kweiyang, where no foreigner has been allowed to speak to any other foreigner since October. The whole of the south-west region is still under a military commission. This man is sure that John Hayes is in prison."

B-From a Chinese woman friend, a Vassar graduate, whose husband teaches Biology in PeiTa. written Feb. 6,1952

"Your air letter of Jan.20 arrived on Jan.31. It came through surprisingly fast. I should have written long ago, but various reasons prevented. I was down with flu, and also I was worried about J.C.(her husband) who did not come home with his group from the Land Reform trip on account of paratyphoid illness in a hospital in Hunan. He finally was well enough to travel and arrived home on Feb. 3. He is still weak and we have to be cautious and not let him get too tired, and that is hard nowadays, so I am doing my best to give him enough nutrition. He was away 4½ months and has come back with many new and rich experiences.

"You ask about the children. Buddie is working in the government along his line (engineering). I hope he and Anna will be married this summer, which will be our silver wedding anniversary. I intend to celebrate very simply, but we shall think of 25 years ago in your home in the Prince's Garden. Anna is working in the Public Health Department, they are both getting very little pay, but they are happy in thinking that they have a hand in the construction period of their country. It is marvellous how unselfish young people are in this new age. When we were young, our chief interest was how to climb up the socail ladder and improve our living conditions. Just from this one point, the effect this government has on its young people, I am all for it. The old idea of wanting to go abroad in order to gain future prestige and position is out of date with them. Service to the country and how to improve the living conditions of the entire population is uppermost in their minds. I blush with shame when I think of how I used to scheme for them to travel the old road.

"Jackie is doing unusually well in the medical school. He is a very steady fellow and so did well in Anatomy, Biochemistry and Histology. He is slow but sure, and clever with his hands, so I feel that he has chosen the right career. Didi is still in Middle School. He is bright, but this new age offers so much in the way of extra-curricular activities that 24 hours a day is just not enough for him. I hope he will finally settle down to something particular and do it well.

About the amalgamation of the universities, definite plans are being made to be carried out in the fall. Fromed will stay in the city for another year, as they plan to receive 500-600 new students, so most of the PeiTa Zoology staff will stay here to do that teaching. Zoology proper will move out. The Arts College will remain on the Yenching campus. The new building plan is enormous. The grounds will extend south from Y.U. to the Agriculture Station and east to beyond the Tsinghua ".".

Much love -From "Freddie"

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

File

Ralph
Lapwood Letter 52-4

Yenching University, Peking -May 5, 1952

Dear Friends,

This letter is a few days late, but thus I am able to report the beginning of classes and the general enthusiasm at return to studies. Nancy and I are busy teaching, Nancy with a slighter load than before, as far as teaching hours go, but it is likely that student requests for help outside teaching hours will be heavy.

The Anti-3 Movement ran through three months. The first stage was the attack on waste and corruption. In the latter part of this stage the faculty went through the process of self-criticism and acceptance of popular criticism. By previous standards, the methods of criticism were very unmerciful, and sometimes criticisms were based on inadequate evidence, little chance for defense being allowed by popular pressure. The objective seemed to have been to get people to the stage of giving and taking criticism, freed from the fears and self-defences which form strong inhibiting forces. So the leaders did everything to encourage criticism and to discourage self-justification, even when the criticisms were somewhat out of aim or the justification rather reasonable.

Next came the stage of all-over criticism of Yenching's past. The most important event then was the Exhibition aimed at setting out the failure of Yenching to meet the real needs of the Chinese people. Endicott, after going around the exhibition, said he found the evidences of this failure in the type of books studied, or the records of graduates, very convincing, but that the letters quoted against individuals might have other interpretation than that attributed. This comment was rather coldly received, as feelings were running high.

Here emerged the statement that Yenching had failed to move with the times since Liberation, and the obstructing forces were symbolized in the persons of Chang Tun-sun, T.C.Chao, and C.W.Lu. This stage finished with indictments against these three. Several others, some of them faculty members well-known for their reactionary or cynical opinions, failed to satisfy the students and staff by their self-criticisms. (Note: inserted by AMB - from an item in the New York Times of May 26, these are probably Nieh Chung-chi, Chi Sze-ho, Shen Nai-chang, ~~Chen Fang-chih~~, "Agnes Chen"). During the indictment of Dr. Lu, the Sam Deans and Gilkey were stigmatized by the students as imperialist agents, and demands sent to the police that they should be examined and ejected. They were isolated until they left a month later.

The next stage was one of clearing up the past. Each person had a chance to get off his chest anything that was worrying him about past relations with the Kuo-min-tang, or anti-communist actions, or unpatriotic actions during the Japanese times, etc. Nancy and I were told not to attend these meetings, as they were for Chinese consumption only. I was able to put in two or three weeks of concentrated work on research problems, and Nancy to take care of the housework involved in the change from winter to summer. Towards the end of this stage some people were very busy indeed, but many, including most of the students, were rather unoccupied, so that the preparations for May 1 celebration and the commencement of classes immediately after were welcomed heartily.

The organisation of the big demonstrations has always been done with much attention to detail, and considering the problems of getting a million people past the reviewing stand in three or four hours, remarkably efficiently. This year especial attention was paid to the look of the procession, and abundant use of flowers, bright dresses, silk flags, and streamers of all colors produced a brilliant impression. The standard of marching has also naturally improved after three years practice, and even Yenching professors were at last able to march in step.

Now all energies are being directed to making up for lost time from studies. The semester will go on till the end of July, giving 12 weeks of classwork - a month less than usual. Courses are being trimmed to fit. Students show a strong determination to grasp the work, and are asking for extra attention to be paid to supervision and tutoring. They have organized themselves into study groups of about ten each, and smaller mutual help groups of three, and hope to experiment to find out the best combination of personal effort and responsibility with mutual help and group study. Some teachers feared that after undergoing criticism they would not hold the respect of the students, but those fears turn out to be ungrounded, as the students, having made suggestions, propose to leave final decisions about content of courses, examinations, etc. to the teacher. In

Mathematics at any rate, the students intend to avoid interrupting the course of a lecture by questions, reserving questions and discussion for specially provided occasions. Each professor works with one or more assistants who share with him the responsibility of tutoring connected with his course. Some people have thought that now in China the students grade themselves on their courses. This is not so here, and is not planned for this semester either.

The end of the Anti-3 Movement was marked by a Grand Spring Clean in the whole university, all buildings and the campus too. Gangs of students cleaned out all ditches, and the job of getting water to flow through all the ponds involved some heavy pieces of exc cavation. E very wall and ceiling and window was cleaned, every office turned out, Enthusiastic workmen crawled along the beams of the auditorium with brooms and dusters, The attic of the Chemistry Building, which contained the dust and junk of a number of years, variously estimated at seven to twenty-seven (including for instance specimens from our long-defunct Geology Department) was thoroughly cleaned -a very big job. A sudden burst of energy swept also through the faculty and staff homes, as spring-cleaning took place before a threatened inspection. The students, encouraged by the accomplishments of the Spring Clean, called for volunteers for ditchdigging for the "Collective Farm". Each year for several years there has been an effort to grow vegetables on the part of the students. On the one hand they have felt they ought to do some manual labor, on the other they hoped to improve their diet. But previously their unskilled efforts have resulted in loss of money and very little to show. During the past year, however, a method has been worked out by which the skill is provided by hired farmers and the student labor is auxilliary. Instead of mobilizing most of the students for a few days, after which interest is lost, they have brought together a few keen students who have maintained interest and contributed work throughout the year. The result is that very good vegetable crops have been grown in several parts of the campus, including the west field, which stood barren so long. The new ditches are to cary water for irrigation all over that field which grows excellent vegetables when the salt is washed out by irrigation.

Spring cleaning has penetrated to every corner of the city and to all the surrounding villages. Haitien and Chengfu, streets and courtyards, are extraordinarily tidy. Now the campaign against the "five poisonous things" is on. In the old days, these meant Scorpions, Lizards, Centipedes, Toads, and Snakes, most of them in fact completely innocuous. But it has been taken over to mean Rats, Houseflies, Mosquitoes, Lice and Bedbugs. In each household in the city, each person has to produce one dead rat. Godowns and storehouses have to produce more, according to a quota. School children have been mobilized and schoolteachers. Some of the latter, who instructed their students to bring them some rats to submit, were severely reprimanded and told to set a good example by catching their own rats. If it had not been shown in England and elsewhere that there are great many more rats around than one ever supposes, one would fear a rat famine in Peking and a consequent rarity value leading to breeding and sale. But workers have been warned not to put the pressure on to that extent. The campaign against houseflies is severe to the extent that school children are being taught how to recognize housefly eggs in soil and garbage heaps, and collect and destroy them. These campaigns are in line with the general immense improvement in efficiency and public health, but they are being boosted now with the statements that the American army may try to spread disease into China at any time, so that patriotic fervor is mobilized. Our newspapers reproduced facsimiles of statements of two American prisoners on how they had been instructed in bacteriological warfare and to drop germcarrying bombs.

I have just seen a copy of the Economist of April 12 which carries this statement:- "An increase of disease in China (one of the last countries in the world to adopt modern institutions of medicine and health) has been the inevitable consequence of the fact that the majority of foreign doctors have left China and that many of the few qualified Chinese doctors have emigrated or been arrested as counter-revolutionaries.....The discrepancy between propaganda claims and the fact of large-scale epidemics could hardly be explained without the saving device of "American germ-warfare" ". This is a very complete misunderstanding of the situation here. It is true that most of the foreign doctors have left. But most of the Chinese doctors -as far as my own acquaintance goes, I could say all - are here and working harder than ever before. But these epidemic diseases are stopped less by individual doctors than by public health work and prevention. In this respect the progress in the past three years has been magnificent. From what we have seen and heard, we are quite prepared to trust the statements of the Ministry of Health as factual, not propaganda. Far from there being an increas in disease, there has been a decrease.

I shall be busier this semesterthan I expected with a change in courses and 80 new students to get to know. In this week's classes they have been very friendly and responsive. I am impressed by the quiet efficiency of the young men they have chosen as representatives to talk over with me the questions of methods. These days the students take the planning of their work-their whole time, in fact, -very seriously, and from two years experience are learning to do it better. The emphasis on well-balanced activities is continued, and care for health with the consequent emphasis on exercise is still obvious. Morning exercises continue with large numbers participating and no signs of flagging after several months.

Recently there have been some reductions in prices, and the cost of living index has gone down slightly. The volume of business done through government trading agencies and cooperatives is now very great, and seems to be sufficient to enable the government to controlprices through them. There are no signs of the shortages preceding spring wheat harvest that worried us during the first two years after liberation. Talks with farmers, servants and others with low incomes shows that though they are still living very austerely, conditions are improving and they feel security beyond what they have known for years. This is partly due to stable prices and partly due to the great demand for goods and services of all kinds in the rapidly expanding economy.

As time goes on and there is more evidence of the help being given by Russian experts and none of the domination or exploitation which was once feared, the attitude toward USSR becomes daily more cordial. There is a big demand among our students to learn Russian, although English is by no means fading or neglected.

The Christian Fellowship i snot very active these days. Sunday services continue as usual with attendance of about 60, but there are not many other activities. The School of Religion has not yet emerged from the heartsearchings about its"past connection with capitalism and imperialism". The original leadership of T.C.Chao and Tsai Yun-chun and others has been much criticized and rejected, and new leadership has not yet taken grip. Newton Chiang and J.F.Li are now responsible for the School of Religion. They both preached very well on recent Sundays, especially J.F.

We are all well. Susan is developing quickly and very healthy. Stephen is enjoying kindergarten. Joan is fit and doing well at school. Peter has moved far from his originally scholarly attitude and spends every possible minute playing games. The healthy life here is good for him and there is plenty of time for him to take up studies later.

Reclus has applied for his exit visa, though he continues to teach so far. Marcella Yeh (?) is still teaching here, and living living in the small house outside the East Gate. Winter is busy teaching at Tsinghua. The Empsons leave Peking this summer. You probably know that Mr. Shenchenko dies a few months ago, after a short illness. Mrs. Shevchenko has been ill, but is better and starts teaching again soon. We sometimes see the Buxtons, who are expecting their second baby before long, but they do not come here.

Yenching campus has looked magnificent as ever this spring, and the yellow roses and wisteria have been even better than usual. The air is now fragrant with the scent of false acacia. Plans go ahead for the combination of the universities, and building has begun in the Korean garden and south of the Powerhouse, but the shape of things to come is not yet evident.

Yours as ever,

Ralph Lapwood

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From Manchester Guardian Apr. 24, 1952

Chemical Warfare #-The Communist press is accusing Britain of conducting chemical warfare in Malaya. his is a make-weight to the charges that the U.N. are carrying on germ warfare in Korea. What are the facts ? they have been stated by Mr. Littelton at the Royal Empire Society in London and by the Defense Secretary of the Federation Government ar Kuala Lumpur. It is true that a chemical is being used. It is a weed killer and it is described as a "mixture of sodium trichloracetate and a new chemical to eradicate blukar. It kills plants by giving them an overdose of hormonesIt has been used on two main rodas to clear the jungle of a hundred yeards on either side. In this way guerillas are denied the cover which makes their ambush formidable. It is harmless to men and beasts. They suffer nothing from contact or from eating vegetaion affected by it."

File

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Yenching University, Peking, June2, '52

Dagwood Letter 52-5

Dear Friends,

Nancy and I recently enjoyed meeting members of the Australian delegation to the preparatory meeting for the Pacific Peace Conference. One of the questions I tried to answer for them was the meaning of democracy now in China. This is a thorny subject, but still I am resolved to rush in, after our experience here in the election of our Trade Union Executive Committee. Before recounting that, I must attempt a few preliminaries.

I suppose any developing and self-confident form of society must take for granted a certain set of axioms which almost nobody questions - as for instance, Victorian Britain did. KMT China was full of doubts and frustrations, with very little common ground for action, even against a national enemy. But things are very different here now. There are certain basic assumptions no longer discussed. Among these are :-China's right and ability to stand as a great nation, that China's strength and world position are due to her Communist Party, that Mao Tse-tung's line has been correct for China, that China must rapidly become a modern nation in every way, and that China must move as fast as possible towards socialism.

There are some further propositions which have been much discussed during the past three years, but are now generally accepted.- at least among our friends here -and not much discussed. Among these are :- that the correct leadership for China is the working class(and hence of the Communist Party), that the good of all is best achieved as each person fits into the national plan, that China needs and can rely on Soviet friendship, that the American government is fundamentallymhostile to China, that world peace is desirable and general war avoidable, that local anti-colonial struggles must nevertheless continue and are sure to succeed in the long run.

Following the great internal success of the government and the Party i n the past three years, and impressed by the accuracy of Mao's analyses and predictions, many intellectuals have become willing to adopt Marxism as their philosophy of life. Previously there was a gap at that point -few of our faculty, for instance, had an all-embracing life philosophy which could knit their activities into a coherent whole. Thus the Marxist standpoint is increasingly accepted, and Marxist interpretations are often accepted without discussion. Thus, although each perso is legally free to say whatever he likes, the scope of discussio is actually limited. Popular opinion would react violently, for instance, against remarks regarded as unpatriotic. If you think of this as a wartime psycho.ogy, you will understand the atmosphere of discussion. here is agreement on the main aims; discussion centers on methods, strategy, and persons.

This discussion is very vigorous, and inYenching shows two features which are distincely post-liberation. The first is the chance for everyone to join in on an equal footing. Before the liberation, the university was governed by senior faculty members. Junior faculty members chafed, but had little chance to join discussion , After the liberation, staff and workers were organized and had their representatives on all committees. But these were in general in a small minority, and were not vocal. It seemed as if democratic opportunity were offered them, butthey did little with it. The chance to criticize was ther, but was rarely taken. Part of the objective of the Anti-3 Movement seems to have been to destroy this reluctance, and even at the risk of excesses, to bring the sraff and workers of all ranks to the place where they feared no one and siad frankly what they had on their minds.

The second feature is the care devoted to discussions during the "consultative election" of representatives. This was much in evidence when we elected out Trade Union Executive.

The Trade Union contains three groups:-faculty(teachers), staff(clerks, secretaries, accountants, technicians, librarians) and workmen (janitors, cleaners, maintenance men, gardeners, etc.) The three groups are about equal in membership, and each is divided into small groups of ten or fi teen, so that the unions comprises about 40 small groups in which the primary and widespread discussions take place.

On this occasion, the small groups met first, and each group prepared a list of nominees. Any member of the union was eligible for nomination, but each group was urged to concentrate on a set of nomnees who would represent its own interests. The constitution already decreed that the Executive of 19 should contain 8 faculty, 5 staff, and 6 workers.

So in the Maths Department group we considered mainly the nomination of 8 faculty members. At this stage each group also elected a representative, to state its views at the big general meting. The first representative meeting lasted 5 hours, and went carefully through the whole composite list from the 40 groups. Names occurring inonly one list were not considered seriously. but names on several lists were carefully discussed. Considerations beyond those of ability and popularity were kept in mind, such as health, or other responsibilities of the person. Finally a list of 19 was agreed upon, representing seniors, juniors, men, women, scientists, arts, administration, library, and so on. This list of 19 was sent back to the small groups for comment. One workmen's group objected to one faculty on the list, because once he lost his temper with a workman - was his attitude toward workers O.K.? Several groups objected to a staff member on the list, because he had shown a bureaucratic attitude as Chairman of the Cooperative Society. Another man was criticized because he had been on bad relations with soldiers quartered in his house - is he deficient in public spirit? Finally the big committee reached a unanimous decision on a revised list of nominees. These were again refereed to the small groups, with reasons for any changes. Then a mass meeting was called and well attended. After a report by the secretary, and a pep talk bu Hou Jen-chih, who maintained that such careful discussion means responsible democratic spirit, we voted on slips of paper with the names of the 19 chosen, were told to check those we wanted, to cross out any we disapproved of, enter substitutes, and put in the ballot box.

All 19 were elected, most of them getting at least 90% of the vote. This method was regarded by out leaders as a really efficient democratic method, since in the end each person voted, having heard all the pros and cons set out fromthe point of view of the common good, and not just on personal acquaintance or prejudice. The method of voting without consultation wasregarded as too haphazard and unlikely to produce as good a representative committee as this way. My own main comments are :-(a)there was good discussion and an excellent committee was produced, (b) an enormous amount of time was used, and (c) the efficiency of this methos depends on the assumption that every one is out for the common good. It seems to me that the consultative method does produce the best results as long as this assumption is justified, - it is used in religious and other homogeneous groups elsewhere - but it presupposes that noperson or group is able to grasp power and use it for ends opposed to those of the people as a whole. Communists maintain that it does not work in capitalist countries where there is mutual struggle between power groups all opposed to the good of the workers.

On April 29 there was an article in the London Times about Yenching. Some of the statements were incorrect. Drs. Chang, Chao and Lu were not arrested. They are still living in their homes with their families. They were not dismissed from the university. Their salaries are still paid. It is true, however, that all three now stay at home and do not carry on any of their former work. I understand that they are working on furher statements, I do not know sufficient about the situation to be able to analyze the reasons for their being selected as examples, or to be able to prophesy whether they will be able to make such changes in their attitude to be able to satisfy their critics - and their critics include most of the university, as far as one can tell. there are several others who are not at present active in teaching or other work - most of them were known for a long time as opposed to the progressive forces in Yenching, or had connections with the KMT. I think these persons are also at home working on further self-criticism in an effort to clear up their past.

One of the delegates here for the Pacific Peace Conference is Rewi Alley, who flew down from Sanian, appointed by friends in New Zealand. He told me they had very hectic times in the anti-3 movement, but, that he was expecting the new set-up to get going this month. He still hopes to be useful there. I greatly respect the way that his personalexperiences do not alter his view of the whole picture in the least. He gave the Australian delegation an enthusiastic account of the land reformin Kansu.

I am constantly heartened and impressed by the keenness now shown by the young people on our campus for physical fitness. I keep referring to thisnto show that is is no passing phase, and because to those who have known China in the past it is a clear indication of an entirely new spirit. Our playing fields are crowded every afternoon. Ruth Chou's daughter is one of those being trained as a national representative.

A fortnight ago Peptor complained of a painin his side. So I took him to Dr. Hu, who suspected appendicitis and sent him along to P.U.M.C., which although taken over by the army, still runs all the original services for the public. He was kept for observation, and his appendix finally removed at 11.0 p.m. He was sent home on the seventh day. The tro tmoni

ment in the hospital from doctors, nurses, and staff could not have been nicer. The cost is paid by the mutual medical society which si run among our faculty by the Union. Each member pays a small percentage of his monthly salary to belong.

At present, the Committee which runs the University is composed of Weng Tu-chien, Hou Jen-chih, Yen Ching-yueh, Chao Chen g-hsin, Ch'u Sheng-lin, Chien Po-chan, Chiang Yin-en, and three others. I mention this because all these are well known to all old friends of Yenching, and you can see that we have very good and responsible people in charge. University work goes on normally, except for the high tempo, and careful planning of activities by each student in an attempt to increase efficiency. My students are supposed to spend ten hours weekly -no more, no less -on maths, and their representatives keep close touch with me so that I can adjust the load as necessary. I have never taught classes in which there was a more determined effort to grasp the subject, and I am continually being asked- "how does the part we are studying now fitinto the whole subject?", "what is the basic significance of .....?", "how can I learn to attack a problem mathematically?", attention being placed on such questions rather than on details of technique or tricks of manipulation (which were the things on which much of my own study was concentrated at a similar stage).

Nancy and I would like to share with you some of our recent thoughts on living in revolutionary times. A revolution cannot succeed unless it contains an element of ruthlessness. It cannot succeed unless it arouses and releases long suppressed emotions and desires of of the mass of people. So it is almost inevitable that there will be mistakes or excesses. Enemies of the revolution will seize on these and emphasize them, but friends will try to see them against the background of the tremendous good that is being achieved as the people are set free. This is especially if one's natural contacts have been among the upper social strata, which suffers in the levelling process. Without condoning errors we try to keep perspective.

Very Best wishes,

Ralph

To: WRF

For: ☐ Information ☐ Return
☐ Action ☐ File
☑ Comment

From: WRF

Ralph Lapwood

Not For Publication

Yenching University, Peking -June 29,1952

Lapwood Letter 52-6

Dear Friends,

Naturally the topic of immediate local interest now is the reorganization of the universities of Peking, which will be accomplished during the months of July and August. Fujen(Catholic U.) and Chihta (Normal U.) are to be combined into a large Teacher Training University. All engineering work (except for specialized courses such as communications, mining, etc.) goes to Tsinghua. Yenching becomes the site of the new Peking University -an institution concentrating on advanced work and research in natural sciences and social sciences. Details of organization are not yet worked out -they should become clearer in a month's time. But the eventual sclale of the new Peking University will be very large,-meant to rival the gigantic new Moscow University.

This will be the first centre in which complete reorganization of higher education has been carried out. But the planning is nation-wide, with a redistribution of institutions based on the needs of the ten-year plan of national construction soon to begin. It is claimed (rightly, I think) that the existing educational insittutions grew up in a complex set of conditions,mainly in a few coastal cities,such that overall planning was impossible. Sucha system, or lack of system,cannot meet the demands of a planned economy,and is inefficient,through underfinancing and overlapping. The partial reorganization this summer will enable almost twice as many engineers to be trained as in the past, and in other branches ofapplied science similar progress will be made.

There will not be enough middle-school graduates to fill all the places in institutions of advanced standing. So persons with partail technical training, who previously have been working in some non-technical field,will be urged to go back to their special skill.Training in scientific agriculture will concentrate not on middle-school graduates but on heroes of peasent labor,being adapted to their combinations of practical expeeience and lack of theory. Advanced training in finance will not draw students from schools, but from co-operative societies, etc. Thus at the same time the colleges will be filled,and people of outstanding ability, whatever their original educational level ,will be enabled to get further training.

Extensive building is going on here.The original main buildings show little outward change,though some of them will find a new use. The new buildings -put up, as everything is nowadays -on a short -term basis - lie in and beyond the east and south of the campus. They are mainly dormitories and laboratories. After ten years or so they are to be replaced by better buildings. From the general tendency of the times I guess that the final layout of the huge campus will show the traditional Chinese architectural styles of which Yenching's existing buildings are such successful examples.

It is announced that most of the faculty members of the three universities here will be needed for the new set-up, but it is that some people may be transferred to the northeast or northwest where there is a great dearth of personel.People's minds have long bee prepared for this,and it is regarded as one of the mainsuccesses of the anti-3 movement in the universities that faculty members have become convinced that they should accept such redirection irrespective of personal considerations.

Today (July 1) marks the inauguration of the Chengtu-Chungking train service.Today's paper carries a page of description, with pictures. Chinese friends are becoming very thrilled at the gathering momentum of construction. They say -"if we can build like this during the preparatory period,what will it be like when the ten-year plan gets under way ?" There is an enormous amount of building going on outside Peking now(and some inside the city too). By a general order all buildings are to be of the utmost simplicity,good for ten or twenty years ,due to be replaced when austerity can be relaxed. A row of government offices opposite the Peking Hotel is severelyplain, built of grey brick. But it looks better than anticipated.

Every one is remarking on the cleanliness of Peking nowadays. Streets and courtyards are scrupuously swept every day,and sprinkled to keep down dust. The anti-rat campaign produced 450,000 corpses between the middle of April and June 8,and in the same period children scoured the refuse heaps,outdoor toilet walls,etc. for housefly eggs,and gathered over 400 million. Now there are few flies around the city, and inspection visits to the final and most markets discovered less than a dozen. It is of too this campaign

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corresponding periodsthere has been a fall in death rate from dysentery to only 28 % of last year's. Similarly with other diseases.And this has been accomplished in spite of the fact that 95% of the houses still have to use old-fashioned sanitary arrangements.

The dirty old ditch running down the Chengfu village outside the east gate of Yenching has been cleaned and rebuilt,widened and deepened,ready for the summer flood waters. Meanwhile no one is allowed to throw any rubbish or slops into it All household rubbish and slops are regularly collected. The people of Chengfu whom it used to be said could not be mobilised to keep the place clean,are very rpoud now of the banner they have won as a"model of cleanliness".Last year the village well covered over and a pump installed.

One ofthe local heroes is the manager of the electric power plant. He was at one time a mechanic in the Harbin power plant,and by ability he won his way along untilhe was appointed as manager here.Every one reports that he has done wonders in mobilising the workers to take pride in the steady service given by the power plant. We are certainly getting an excellent supply of current of adequate voltage these days in spite of the rapidly increasing demands made upon it. The record of Yenching's water supply has been less impressive. Heavy domestic demands during a hot spell coincided with a big drain on water for slaking lime and making mortar. The pressure fell until we were unable to get any water for two or three days. Finally the emergency well at the East Gate was opened up and connected to the main well,and now we are getting water all right again.

The swimming season has begun in earnest .Every day after 4.30 there are 2 or 3 hundred Yenching students at the Summer Palace Lake. Our Physical Ed staff are busy teaching beginners to swim.We never see any of the older faculty there !

The staff members -clerks, technicians, secretaries.etc.- have started regular morning exercises. From 7.40 to 7.55 they gather in the quadrangle between the Science Buildings,and a PT instructress leads them.

A loudspeaker system has been installed throughout the university.It is used to lead morning exercises, to give out notices of general interest,to report on plans for the whole university. A resume ofthe day's news is broadcast to the students at mealtimes One gets used to it, and finds that one gets useful information that otherwise one might miss.

The regular work which I am now doing in the Physics Machine Shop gives me a chance to talk to the technicians there. The head of the shop is an old friend. He has recently been elected to the executive committee of our Trade Union.From him and others I learn something of the intense enthusiasm with which they support the government. Although their own economic conditionis not better than before,yet they now feel full of hope and confidence. Moreover they feel that the country belongs to people like them,and that its future depends on them, and the skill and responsibility with which they do their jobs.I overhear vigorous discussions on various questions,especially those dealing with Trade Union affairs or national policies. They all put in a good bit of time onpolitical studies. It is interesting to see the frankness of the discusions -considerations of "face" have been overcomein a remarkable degree. Since they came into power, the communists have steadily advocated the "leadership of the workers".For the first year or two there waslittle evidence of it.At first it seemed that their chief interest was for higher wages, and the government was restraining them. The aim of the anti-3 movement was to show the workers that they could and should take initiative in checking abuses and dishonest practices,and should speak out in criticism without fear.Now the fruits are being gathered. The high degree of political consciousness on the part of workers throughout the country means that they are responding with enthusiasm to government calls fpr increased production and improved methods. They take pride in completing their production plans ahead of schedule.

It has been interesting to watch the vigor of the men at work on ditchdigging and drainlaying outside our house. Instead of a foreman, they seem to have an engineering student doing a term of practical work. He is on excellent terms with the men,takes personal interest in their food, nightschool, etc.,and has built them into a team competing with other gangs on the job.

Nancy and I have been very much disgusted by the news looking out of treatment of prisoners of war on Kojo Island. We wonder how much of this is known to you. Sticking to facts which have been published by news agencies or or correspondents on the American side,it seems certain that :- (a) prisoners have had slogans tattooed on them,(b) Kuomintang agents have been active in the camps,and (c) agreement to reasonable demands on the part of the prisoners was subsequently repudiated,and a "tough" policy started. We knew a good deal of the activities of Kuomintang secret agents in the years 1939-45.

They had a terrible record of sadistic and inhuman dealings with any one in any way suspected of communist leaning. One can easily imagine how the introduction of such people into a prisoner-of-war camp would lead to similar abuses. As to point (c) above, the commandant of the camp - General Colson, stated " with reference to your item one, I do admit that there have been instances of bloodshed where many of prisoners-of-war have been killed and wounded in the United Nations forces. I can assure you that in the future prisoners-of-war can expect humane treatment in this camp according to the principles of international law. I will do all within my power to eliminate further violence and bloodshed. If such incidents happen in future, I will be responsible. ....Regarding your item three, pertaining to forcible investigation (screening), I can inform you that after General Dodd's release unharmed there will be no more forcible screening, or any rearming of prisoners-of-war in this camp." So General Dodd was released unharmed on May 10, and on May 12 General Clark, US Commander-in-Chief in the Far East, repudiated the promise, removed Colson from control, and instituted the "tough" policy. This kind of disgraceful work contrasts very vividly with the treatment of prisoners on the communist side. There is now abundant evidence that British and American prisoners have been well treated, given good food, housing, and medical attention, and a considerable variety of activity and recreation.

We wish that Christians in England and America would make it their business to demand full information on the actions taken in the name of the United Nations. Even if only a little is true of what is reported in the way of napalm bombing, ill-treatment of our prisoners, cruelties perpetrated on civilians by South Korean troops, it is enough to fill western christians with shame and anger There is a book called "Cry Korea" by Reginald Thompson, Daily Telegraph correspondent, which tells some of the relevant facts.

I do not believe that the majority of Chinese prisoners of war would state that they prefer not to return to China, unless they had been forced by heavy pressure to do so. All our contacts with soldiers of the communist army convince us that they are keen patriots, with immense pride in China and hope for her future. The American story, contrasting with the rebellions in camps against screening, does not make sense. I need hardly add that the stories reported in the newspapers here of atrocities on Koje add much fuel to the raging fires of hatred against the American militarists and the makers of American policy in the Far East.

We are now plunged into very hot weather, with afternoon temperatures up to 104. Peter has been off color, but is now better again. The rest of family is well. We have started going to the Summer Palace lake to swim as often as we can. This summer we are to work through till the first of August. Classes go along smoothly, and the students work well on the whole, though naturally easily tired in this weather. Tomorrow and Saturday there is to be a drive for extra cleanliness - no classes, but lectures on public health and infectious or contagious diseases. At the same time there will be further efforts to clean up all the remaining fly-or-mosquito-centres on campus, which is said to have lagged behind the neighborhood in its public works !

The whole country was threatened with water famine and government orders sent out to deal with the water shortage. But the next day heavy rain fell over most of the country as a typhoon went along outside the coast, and the immediate problem of planting could be solved. The spring harvest has been excellent in almost all districts, and prices remain steady. A visitor from Kaoting reports that the farmers in that area are now seeing a steady rise in their standard of food and clothing.

Best wishes,

Ralph (Lapwood)

Ralph Lapwood

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Yenching University, Peking
July 31, 1952

Lapwood Letter 52-7

Dear Friends,

This is likely to be a rather miscellaneous rambling letter, as I have no main subject in mind to write about, but intend to jot down some of the things we note around us, which may help you to visualize part of our life here.

The anti-fly and anti-mosquito campaigns go on with great intensity, and everybody is mobilized. A resolution of the Yenching Union called on every member to undertake to kill (a) 2 flies daily, (b) 20 mosquitoes per week, and (c) 1 rat if possible (no time limit set). Many of the offices have score-cards on the wall, with the daily record of each person in that office. It is very hard to imagine such a movement transplanted to England, yet if one abandons traditional ideas as to what is suitable or dignified, there is no valid criticism of such a campaign. Students walk around the campus with fly swatters, and according to the newspaper, children hunt flies down with nets. Do not think, however, that we are yet free of mosquitoes. When we ate supper the other day in a small local restaurant, we got plentifully bitten, and even in our screened house we catch quite a few. There are a good many breeding sites still uncontrolled, -for instance, the reed beds / at the Old Summer Palace. The wet summer has given a good chance for mosquitoes. Flies, however, seem to have been greatly reduced, and the precautions to prevent their carrying disease to food are working well.

A fortnight ago, the paper carried an interesting article on the clearing up of two of Peking's longstanding sores. In the southern city, running north of the Temple of Heaven is a long east-west ditch, called the Dragon's Beard, with marshy pools at each end. Into this drains, cesspools and floodwaters have been discharged, and it has often become choked and noisome. These two pools have for many years been terrible places in summer - filled with floodwaters carrying dead rats and dogs, infested with garbage-flies and mosquitoes. This spring both pools have been dug out deep, and the earth piled to make artificial hills. When the water is let in, each will be a clear lake, the center of a park. A thousand laborers have been employed and taken pride in their records of construction. The local people are naturally impressed, for they have paid sanitation taxes all their lives without any return, but now for the first time they can eat their meals without the food being covered with flies in summer.

The intensity of effort is not without its humorous side. All animals drawing carts must have a bag suspended behind them lest they leave refuse on the road. When a carter went through our village a month ago and failed to control his horse he was pursued down the street by the angry residents and prevented from going on until he returned and swept up the mess!

New efforts have been put into clearing up Yenching. About 200 green refuse boxes have been distributed, some to households, and some dotted around the buildings. They are emptied daily. All our backyards are inspected by sanitation committees, and woe betide any one who is found to have left around a receptacle which by collecting rainwater may provide a home for breeding mosquitoes.

There are about 1000 workmen engaged on the building of new houses, dormitories and classrooms. These are all on the old south field or in the Korean Garden. The workmen are divided into groups, but there are no foremen. Leadership is by student apprentices. A broadcasting system has been installed, which provides a good many decibels of Chinese opera, popular songs, announcements, exhortations, speeches, etc. A few days ago workmen were being urged throughout the day to attend a meeting at night for review of progress of the work, and making criticisms and suggestions. The spirit of the workers seems excellent, and there is no doubt that their needs are receiving better attention than in the past. Their food is good, they have full medical care at the university infirmary (where the doctors are busy dealing with some persons who have never seen a doctor before), they have night schools, time for midday rest, concerts and movies at night. I asked a skilled worker whether he had any criticism of this system. He thought that cutting out experienced foremen in favor of students led to a good deal of waste, and that music while you work may mean slower work.

Term is over now, the festivities at the end dampened by the drowning of a man and student in the Summer Palace Lake, in spite of the vigilance of the members of the Physical Education Department. Faculty members have been so busy with plans for the futuer that

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they have scarcely noticed the end of term. They are working on committee meetings and discussions and detailed inventories.

A group of about 20 students have been selected (by the consultation method in each department) to go to Moscow to study. Meanwhile there is a very strong current toward increased study of Russian and the copying of Russian methods. This is logical and natural, as China is set toward a socialist (and finally communist) economy, so that Russian experience is more appropriate than that of any other country. American methods, which have held until now, are more or less completely swept away from higher education, and the plan is to take over the Russian system and adapt it, as experience dictates, to Chinese need. In fact, as far as Maths is concerned, the new system will resemble the British system far more closely than the old did, and so will the curriculum. But the fundamental difference is the emphasis on Marxism, which is here a major course for the first two years.

One feature of the past two years is the "blackboard news". Each department has a large blackboard prominently displayed, and each week new items are written up. There are editorials on current problems, articles on politics, studies or health, cartoons, slogans, challenges. Frequently there are appreciations of responsible work done by student representatives, and sometimes criticisms. The work of individual teachers is sometimes analysed, praised or criticized according to current standards. Articles followed the discovery that several students had cheated in a chemistry test. They were criticised by name, their motives and reasons analysed, they were condemned as unpatriotic, and the final headline was "WE DEMAND THAT THE STUDENTS WHO CHEATED MAKE A SINCERE AND THOROUGH SELF-CRITICISM". No other proposal about punishment. The puritan morality of young China is very striking whether in sex relations, honesty, hard work, disciplined life, unselfishness, service, use of time and money, the standards set by public opinion are high and severe.

There is now a strong drive to get all university teachers to study Russian seriously. This is on the grounds that after a few years all their students will be able to use Russian reference books, and if they can not themselves, they will be in a difficult position. The party is taking it as a primary political responsibility to promote the study of Russian. Russian will be required for the first two years of the curriculum, but if any student is exempt from Russian, English can be taken. Teachers of Russian are in great demand and hard to get. Moscow needs all its own in Russia.

We have a Union for Yenching household servants. Our cook is one of the leaders. We had urged him ever since we employed him, to take more interest in local and national affairs, but he maintained that he was too old for such new things. But he and his wife have been much impressed by the changes in the village where they live, and as he is more highly educated than most of the other cooks around, he has naturally been nursed along by the Union. He now seems to have many responsibilities - treasurer, vice-chairman, night-school teacher, and to be in constant demand for committees. We have found ways to lighten his work with us so that he can do all this extra work. At first he did not want to accept them and made himself ill with too much worry. Now he has regained his health, and is taking things more in his stride. The activities of this Union include:- (a) consultation on hiring and firing. Quarrels between employer and employee settled if possible. (b) night school two or three times a week, taught in term time by university students, in vacation, by the more educated servants, (c) education in public health and civics, (d) rationisation of wage scales, organisation of the justified demand for higher wages and better treatment of servants, (e) fixing of hours of work. This is a knotty subject, for in many Chinese families where both parents are working and only one servant is employed (few can afford more) the time taken off by the servant may disrupt the public work of the employers. A preliminary solution now being tried is one by which one or two extra servants are employed by the whole community, to take the place of those having time off, being paid by the employer. At present one day off per month is required by the Union. Obviously there is still remaining a good deal of exploitation of servants, but at least a start has been made, and before long we may be able to see an eight-hour day established.

Many of you must have heard of Rewi Alley, even if you have not met him personally. He has been in China for about 25 years, and during the war against Japan made a great contribution by his leadership of the Chinese Industrial Cooperative Movement. This movement was finally more or less destroyed by the Kuomintang on account of its radical nature. After Liberation, it naturally merged into the government cooperative organisation, and old CIC men are to be found in responsible positions in cooperative promotion agencies all over China. The head of the Government Cooperative Bureau is an old CIC man, Meng

Yung-chian. From 1945 on the KMT government made it more or less impossible for Rewi Alley to move around China as he had done as inspector of cooperatives, so he settled down at Shantan in Kansu to build up the Bailie Technical School which George Hogg had started. He has been there ever since, with occasional trips to Peking during the past three years. He is now in Peking again, and we were very glad to spend a couple of evenings in his company. He has not had an easy time in Kansu. In spite of his record, he was met with a great deal of suspicion, culminating in the anti-3 movement. It is becoming clear that the school will have to develop as part of the government regional plan, rather than according to Rewi Alley's ideas and ideals. What part he will have in the future is not clear. Nevertheless he is full of enthusiasm for the People's government, and concentrating attention on all the positive achievements on behalf of the common people of Kansu. He has continued to write his remarkable poems, and we hope to see some of his diaries of the past few years published soon. At present he has decided to spend his whol tion for the Asia and Pacific Peace Conference.

Best wishes,
Ralph Lapwood

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The first item of personal news must be that Nancy and I have decided, ~~t///~~ after a great deal of thought, to leave in October and proceed to England. Furlough was to be next summer anyway, and when we weighed up the claims of teaching here a year in the new University against those of speaking (and perhaps writing) about modern China in England, it seemed that more could be done in England. Our contribution here at this end is now limited to a technical one, and as long as the British government and the Chinese pursue such divergent objectives there is little chance that individual British persons in China will be able to enter more fully into the life of the community.

We took this problem to Weng Tu-chien, the Yens, and Hou Jen-chih, and spent a valuable evening working it over with them. They hesitated to give official advice, beyond saying that if we wished to stay there would be a place for us here, but when they got down to the expression of personal opinion, they said that they considered the effort to paint a picture of China abroad as of paramount importance. We finished off this semester a few days ago amid many expressions of regret from students that we would not be teaching them next year, but also among even stronger approval of the course we are taking and sincere wishes that we would be able to do a useful piece of work in England and come back later.

I am now working on the differential analyser, in company with a very intelligent Physics Department Assistant who will take over from me. We proceed with preparations to leave in good order, and we hope to be ready to go in the first week of October. It will be interesting to be here during the week of the Pacific Region Peace Conference, since quite a few of the delegates are acquaintances. We have started Peter and Joan catching up in English studies. The children will be really sorry to leave the school and their friends here, where they have had such a good time for these three years, but they are all keenly anticipating the adventure of travelling again, after staying put for this spell in Yenching.

We are all in good form. The weather has been cool for August, and we have more energy than at the same time last year. We look forward to seeing some of you before the year is out.

Yours as ever,

Ralph

P.S. All your old friends and collegues are well and still in University employ !

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Yenching University, Peking
Sept. 26, 1952

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OCT 16 1952
Ack'd.

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What about sponsoring for Trustees? Ralph

Lapwood Letter 52-8

Dear Friends,

This letter has been much delayed, owing to our busy-ness in packing and preparing to leave. I shall try to make up with more letters in the immediate future.

There is not much to say about our personal activities during August and the first part of September, but it is worth recording that we met with no difficulties in selling or otherwise distributing our household possessions. If one sells to friends, there is no official procedure required, but if to merchants, the stuff must be registered at the local police station. We pay registration and stamp fee but no tax. The merchant, if he resells, must pay tax. We have met much kindness and helpfulness.

More interesting is the record of what has been going on around us. Immediately after the end of the term (beginning of August) all faculty were mobilised for discussions preliminary to the detailed re-organization of higher education in North China. Careful new inventories were made. The government plan is indeed far-reaching. This campus is to be the center of the Peking "comprehensive" university, which will eventually contain departments of all the usual academic subjects. The standard of the university is to be high, and strong senior staff members have been retained for it. Every department will be large - Mathematics will have 300 student and 30 to 40 faculty members. Physics will have over forty faculty members, of whom about 15 will be professors, 6 lecturers, and the remainder instructors, demonstrators, and assistants.

I am told that classes will be large for lectures - 60 to 100 students, but they will be divided into small groups for tutoring. The number of hours of supervised study or discussion will be approximately equal to the number of hours of lectures, and the student will also do private study. One professor will be responsible for one subject only, though he may lecture on the same material to two parallel classes. Thus a group of say 300 students taking the same subject may be divided into five groups for lectures, and 30 groups for tutoring. All lecturers and assistants (the assistants are mainly responsible for tutoring, though the lecturers must also help) concerned with this course form a "Teaching Research Group" which meets for several hours each week to work out the best presentation of the material. When agreement is reached, a few persons draft the lectures notes together, and all teaching proceeds according to these notes. It will be observed that the strong points of this method are the pooling of ideas, the uniform standard of teaching, and the group responsibility. An English lecturer would probably comment that the method is likely to produce dull lectures, and there is no chance for a man to talk of his own special interests or work, and thus inspire the students. Such a criticism would not be given much weight here, on the ground that the fundamental job is to give the students what they need, in view of their future occupations, and that personal preferences of the lecturer are a red herring. It is stressed that, since the students already accept it as their patriotic duty to study hard and thoughtfully, it is more important to aim at clarity and appropriateness than catching interest.

Although the foreshadowed organization is more complete, the basic ideas have already been applied here during the past few semesters, especially in this year's spring term. In the Mathematics department there is no doubt that the average of teaching standards went up. The most powerful aids were the giving and criticizing of proposed lectures in the Teaching Study Group before facing the students, and the active initiative of the students in planning and carrying out the tutoring work.

The rationalization of the higher educational system through this region has been carried out more thoroughly than I had anticipated. I think this is because the main result of the anti-3 movement was to bring most faculty members to a point where they were really ready to sacrifice their personal preferences and fit into an overall carefully designed plan.

Each region will have one or two "comprehensive universities". Eventually each of these will be fairly complete, but at present there will be set up only as many departments throughout the country as there are adequate staff for. For instance, I believe there is to be only one Astronomy Department, and two Geography Departments, but each of these will have ten or more Professors, so as to create a group which can do good research with mutual criticism, and complete advanced training for its students.

In addition to the "comprehensive universities", there will be technical institutes

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tutes - also called "universities" in Chinese. These will not try to cover too wide a field but will concentrate on those subjects appropriate to their environment. For instance, all aeronautics will be concentrated in Tsinghua, also research in applied mechanics, etc. All chemical engineering in North China (at an advanced level) will be set in Tientsin, at present the centre of chemical industries.

A feature of the reorganization is the rise in importance of special purpose colleges, such as the College of Finance and the College of Geology in Peking. Previously scattered work will be concentrated in these.

As I said above, the first part of the vacation was spent in working out details of this scheme. Then a ten day holiday was declared, - practically the whole of the Yenching faculty went as a group to Tsingtao, and the campus saw no academic activity until they returned. The first two weeks of September were spent in the re-allocation of faculty. Committees composed of leaders in the various subjects made provisional lists. The next step was rather surprising. Instead of bringing these proposals in for general discussion by small groups, the leaders interviewed faculty members one by one and told them in confidence what job they were proposed for. Each individual had two or three days to consider, and make objections or counterproposals. As I was not concerned in this matter, I can only report it at second hand, but I get the impression that here is a partial swing away from the way of discussion by every one of everything. It seems to have been regarded as wiser to use general discussion on principles and impersonal matters, and to make allowance for personal feelings by confining the discussion of people for jobs to a smaller group of administrators. This kind of swing goes on all the time - its use is implied in the communist method of analyzing each project after completion for errors and possible improvements.

Earlier on it was expected that there would be a small percentage of moves, and that for the time being most faculty members would stay with their original institution. But in the event, the reshuffling is very extensive. In Yenching about half the faculty are to move, and in other institutions the proportion is about the same. All the people with whom I have talked are pleased with their assignments and there is a general air of adventure. Tai Wen-sai, who is really an astronomer, but has been teaching mathematics because we had no place for astronomy, will be able to give his full time to astronomy. Similarly with others. Among the interesting appointments is Tsai Lu-sheng's to be the head of the Chemistry Department in a brand new university in North Manchuria. He is looking forward to this as a chance to do a creative piece of pioneering - and this throws some light on the change in him, for he has been content for many years to carry on his research and steer clear of other responsibilities. There must be some people who do not want to move, but in the general atmosphere of enthusiasm and optimism they keep their feelings to themselves. The big shift starts on Oct. 5, but some people are already pushing off, most are remaining with their institutions to take part in the Oct. 1 parade.

While the faculty were thus engaged through vacation, the students activities were more simple. Some of course went to their homes, but about 600 went on a pilgrimage to Dairen, which they described as "a city in which every person was a worker". They lived in a school and visited factories, schools, and public institutions, coming back all fired with the idea that soon all China would be as well-built, well-organized and well-fed as Dairen. Since their return they have been working hard on Russian, There is a great drive now on to get every one to learn Russian, and our Russian teachers have been working like mad all summer. All faculty members are busy learning, though Hsu Hsien-Yu told me that he thought the teaching methods old-fashioned and unsuitable. (Our teachers of course are Russians locally picked up, with no training in teaching and cannot be thought of as representing modern USSR methods.)

I would like to add a postscript to my previous notes on the anti-3 movemnet. The government directive was "struggle severe, punishment light". So it has turned out. The time of struggle and criticism was extremely tense and verbal attacks most painful and heated. Most of the charges hd a basis of truth, some were exaggerated. A few people suffered undeservedly. But reports were exaggerated, those spread abroad were false in many points. No one of Chinese faculty at Yenching was arrested, and no one was dismissed from the university. Every one's salary has gone on without question. Ten people whose self-criticism failed to satisfy were gathered into a study group headed by Chyan Fo-Chen (not one of them) and when they were ready they were asked to make another self-criticism. Five of these have now emerged to normal life, including Agnes Chen, Ch'i Sau-ho, Chen Wu-tze, and the other five will probably soon emerge too. C. L. Lu produced a further self-criticism which was also passed. He will probably move over to the Academia Sinica

in the re-organization. Chang Tung-sun still failed to meet popular approval. T.C.Chao has not yet tried to do so. I would like to put myself now on record as believing that in Yenching the positive results from the Anti-3 movement far outbalanced the grievous mistakes that were made. This is a revolutionary time of drastic actions, and though a mistake means much suffering, a victory means much progress and thoroughgoing change. Among the positive results I would put :-willingness of practically the whole faculty to devote themselves to the people's good without counting the personal cost; the feeling on the part of the workmen, staff, and clerks that the place belongs to them as much as to any one, and it is up to them to put their whole heart into making it good; closer relations on the whole between faculty and students (previously only some faculty had had the confidence of the students); direct frankness in all dealings (a great victory over "face"); a new standard of public and private honesty. A by-product is that the campus and buildings are better kept than ever before.

My space is finished -we'll write again soon.

Yours as ever,

Ralph Lapwood.

P.S. I expect to leave Tientsin with Peter, Joan, and Stephen in two weeks' time, and to wait for Nancy in Hongkong. Nancy (Mrs. Lapwood) will take Susan (youngest child) and travel with the delegates after the Peace Conference, at which she is an Australian delegate. We have bookings from Hongkong on the 24th October, but we do not know whether Nancy will travel that way or go first to Australia. At the moment our roles are reversed, and I am Mama !. Every one is very well.

Ralph Lapwood File

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

on board S.S.Carthage,nearing
Singapore -Oct. 27,1952

Rec'd Nov. 10th by M.E.J. with personal letter from Alice Boring

Lapwood Letter 52-9

Dear Friends,

I wrote my last just before leaving Peking,and Nancy will write 52-10 describing her experiences at the Peking Peace Conference.I want to make some notes on one or two questions which must have been in your minds as you have read our letters during the past year. This letter is of course not subject to censorship,and you will expect statements to be direct and explicit.

1-Did we write any of our letters under compulsion or persuasion? No, we wrote or did not writeentirely according to our own volition. Chinese friends knew that we wrote monthly letters,but we never showed them to any one before sending off,and no one ever tried to suggest a line that we should follow.

2-Was our mail censored? Incoming mail :- as far as we could tell from the look of the envelopes,all incoming letters had been opened and read. We supposed that this was inevitable,since the Chinese government has to preserve wartime precautions as long as Chiang in Formosa plans to attack China and the war in Korea goes on. But no one with whom we had any dealings showed any knowledge of the contents of these letters.-either the local police, local party, or university authorities. We received plenty of letters criticising the Peoples' Government,some severely,and we never discouraged people from sending us such letters.,believing that they were valuable in helping us to understand opinions abroad.

We received all books and scientific magazines that were sent to us. Others magazines especially Manchester Guardian, ,New Statesman,Punch, were usually stopped and failed to arrive.Even Peter's boys' paper, the Eagle, was often stopped somewhere. We guessed that one disapproved / title was enough to put a magazine on the black list. We always chafed against this censorship,considering it unreasonable,even under the circumstances. All books,whatever their political color, reached us,and so did cuttings from papers. All religious books sent to us, came in,as far as we know.

2- Outgoing Mail -We suppose,without direct evidence, that everything we sent out was censored. As far as we know,all letters and other material that we posted,reached the addressee. This included books in English and in Chinese.

3-Did we write deliberately giving the bright side only, for fear of censorship or disfavor? No. We honestly believed,as we still do, that the picture was bright.We emphasised the positive side deliberately, because in our view the positive vastly outweighed the negative. We did not shut our eyes to the mistakes and failures,but we believed that in the whole picture they were less important than often supposed.

We did always try to avoid putting down anything that might have military significance,in view of the fact that Chinese troops are fighting against U.S.troops.Also at the time of the anti-3 Movement,when emotions ran high,we wrote with unusual reticence, and avoided writing directly to people under heavy attack.

Except for these two points,we wrote as felt,and reported asaccurately as we could the things which we believed most significant among our personal experiences.

4-What was the real reason for our leaving China one year earlier than our furlough was due? Our decisions have been taken merely with reference to one factor only. We decided to leave after consideration of the following factors:-

A-The scope of our work in China was narrowing :-

a-The Christian movement in China,being under such suspicion for its foreign connections,welcomed our passive participation in services, but did not desire any initiative from foreigners.We believed that it was right for the Chinese Church to stand on its own feet,and at this time ,that implied that there was not much place for us in Christian evangelism.

b-Our opportunity to speak of the goodwill of the British people,especially Christians was slight.Modern China thinks of organised relationships,so for her, Sino-British friendship is channelled through the Britain-China-Friendship Association or the Communist Party,not the missionary societies,or individual Christians,however sympathetic. This attitude has grown with the increased hostility toward Americans and countries which support American policy,and is not likely to change as far as we are concerned untill relations between Chinese and British governments become more friendly.

c-With the reorganisation of higher education, our academic contribution becomes

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less necessary;and as lecturing will be done in Chinese entirely,and chief references will be in Chinese or Russian,people who work best in English will be less and less useful.(We were,however, invited to stay on after the reorganisation).

B-The need for people to interpret China in the West is greater than ever:-

a- The policy of the Chinese Government (mistaken,we think) of allowing only Communist newspaper correspondents in China,means that most people in England,(Australia etc.) have no access to direct information about China. The writing of this letter has consequently become in our eyes perhaps the most useful thing we were engaged in, but scarcely of adequate value to hold us in China. The reports of Lucy Burtt, William Sewell, and others,have convinced us that there is a sincere desire on the part of many,especially Christians, to hear about the struggles and achievements of the Chinese people,and that we have experience appropriate to their questions. For two or three years we have seen such work as the natural next stage for us. -the only question was "when"?

b-In view of the continued deterioration in international relations and the need for every possible action that can help to avoid war, we believed that it would be better for us to go to England now than a year later. Dr. Joseph Needham,and Rewi Alley,two friends of China whom we greatly respect,confirmed our judgment.

c- We took this question to Chinese friends whom we have always trusted,for discussion :- Hou Jen-chih,Wong Tu-chien,the Yen Ching-yuehs,and others. They were unanimous in the belief that we could help China best at the present time by reporting in England on our experience through the past four years in China.

We weighed all these arguments,and although we and the children were happy and busy in Peking,we have become confident that it was right to leave. We hope some day to return, though we do not expect that to be within the next two or three years.

I have gone into such detail because the factors which we had to consider were all a real part of the present situation in China,and show the impact on individuals of the present national policies and international relations.

The procedures for foreigners leaving China are extraordinarily demanding of time and energy. We decided from the beginning that they reflected a wartime situation (both cold and hot !) and to comply with them patiently and cheerfully. We also decided to take the maximum amount of initiative to try to get the officials to see that we left as friends of China and not as mutely hostile critics.

We had no valuable curios or precious metals,and made no attempt to take out such things as detailed maps or KMT literature,and in the end, at the Peking examinations,only one book and a few photographs were refused exit from all our 19 boxes and cases. The book was Rewi Alley's Report on the Sandan Baillie School -rather a joke as he is now a key member of the Peace Conference. There was to be a further examination at Tientsin, but since the stuff left after we did,we do not know what was the result of that.

We accompanied our application to leave with a statement(in Chinese) of our reasons; this had been prepared in the first place for Yenching colleagues, and was mainly the same as I have given above, though more detailed explanation of the situation in England was set down. The University also gave us a letter supporting our request to leave in the first week of October. When time passed and we heard nothing from the Police,Nancy sent in a reminder on the Peace Conference notepaper,which probably produced the subsequent speedy action.

We spent three days in Tientsin. There was a big Trade Conference going on,and the city was full of delegates,arranging business between city and countryside.But my time was fully occupied with matters concerning our travel, and entertaining the children. Each afternoon we went to a show -first a Russian movie,well photographed patriotic stuff; then an acrobatic juggler team, which I thoroughly enjoyed,but the children found rather long-winded; and last a badly-produced melodramatic movie about a soldier in the war of liberation. The children liked the last the best, and there is no doubt that it gripped the audience. It is interesting that now all the main cinemas in any city show the same film at the same time, so there is no choice ! I suppose the purpose is to get the people to view the film the government wants them to see., but it also has the effect of reducing the number of times a month that one can go to the movies ! Children can not go to the cinema more than once a week unless willing to see the same thing over and over.

We met much kindness from people on the trains and in the hotel.The children were popular everywhere. Peter of course talked to everybody, and John and Stephen left their shyness behind. They were never repulsed.

We finally got sailed on Oct. 12. All the passengers and officers of the ship took a hostile attitude toward China and the Peoples' Government. With most of the passengers this was because they had to leave possessions behind; with the officers because of the extreme bureaucracy with which they had treated at Chinese ports during the past two years. For instance, one ship, taking a cargo at Taku, had been forbidden to discharge ballast water until a sample had been taken to be sure it was free of cholera and other germs. This had been settled by appeal to a higher officer with more sense, but such appeals are getting more and more difficult. The captain of this ship was an exception, and held a friendly attitude to the Peoples' Government in general, in spite of his own experience of being held up for days wihtout explanation when the police arrested one of his crew.

I will try to jot down a little news about Yenching people. The three who were ~~of~~ chief targets at the time of the Anti-3 Movement were Lu Chih-wei, Chang Tun-sun, and Chao Tze-cheng. I do not think they had been singled out beforehand, but I do think that they were unlucky in that the Yenching Anti-3 Movement was much more drastic than in either Tsinghua or PUMC. Each of them failed to satisfy the "mass" (i.e. every one of third in the University for hours meetings) by his self-criticism. They were neither arrested nor dismissed, but conscious of the general atmosphere of criticism and despising they stayed at home. There they worked further on their statements, with assistance from others. Lu Chih-wei produced new draft which satisfied the continuation committee of the Anti-3. (There were no furhter meetings) His new appointment had not been announced when I left, but I understood that it was to be to the Philology Department of the Academia Sinica. Chang Tung-sun failed on his new attempt - people feeling that he still had many things kept back or stated with personal distortion. I understand that T.C. Chao refused to try again, on the grounds of being too old and tootired. His original statement was the most disappointing, giving the impression that he was willing to say anything through fear. For instance, he condemned R.O. Hall as a head of British imperialist secret agencies in the Far East, making it hard for any one else to admit friendship with R.O. Some one told Nancy that if T.C. had taken a more courageous line, he would not have landed in such trouble.

Of the 15(?) others who failed to win the acceptance of the "mass" for their self-criticism, the following succeeded after further attempts:- Chen Liang-chih, Ch'i Lsu-ho, Chen Nai-cheng, Yu Min, Chen of the library, Chang Lung-tung, and some others. Failed so far:- Kich Tsung-chi, Tsai Yun-chun, Chang Hsui, Cheng Tse-ming, Chang Chih-chung. The last four are all Christians and this I think shows that the Yenching party members have taken a line of discrimination against Christians. Chang Chih-chung considers that it is simply a matter of time. I was able to have several good talks with him before leaving, and was much impressed by the real christianity of his attitude.

Fan I-hua was found guilty of wasting about $4,000,000 worth of university stuff, and of not making clear distinction between university property and his own. He was dismissed from the university, and given by the Government a position on a cattle breeding farm near Peking. I think the main thing against him was his high-handed way of dealing with workmen in the dairy.

I shall have to postpone giving news of the new jobs of old friends until a later letter, - I will just note here that they have gone off to the new assignments with enthusiasm and a sense of adventure.

Best wishes to you all,

Ralph (Lapwood)

WPF return to Miss Ferguson File

For: ☑ Information ☐ Return
☐ Action ☑ File
☐ Comment

Australia, Nov. 2, 1952--and later

Lapwood Letter 52-10

From WPF

Dear Friends,

This letter is long overdue, but there simply was no time to write earlier. This will deal with the Peking Peace Conference which I attended as an Australian delegate. You may have heard that the Australian government suddenly refused to provide passports for some intending delegates, and cancelled others already granted. This seemed foolish as many of the intending delegates were men and women of standing in religious, academic and business circles and would have broadened the baisi of representation at the conference. Consequently some Australians outside of the country were invited to join the delegation, and I was one. We ended with eight delegates.

When I received the invitation, Ralph and I considered the matter carefully and decided that it was right for me to accept. We knew it would probably lead to misunderstanding on the part of some of our friends, and that we would be labelled "red" after arrival in Englnad or Australia, but we felt it was right o go ahead. I had heard from Mr. John Burton of the struggles he had had in the preliminary meetings, trying to help the people there to see that any statement issued from that preliminary meting would have to be couched in terms acceptable to the peoples of non-communist nations if any real adcance was to be made in bringing the peoples of Asia and the Pacific together to discuss the enormous problems of peace. So I thought it was right o have as many people as possible present at the Peking Conference who could also put forward the point of view of western nations while at the same time showing themselves ready to cooperate in real efforts for peaceful settlement of outstanding problems of this area.

Before I came to the Conference I had a mental picture of what it might be like - a fairly cut-and-dried program, list of speakers, agenda, and resolutions ready for discussion. I thought the timetable and programwould have been worked out beforehand by the Secretariat which had been working steadily for several months in preparation for the Conference. But the first preliminary meeting which I attended on Sept. 19 surprised me immensely. It was all so informal, friendly and un-arranged, and it looked as though at that time practically nothing was arranged even though the Conference was billed as opening on Sept. 26. We heard of the number of delegates already arrived or on their way, and of the difficulties and blocks being encountered in USA, Japan, Australia and Pakistan, also in such small places as Nepal and Cambodia. We were told of the agenda for discussion which had been devided at the preliminary conference in June, and which delegations had been asked to undertake the main reports on these subjects as a preparation for discussion in the Commissions which would be set up. Even this had not been finally decided upon, and alterations occurred later. The topics for the Commissions to work on were as follows :-

1- the Japanese Question
2-the Korean Question
3-the Question of national independence
4-the welfare and defence of women and children
5-Cultural Exchange
6-Economic Relations
7-Promotion of the Call for a Five-Power Peace Pact
8-Draftin Commission for (a) a call to the Nations of the World, (b) a call to the United Nations
9-Commission on setting up a Liaison Bureau

I came to stay in Pekin on Sept. 21 as I felt I needed to do a good deal to prepare myself to take part effectively in the conference. I wanted to get hold of all the information I could on these various questions and also have a chance to talk with other delegates from other countries. Our delegates were to be housed in a newly built Peace Hotel- a building in modern western style of eight stories, which was completed and ready for occupation in 75 days from start to finish. They were actually still laying stair carpets and hanging the last pictures as I entered the hotel. The bedrooms were fairly small, but very comfortablr and tastefully furnished. Western meals were served in the eighth-floor restaurant, while delicious Chinese meals were served in the big downstairs diningroom which could also be used for metings as it has a platform and a balcony. When I moved into the city Ralph continued to be exceedingly busy finishing up last jobs of packing, selling-off, arranging the voyage for him and the three children. But in the end all went smoothly and they left

Peking on Oct.7.Ralph came in to meet some of the delegates who were keen to get news of the New China, treatment of missionaries, etc.They pumped us both very hard and seemed to get answers to many questions in their minds.The Conference was finally postponed for nearly a week,as so many delegates were delayed.For instance, Pakistan at first refused passports to some of their delegates, but granted them when they thought it would be too late, but they all came ,and they and Inda had the largest delegations.The days of delay were well filled with sight-seeing, exhibitions,and in the evenings,wonderful shows demonstrating the renaissance and development of Chinese traditional art-forms - dancingm acrobatics, opera,- as well as modern movies abd plays. It was all intensely interesting.

On Oct.1st we were given places on one of the main grandstands to see the march-past on China's National Day - a most impressive sight.It was estimated that more than ~~300~~. 500,000 passed by during the five hours and the enthusiasm was tremendous. This year, celebration of the Peace Conference was combined with the usual National Day parade,so peace doves, both real and made of paper, figured largely.

The Conference opened on the afternoon of Oct. 2nd,and the first few days were spent listening to reports on each of the above questions on the agenda. Mr. James, a unitarian minister from Melbourne,and I were elected as Australian delegates on the Presidium (which ~~tot~~ totaled 54 in all) and each of us acted as chairman for at least one meeting during the Conference,and on the last day we met from 10.00 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. almost non-stop, going thru every resolution produced by the commissions on each of the questions on the agenda. At each meeting of the Presidium I was impressed by the way in Which every one who wished to speak was given the chance to do so,even if it meant postponing lunch for three hours ! Even when meetings could have been shortend considerably by the chairman bringing up a point of order, and our friends from USA, New Zealand, etc, were champing at the bit because a certain resolution has been proposed at least six times by as many delegates,the chairman courteously allowed every person who raised his hand to have his say. When you realize that each such speech had to be translated into at least three languages,beside the buzz of individual translations going on all the time it would have been easy to use any attempt to shorten proceedings.

After the reports had been presented, plenary meetings were taken up by speeches from delegates. The time limit was supposed to be ten minutes, but many overstepped that by quite a lot. All reports and speeches had to be handed in 48 hours before delivery so that translations could be made into the four languages used on the earphone systems- Chinese, Russian, English and Spanish(for Latin -American delegates). Speeches were made by delegates from all 37 countries represented. They included such diverse people as Dr. Kitchlew, head of the Indian delegation,and chairman of Nehru's Congress Party; the leader of the Pakistan Delegation, who is a big landlord; a Catholic priest from South America; a man who had been Colombian ambassador to Mexico; a fiery young student from Panama; Buddhist priests,professors, artists,tradesunionists,doctors, scientists, welfare workers,followers of Gandhi,lawyers, actors and actesses. I spoke as an ordinary woman, a Christian and the mother of four children and was quite overwhelmed by the warmth of reception. Because so many people wanted to speak, the conference was continued for two extra days, the last big open meeting being held at 11.00 p.m. on the evening of the 12th,finishing at 4.00 a.m. the next morning. Political opinions expressed ranged from very left-wing,probably communist,to quite conservative,with every shade in between. But every one was allowed to say just what he pleased, and the speakers from China and USSR, two of the five countries which have Communist governments, had few speakers, though the Chinese delegation of 30 had some of the leading scientists, welfare workers, doctors and religious leadrs of the country. Madam Sunyatsen opened the first meeting with a speech,and Peng Zhne, Mayor of Peking, was chairman of the final meeting, and one Chinese scientist made a speech during the conference.Liu Ning-I was Secretary-General of the Conference, and hisdeputies were an Indian Professor, Dr Chandra,a Japanese and an American negro.

In the Commissions chance was again given to every one who wanted to speakand no limit was placed on the time used. In the Commission on Korea, in which I was sitting, the chief speakers came from Inda, Pakistam and Ceylon, with contributions also from the Latin-American countries. Meetings which began at 7.30 p.m.often lasted until ater midnight, but some went through till 4.00 a.m. on two successive nights, scrapping entirely the resolutions put forward by thrie small inner committees and starting to draft others. So there was obviously no railraoding through of resolutions in any of the commissions. Then long hours were spent by the presidium, going over each resolution with a fine-tooth comb,and in the final meeting opportunity was given to any ong in the conference to object to statements or resolutions wjen they were finally read out. Canon Maynard, of our delegation, came to the rostrum to

object topart of thr resolution on National Independence, but when it was found that he did not have an amendment to suggest there and then, it was suggested that he retire to one of the side-rooms with the chairman and vide-chairman of the Commission,and after half an hour or so, they returned to the meeting with such an amendment ,and it was finally passed unanimously. Other similar incidenst arose over other resolutions,and though it was very late - or rathermvery early in the morning - the chairman kept urging any one who had anything to say to come up and say it. After the resolutions were all passed unanimously,Dr. Kitchlew of India was asked to make the final address, which he did very well indeed. Then the doors at the back of the room were opened and masse choirs of Chinese students broke into a peace song, while hindreds of children rushed down the corridors, bearing flowers to present to those on the platform and to shake hands with any of us who were within reach. It was a most moving scene, finally rounded off by an ammense Canadian fisherman who leapt onto his desk and gave the call for a three cheers and a tiger !

The following afternoon there was a mass rally of the people of Peking in the courtyard of the old Imperial Throneroom. The stepa made a natural rostrum and it was wonderful to look down on the sea of poeple below,50,000 of them as they waved flowers, banners, sprays of artificial blossoms,and models of peace doves, shouting an singing to greet us. The characters Ho-Ping (peace) were formed by white-clad athletes surrounded by blue-coated workers.

Speeches were made by a few delegates on behalf of the Conference and I was asked to be one of them.After speaking through an interpreter for a few minutes,I finished up in Chinese to the obvious surprise of the audience. Both going in and coming out, we literally ran the gauntlet of thousands of shouting, cheering workers, students, and citizens,and I found myself fairly mobbed on my way out.Tge same thing happened as we went into the Chungshan Park(the old Central Park) that evening for the banquet given by Peng Chen, Mayor of Peking. We could not see the folk very well in the dim light,but when a group of Yenching students recognized me, they fell on me with glee. They awaited my return and this time my arms were nearly pumped off in their enthusiasm.They all wanted to know when we would come back and urges us to make it soon.

After the banquet we went to a wonderful show of dancing and singing,which included both modern and classical Chinese art.I was particularly impressed by a "silk dance" in which yards of red silk came alive in the hands of the eight dancers, and made intricate designs in the air as they danced.But we were all of us sleepy to a degree and none of us could keep from nodding even though the program incouded the celebratee Mei Lan Fang,who was one of the Chinese delegates at the Conference.

There are many things I have not mentioned, including the ceremonies at which one delegation would present gifts and flowers to another. The Korean delegation received many gifts,including baby-clothes from Australia and a seedling tree from USA.One of the most impressive was when the Indians and Pakistanis came down the hall arm-in-arm and mounted to the rostrm where they set their signatures to an agreement on the Kashmir question which they had beaten out in four days of intensive talking inbetween and after the regular meetings. They had been able to draft an agreement which bound them all to return to their respective countries to work for an ~~agreement~~ a peaceful settlement of the Kashmir and all other outstnding questions between their countries. In token of their mutual friendship they exchanged gifts and garlanded each other with flowers. The final touch was when the huge bearded delegate of the Pakistanis in his gold-brocade ceremonial hat placed an identical hat on Dr. Kitchlew, the Hindu leader of the Indians. This ceremoney was not a mere gesture as some of the others might be considered,but really did have meaning and would have concrete results after the return of the delegates, for they included men of importance in their lands.

Throughout the conference we received every kindness and were cared for by an array of interpreters whom we christened our "mother hens". It was quite a job rounding up their particular "chicks" after each meeting,and getting us to our bus and back to the hotel. If we needed anything from a stamp to an overcoat,they saw to it for us.Most of them were Peking and Shanghai students, and 20 were from Yenching. Many of them had been my students and they agreed that it was providing an excellent chance to practice theri English. More experienced interpreters did tge work in the meetings and in the "boxws" which were connected with our earphones for simultaneous translation of speeches and reports. As there were very few in China who spoke Spanish,some English folk fluent in that language has to be brought over.But a few bright students had studied for a few months intensively and were able to act as escort-interpreters for the Latin-American delegates. Everything was very efficiently run, which was remarkable asthis was the first time that China had undertaken such an international affair

The first few days after hte Conference ended were spent in group discussions of facts about China in which many of the delegates were interested:- land reform, women's work and

welfare,economic development and chances for trade,etc. I did not attend many such,as I knew a good deal about these matters already and had business in connection with leaving Peking. But on one day, we had the chance to visit a village not far from Peking, where we had the chance to hear reports of development since the time of Land Reform, visits to the homes of former landless peasants who had just built new homes which they showed us with pride, visits to the cooperative store and the schools and finally to the homes of two of the former landlords of the village. When the ols lady who is Vice-chairman of the Village Association found that I could speak Chinese, she attached herself firmly to my arm and proceeded to shout in my ear her enthusiasm over all the changes which had taken place. She even supervised our use of the privy behand the primary school,pointing out how clean it was with wooden cover and lime to scatter. We were shown several houses of different kinds,but I poked my head into other courtyards and lagged behind chatting with the farmers and their wives. Everywhere was spotless, al though the standard of living is still low, but the hopefulness of the people, their pride in their village and their country, their determination to improve theri lot and that of their children by cooperative effort were most impressive. The ex-landlord's story was interesting. He was a man of 35 who had never worked in his life before. He was mad at time of landreform, but he was allotted exactly the same amount of land per head as every landless peasant in the village. The house in which his family lived was left for their continued occupation, but all other houses rented out at high rents were confiscated and given to others. His first year, because he was unused to planting and growing things, he made just enough to get by. The next year he had an increase of 15%,and the third year another 15% above that. He had been able to buy a mule and a cart and was doing carting on the side, so he is actually better off than when he was a landlord. In addition he is in much better health,his family are happier and go to school and life holds a good deal moremeaning than it ever did before !He probably is an unusual landlord, but it is interestin to find even one such.

This letter is overlong and it has been writen in snippets between meetings when I often felt weary,so it is not as well expressed as I would like.Also I borrowed a typewriter slightly out of adjustment which has made my typing even worse than usual.I am sendint it off with a promise to write more fully later on.

Yours aye,

Nancy Lapwood

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Note from Ralph Lapwood -Nov. 30, 1952, London

Although our ship developed trouble with one turbine, we landed only one day late, after a very pleasant journey.

It is unlikely that I shall find time to write a letter this month - or have the material.since my attention is taken up with trying to discover what is in poeple's minds here !

Our tentative plan is to resign from the mission and for me to take a teaching job in England for the next few years; but we shall try to keep up our Chinese and information on China,and hope for the chance of returning there at some future date.

Please give our warmest greetings to all whom you meet who know us.Lucy Burtt was able to come to the boat to give me assistance in landing (he had 3 children with him !) We spent a long evening in comparing notes and information. Next morning I saw the LeeWolfs; Next Tuesday Philip goes to India for two months. I hear that he is doing well in his Student Christian Movement job.

This afternoon I met Liao Hung-ying and Derek Bryan,who were formerly at the British Legation in Peking. Derek has resigned from the Foreign Office, and is taking advanced work in Chinese at Cambridge.

We are all well, and surviving the sudden immersion into a raw English winter after journeying through the tropics/.

With best wishes to all,

Ralph Lapwood

Not for Publication

China News -in addition to the Lapwood Letters
(which are now being mimeographed by AFCS in Phila.)

Ack'd. File

A- From Frederica Giang Li

11 Tsui Hua Hutubgm Peking, China, Dec.9

I long for a letterfrom you. The last I got was written on Sept.12.J.C. has gone on a trip to Hunan for land reform work.He has been away for over two months now and will not be back until January. So he has missed the whole of the first semester work, He seems to enjoy his present work, and is getting a great deal out of it. Mrs. J.F.Li is on the same trip. I have been unusually busy since he left - the reason being that I was roped in by my former school to teach English again because both English teachers have gone off on agrarian reform trips. I am teaching 18 hours a week with lots of meetings sandwiched in. A full schedule seems to keep my health up ! - only I prefer not to keep up this pace too long. I hope by the end of the first semester those teachers will have returned to their posts.

Before the winter set in, I had the house painted. It looks much cleaner and more presentalbe now.How often I have wished that you could walk in and take a look! I do not go to Yenching often, but when I do go, I miss many of my old friends. Just how long we will stay in this house is a question too. A committee is formed to discuss in earnest the amalgamation of different colleges of the three universities,Peita, Tsinghua and Yenching. Just which part will go where is still uncertain. There is no monotony in New China.Through this self-criticism system every one and every institution is becoming less selfish and self-centered Everything must be considered for the good of the whole country. The original plan of making Peking West a cultural center is not abandoned Many new buildings are shooting up. As short a time as you have been away, youwould find many changes if you returned.My sister and her family (the Seutua) may be going to America. She will let you know.

Please remember me to all my friends, This may not reach you for Christmas, but I shall think of you on that day.

Lots of love
Freddie

.....

B-Note at the end of Ralph Lapwood's letterof Dec. 29

For those of you who know Yenching well, I will mention a few names which will help to make vivid the generalizations. Taking leadership in the Science College discussion groups are Hsu Hsien-yu,Chu sheng-lin,Tsai Lou-sheng(after his return from land reform), Ai Wei-chao, Li Ou,Chang Shih-chang (Chairman of the Fellowship). A model group is that of the History Department, where under the leadership of Hou Jen-chih and Feng Tu-chien tremendous advances toward cooperation have been made by old Mr. Teng, Chi Ssu-ho, (now out on land reform). They have proceeded from discussion to the next stage - self-criticism and mutual criticism - with very remarkable success, judging from what Jen-chih(always an enthusiast) reports.

Ralph

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C-From Stephen Tsai -Taipeh. Taiwan, Jan. 8,1952

Thanks for your invitation for a visit. We like nothing better than than to go to the USA to see the boys and our friends.

Things are progressing smoothly here. Bill Fenn is scheduled to arrive on the 20th to look into hte possibilities of sponsoring some work by the UBCCC on the Island. We have been urging the Board for some time.I hope this trip will result in something.

The three of us are all well and happy. We, of course, long for our home constantly, but I am afriad it is a long distance away both in tiem and space.We are thankful for those golden bygone days and the happy memories. the three boys in the States seem to be doing satidfactorily.:- Wei-kang in the Graduate School at Ann Arbor;Wei-ling hoping to get as Assistantship at Penn State,and Wei-lung in his last stretch at Yale, and looking for a job. We are thinking over possibilities for Wei-chi, who will be ready for college next fall.He has turned out to be a bookworm ! -Best wishes from Stephen .

M

WPF File

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Lapwood Letter 53-1

204 Croydon Rd., Beckenham, Kent, - Feb.11, 1953

From WPF

Dear Friends,

We plan to write three more of these letters. The first (this one) comments on some of the questions we are constantly asked about China. The next will be written by Nancy, giving more information about the Conference in Peking and her journey through China to Hongkong. The last will be an effort to evaluate our experience and impressions after six months away from China. We are grateful to those of you who have expressed appreciation or criticism of these letters, and shall be sorry to bring to a finish this effort toward understanding of China. Those of you who are interested in the personal affairs of the family will find information in the "Illustrated Lapwood News" -a light-hearted occasional sheet which will not close down.

Since leaving China we have found a good deal of hostile criticism of the Chinese government and people (some of it more emotional than anycriticisms of the west voiced in discussions with us in Peking). But on the whole we have found an eagerness to get at the facts and cut through the fog of propaganda and counter-propaganda. Some questions occur frequently, and in these pages I want to try to answer them.

1. How many people have been killed off in China?

Shortly before Nancy's visit to Melbourne, a C.I.M. missionary speaking there had claimed that 50 million people had been wiped out in China by the Communists. When challenged as to the source of this huge estimate, he was unable to give any. Many such statements are based on uninformed or prejudiced guesswork.

But when we got back to England, there seemed to be a more authoritative figure in circulation. The New Statesman, which is a careful and reputable magazine, quoted the figure of 2 million as the total number of people killed. This number was taken from an article by Po-I-Po, a prominent Chinese communist leader, in a Cominform journal . I was much puzzled by this, as I had never heard of such an enormous number of executions while in China. I am taking it that we are not including the war casualties which preceded the Kuomintang defeat on the mainland, but are wanting to know how many people were executed after trial at People's Courts during the movements of Land Reformand Anti-counter-revolutionary Drive. The total for Peking was of the order of 200 ; this is one in ten thousand of the population. The names of these people were published, with lists of their crimes. Mos of our faculty went to denunciation meetings and the subsequent executions. The people executed had been guilty of serious crimes, usually murder, sometimes treachery, and mostly belonged to the group of gangster bosses.

A large number of Yenching faculty members joined in the work of Land Reform, and reported back on their experiences. They were often asked about the number of executions in the two movements. Unfortunately I did not take detailed notes, but my impression is that inalmost every hsien(county), there was at least one execution, but that in country hsien the number of executions did not average more than five. Taking the number of hsien as 2000, this would give 10,000 executions throughout the countryside. As our people were scattered into different districts in all aprts of the country, this guess should not be too wildly out. As corroboration we have Rewi Alley's report that three were executed in Shantan hsien, and that this was fairly typical of the Northwest.

Thus addingfigures for towns and countryside, and making an allowance for error, we get a total of about 20,000 as the total number of executions in the two drives. This would be one in 25,000 of the whole population.

If 2,000,000 had been killed, that would have been 1 in 250 of the population ; if it assumed that 2,000,000 were killed because they enjoyed special privileges, i.e. belonged tothe top 10% in wealth, that would be one in 25 of such people, and every Chinese who had belonged to that top 10% in the old days would be able to number many people among his acquaintances who had been k lled. But among our faculty, most of whom came from old upper class families, it was rare for any one to know of an execution among his acquaintances.

Then where did the figure of 2,000,000 come from? On Sept.27, 1951 Chou En-lai gave an extraordinarily interesting off-the-record talk to the assembled university faculty members of Peking. I did not attend, but I heard a report, carefully given, which carried this passage :-"Whom do we serve? We serve the people. We are changing bad people so that they too learn to serve. In one year we have reduced two million bandits to 50,000. The great majority of reactionaries can be mobilised to serve the people. They must be changed by the impact of society."

WPF

Speaking on Feb. [illegible] 1955, Chou En-lai said in a progress report"...34,000 cooperative ivesbad been set up with 141,000,000 members. On the mainland 2,000,000 bandits had been wiped out."

It seems to me clear from these quotations that Chou En-lai meant that the 2,000,000 people had ceased to be bandits,- had been "changed by the impact of society", -and not that they had been exterminated. The Chinese phrase might mean either, according to context.

For the first two years after liberation there was a general policy of leniency or wait-and-see towards people known to have a bad record. It was only after the beginning of the Korean war and the boasts from Formosa about fifth columnists on the mainland that this wave of executions began. After these two drives, there were occasional executions buteven after the exposures of corruption and treachery during the Anti-2and Anti-5 movements they swere few.

2. Are children taught to hate their parents?

I asked Peter, who spentthree years in a Chinese school, and he gave me an indignant denial. He said they were taught to love their parents. The first section of their patriotic vow, called the five Loves, ran "Love your country, love your parents, love your teacher, love the people, love public property." The section about hatred was "Oppose destruction of public property, oppose waste of time, books, orpaper, oppose quarrelling, oppose idleness." We asked Peter how they were taught to help their parents. He said "Help sweep the house, help fetch water, help cook, help tend the sick." We asked whether children were supposed to give their parents political instruction. He said, "No, we were urged to teach our parents the songs we learned, and if they could not read we were told to encourage them to learn and to help them. That was all." In reply to other questions he said that there was no meeting at his school at which parents were denounced, and no secret denouncing of parents. There was a box in which complaints against schoolmates could be placed anonymously. Peter said this was to enable small children to complain without risk of bullying. We asked Peter if his school was special in its attitudes, and he said, "No, our teachers went to meetings with all the teachers of the district to learn how to teach us, and every school emphasised the same things." I think this is true. The method of organisation now used in China means that it is likely that schools everywhere will be taking the same line.

Undoubtedly there have been cases where children have denounced their parents - at Yenching the daughter of C. L. Luh did so. And some people have concluded that in China family loyalties are under attack and their elimination aimed at. I believe that this is a false interpretation. I suggest rather that we see in China an attitude that is seen elsewhere too,-emphasis on family loyalties, kindness to children, obedience to parents, but at the same time the principle that in certain emergencies the family has to be sacrificed. Every nation demands this when at war. In China now, in the case of conflicting loyalties, loyalty to the people must come before the wishes of parents. This is not hatred of parents, unless we use these words in the same sense that Jesus used them.

But stillthedenunciation of parents, even though only an occasional phenomenon, disturbs us. Is there no other way? Yenching students were advised as follows:- if you know your father has been guilty of corruption, you should go to him, argue with him and plead with him, to get him to own up, face the consequences and reform. If he is still adamant, you should inform on him as a last resort. Then you should be ready to denounce him. If you do not, you have put personal feelings before the people's good, and you are not a reliable servant of the people.

The trouble is "Who judges what is the people's good ?" If in fact it is the local party members who do so, and their judgment is wrong, deep sufferings may be inflicted upon a family. The communist philosophy of struggle, and the absence of any set of values transcendint those of the party, involves this danger. But I believe that so far the wisdom of the leaders of the Chinese communist party, and their long sharing of the sufferings of the peasants and labourers, have kept them from serious or widespread error over parent-child relationships.

3. Is the ordinary man really enjoying higher living standards or not ?

It is very hard to give a convincing answer from a limited area of observation. Perhaps it is better to sketch first the unquestioned facts which are known to embrace the whole of China. Throughout China now there is general freedom from banditry and gangsterism. This is sure to mean an overall higher production than in years of civil war or anti-Japanese war.

Secondly, determined efforts to prevent floods or famin through drought and pest -

have been carried on for two or three years. These too will have acted to increase production.

Thirdly, there is now full employment, and factories have in nearly all cases surpassed their maximum previous production record. This must mean more goods available.

Fourthly, prices have been stable now forwell over two years, and lately have tended to drop. Hoarding has stopped and good communications has distribute goods rapidly across the country.

Thus if we neglect all the new means of production, we can still see that the total production of wealth in China must vastly exceed that of the years of Japanese occupation or ofKuomintang control. If doubters say that possibly the individual farmer is working less hard than in those days, there is widespread evidence to show that land-reform, rationalised taxation, new popularised techniques, labour hero movements, have rather led to harder work and better output perman and per acre.

But it might still be true that more than all the increase was absorbed in military supplies, payments to Russia, etc. Of course there are no figures available to refute this. But it is easy for any one in China to see the great increase in the quality and variety of Chinese consumer goods, the gradual change over from coarse grains (kaoliangmcorn, millet) to fine grains(rice, wheat) in popular diet, the immense increase in medical services, schools, entertainments, bookstores, playingfields, new clothes, buses, fouhtain pens, popsicles, etc., etc.

Coming down to our own experiences, we would say that while for the higher salary brackets there has been a levelling down, for most of the rest of our acquaintance -steady or chance - there has been a levelling up in the past three years. Talks with farmers at the Old Summer Palace, gardeners at the New Summer Palace, pedicab men on the way to Peking, shopkeepers in the city or on the way out to Pa Li Chuang, villagers in Chengfu, workers on the buses and trams(we talked to every one we met, the children often breaking the ice) showed a picture of gradually improvong economy. Life was still very austere, but it was secure, hopdful and interesting for all these people.

4. How many people are engaged in slave labour?

It is hard to get at the basis of criticisms that there is widespread slave labour. For instance, I quoted in a previous letter a statement by a Danish diplomat that the "Mentoukou mines are run by slave labour" He had not been there himself, and indeed the statement was completely false - a fabrication at some stage based on misapprehension or intended to deceive.

Sometimes it is stated that the Huai River scheme for irrigation is being carried out by hundreds of thousands of slave laborers. Statements to the region deny this. Rewi Alley, when he came back from a trip there, told us that he had gone off the beaten track, and left his guides behind, and everywhere he found the peasants understanding the purpose of the work, and joining in cheerfully. Li Ou who visited for land reform an area which was to lose some land when a new dyke was cut, reported that in 1951 the peasants had reaped their first decent crop in 14 years and were cooperating gratefully with the government. It seems that there is no basis for the assertion of slave labour there.

A recent number of the China Bulletin quotes an article from the World Today by an engineer escaped from the Chungking-Chengtu railroad, asserting slave labour. Yet this article, intensely hostile and bitter in tone, still states that "most of the men were paid piecework most of the time, and as one example, -a man had to move a minimum of 67½ cu.ft. of dirt per day in order to get his pay 7½ chin(probably an American pound) of rice. The value of that amount of rice in Szechwan was about 20cents U.S. currency."

The sentence in brackets seems tobe a deliberate attempt tomislead, since7½chin equals just about 10 pounds, and this amount of rice, while low by western standards, is around the normal for unskilled labour in China. Anyone who has carried dirt can see that there is nothing frightening in a quota of 70 cu.ft., though of course one would need to know how far it had to be carried.

One could analyse article further, but I think that the facts quoted do not bear outthe the writer's assertion that "the world does not know what it has cost the people who are used as slave labour." Yet these facts are a selection by a man who chose to run away from the job and must try to justify himself.

It is well known that such people as beggars, ex-Kuomintang agents, and others sentenced to reformby labor are employed on tasks of construction, meanwhile undergoing civic instruction. A Yenching student was sent to such a camp. Peopel who kept in touch with him were impressed with the excellence of such treatment Such a method should no more be called slave labor thansimilar enlightened attempts to rehabilitate anti-social people in other countries.

Yenching News - Extracts from a letter to Frances from Lapwoods

file

I was glad to be able to get the linens finished for you and relieved that there was no difficulty in sending them out by post or in my boxes. Since I was an honored Peace delegate, my own baggage was not even examined. I found the two girls who did the work most cooperative. They were both fully occupied doing cross-stitch for the local government kung-chang and had some difficulty finding time to do this work on the side. They say the pay at the kung-chang is good and they are regarded as among the best and quickest workers, so should have no difficulty as to livelihood.

The School of Religion was to be moved to part of the Peita property in the city. J.F.Li said that they were to have part of the former residence quarters of the unmarried faculty members and that it was a fair recompense in both space and buildings.

Marcelia Yeh was told just before we left that her services would not be required at the New Peita, but when she took the case to the Ministry of Education, they intervened on her behalf, and she is still on the campus in one of the new small houses.

The Luhs were living in your old house when we left, as it had been considered unsuitable for dividing, so the Housing Committee suggested the President occupy it. I do not know who is there this year, perhaps the President of the Combined University, the old Peita President.

We have no word of Harriet Mills or Rickett, but presume they are still alive and in prison. I handed their names to peace delegates from New Zealand and Australia who were making it their business to enquire about foreigners held in China pointing out that such actions were hindering the cause of peace. I feel sure that the permits to John Barr of LMS, John Hayes, Olin Stockwell and others were due to such enquiries. Vetch is serving his prison sentence, I believe. Mrs. Vetch is no longer under house arrest, bur remains quietly at home. We have had a couple of letters from Chinese friends since we left, but I think you do not know any of them. Kitty, Yen ching-yuch, Hou Jen-chih and others asked us to keep in touch by letter and we intend to do so, but time rushes by and it is not done yet.

Now for individual names on your list :-Shih Wen-po had a hard time during San Fan -was one of the three (Wang Han-chang & Fan I-hua) who were accused of graft at the big Kun Su Hui, but investigation seemed to reveal that his sins, if any, were small. Was first demoted in the Business Office to a lower desk, but by the time we left was back where he was before. Pai Ho-I and Chen I both got through San Fan without difficulty and seemed in fine state when we left. Chen I suddenly got married to a chap in the Peita English Department. Florence Liang was well and happy; getting stout these days, continuing in the combined university -her daughter is a large nice-looking lass. Chen Yung-lin was doing well in his department and appointed to work in the new Minorities College near the old Agriculture College, but still living on Yenta Campus until other accommodations ready nearer his job. Sun Yu-yu was working in a newly opened Nursery and School for the children of the Minorities. She was taking part in the teaching work, while Mrs. Fang Kuang-yu was appointed assistant head of the same institution. Mrs. Fang told us how nice the head (a Party member) had been to her duringher interviews- interested to hear of her Christian faith, promising her Sunday morning off so that she could attend church, asking if she could introduce other Christians for jobs in the institution, "since you know you Christianswork well, are responsible, and care for your fellowmen." Virginia has Hsiao-yu with her at the Nursery and the new girl baby is with her mother. Li Jung-fang seemed well and happy and quite prepared for the move to the city. Tsai Lu-shong has been appointed head of the Chemistry Department of the new Changchun University in the Northeast. He and his wife called before they left for the new job and told us how happy they were to beseent to do this pioneering job in a part of the country which needs such an institution. Thye seemed to have a real sense of adventure, in which the whole family joined. Tsai had impressed every one with his quiet sincerity in giving his "chien tao" at the time of San Fan and it was interesting to note that he really examined his former attitudes and admitted hsi mistakes without blaming any one else We felt great admirationfor them and were grateful to them for their continued friendliness when many were a little chary of having much to do with us, in case we followed the Deans. That period of slight strain, however soon passed, and our students, especially, had never been more friendly. They seemed sorry to hear that we were leaving, and urged us to return. Chen Meng-chia was under some criticism at Tsinghua, I heard, but on what counts, I am not sure. He and Lucy were still living at Yenching, and Lucy was to continue in the combined English Department after the merger, but not as head. The Peita man would head up the department, and some of the teachers were to be moved to the Foreign Language School or other places. Lucy seemed well and doing a good job during my last semester there. Hou Jen-chih was to remain on the campus as Assistant Dean of Studies and head of a new Geography Department He is heart and soul behind the present government. His wife is working in the city in a

He is heart and soul behind the present government. His wife is working in the city in a research institute, part of the Academia Sinica. Her mother does her best to keep an eye on the son and heir, Fang Fang, but finds the job a bit beyond her !the daughter, Hou Fu-hsing is a bright and very nice lass, quite a leader in the school.

Luh Chih-wei had completed his final chientao which had been passed without further public ordeal. He has now been appointed to the Academia Sinica in the city. We felt it wiser for his sake not to try to see him before we left, but Peter conversed with him several times in his garden and managed to acquire a few stamps, including some rare early Communist ones. We sent messages to him and Mrs. Luh through Peter. Chu Cheng-lin was remaining on the campus in his old job. His wife is very little better, only slightly improved. Tai Wen-sai is also remaining on campus, but will be teaching astronomy, much to his delight. He is now happily married to Liu Sheng-mei. Chang Yu is carrying on as usual and seems to have as much work as he can do. Both Russian families employed him for gardens in summer as well as fires inwinter, and he was also working for several Chinese families. He had been threatened with eviction from his house by a nephew of Li Jung-fang, who lives in JF's house in the village, but Chang took it to the courts and won his case, which says a good deal for the present-day People's Courts. Robert Chao is going strong, but having to do more speaking in Chinese these days, inspite of his atrocious accent W. Meng-yi and he kept on very natural freidnly terms with us even during the San Fan time of strain. She is doing a good job writing textbooks on simple science subjects for Middle Schools. Their family was all well and happy . Ruth Chow was under some strain during San Fan ,but came through well and is more than ever determined to be really Chinese. She is happy and busy but longs for Margo and Carl and hopes they can rejoin the family some day. We had a letter from her recently and she sounds cheery -has moved to one of the new small houses over beyond the old East Compound.

To be continued in our next !'-Nancy Lapwood

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Items from a Letter to Grace Boynton from Nancy Bapwood

Wu Wen-tsao and family had been seen by Kitty Lei and others from Yenching, but no close contacts had as yet been established. However it seems probable that they are living quietly in Pekingcatching up on what has been happening in China in their absence. When they and the government feel that they have had long enough to reorient themselves, my guess is that they will be given jobssuitable to their considerable gifts and experience and in which they can make a real contributionto the life of China. They will probably not write to you or to any Chinese friends outside of China for some time, unless the whole international situation takes a sudden turn for the better. We make these assumptions on the basis of what has happened to others in similar situations :- Lu Kuang-mien , formerly in the CIC but later a representative of the Nationalists on the IRO in Geneva, and his wife, are a case in Point. They lived quietly in Peking for a while, then decided to attend KeTa and finally were appointed to very suitable jobs which they accepted gladly.

Pastor Chiis going strong and seemed well and cheery every tiem we saw him. He hopes his school will be ~~included~~ will be able to be included in the regional set-up, so that children attending it will not have to pay fees in future. He was questioned often and long hours by the folk in charge of the office superintending all organizations formerly receiving financial help fromabroad. They could not believe that he received so little and that most of his work was self-supporting and had been for many years. He finally convinced themof his honesty and sincerity. Our impression was that Pastor Chi would continue to do averyvaluable work in Haitien.

Wu Hsing-hua was considered to have made a good chientao in his department group and was asked to give it at an open meeting, but we felt that he blamed the foreigners in the department for many of the weaknesses for which the reason lay nearer home !However he is now trying to identify himself with the people of China and getting closer to his students. Yang Yueh-min Also indulged in a good del of anti-foreign talk in his chientao, but I felt in him a new confidence and assurance surprising in one so shy and backward in expressing himself. Lin Chi-wuand family were well and happy when we left. Chi-wu had broken an ankleand while in the PUMC hospital a more serious internal complaint was discovered, but an operation seemed to have fixed that all upand he was back on the job. Mrs. Lin was President of the Women's Club the year before we left. They discussed with us the best way in which we could build undertsanding between our country and China. Agnes Chen was under severe criticism as a member of the "Fan Tuan" headed by Nieh Tsung-chi, Shen Hu-tzu, etc., but fortunately she was away on Land reform when the storm broke. When she returned, she lived at homeand worked on her chientao which was given in public and passed as satisfactory.

Peking News from a Letter to Wiants from Dr. Kelly of Peking Union Church

All is going well at Peking Union Church. Instead of moving into newly built quarters in the rear of the church, Dr Kelly is remaining in the Pastor's study and a part of the hallway, so that these new rooms can be used by students as prayer rooms, places for serving tea, fellowship groups , etc. He states " Representatives from three well-known schools have just been to see me. They have more than 300 students who would like to worship in the PUC. As the older group is in the Assembly Room in the morning, I suggested that they use the Assembly Room in the afternoon. This was" agreeable. Now we will have over 300 to use the PUC every week. Coming this way in groups, we can manage. At the period of Bible study during vacation, we expect at least 200 to be with us. I think we can easily prepare food for that number." Dr. Kelly mentions the fact that their family burial ground is yielding to the necessity for providing more space for the growing population of Peking. He suggests that cremation will be a solution of the problem of space.

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Clippings sent by Dr. Kelly

1-Peking Looks Ahead by Liang Ssu-cheng (Tsinghua Dept. Architecture)-from China Reconstructs (illustrated English language bimonthly)

"It is an interesting coincidence that exactly 400 years ago, Peking's walls, squares and main streets assumed their present form and location. Now a 15to 20 year plan is in the making . The prospect is to develop Peking further as a great political and cultural center, while becoming at the same time, a city of substantial industrail development. The population is expected to grow from the present 2½ millions to 4 or 5 million. Peking's area will grow 7-fold from the present 24 to 173 square miles. Until now the most extensive activities have been in sanitary engineering, the first of the four tasks which have been set. The second task is urban communications; the third, housing and public buildings; the fourth, long-range planning. The eastern and southern suburbs will become an industrial area of modern factories in a park-like setting. Since the prevailing wind is from the west, this will leave the center free from smoke as well as dust. The picturesque northwest suburbs, which have already become the site of the main educational and cultural institutions, will be further developed. Sanitoria and rest-homes for the working people will be located still farther to the west, a scenic zone. The heart of Peking, Tienanmen Square will be expanded to twice its present size. Around the enlarged square will be government mansions. A great avenue will cross Tienanmen Square, linking the eastern suburbs with the mining districts of Mentoukou to the west. It will be lined with roadside parks. At the Chienman Gate , near the rail terminus, will begin the commercial district. Regarding the many waterways in and around the city, the moat around the city walls is to be widened and deepened and its embankments lined with granite. The Kuanting ~~[illegible]~~ Reservoir on the upper reaches of the Yungting River now being completed ,will supply us with drinking water and it will also fill the moats and canals around the city. When the old shipping canal between Peking and Tientsin is restored, it will be possible for steam launches to sail from that port, 86½ miles away by rail, to the Chienman Gate. At the same time, all the imperial palaces, temples, parks, and gardens in and around Peking will be interlaced with waterways. They will become part of a huge recreational system for the capital's population. The government has made signal successes in carrying out the first phase of the city's plan,— sanitary engineering. 500 years ago Peking already had a 195-mile underground sewage system. Later this network was thoroughly cleaned and restored after liberation. All open sewers have been eliminated. , and many miles of new pipes laid. The city's lakes and the rivulets that feed them have been dredged. One formerly stagnant stretch of water has been turned into the size of the People's Skating Rink in winter and Swimming Pool in summer. A great new park is located in a former swamp. 1½ million of Peking's population is now supplied with running water.

"Unpaved alleys, terribly dusty in warm dry weather, impassably muddy in the rain , are to be eliminated. In the last three years, some 75 miles of new paving have been laid, that is, about 2/3 as much as in the 38 years between the overthrow of the Manchu Dynasty and the liberation. Both the main thorofares and the small alleys have been brightened with new trees. Peking today has almost thrice as many streetcars and 14 times as many buses as it has in the first days of liberation. A great deal of housing has been built even in the initial period. The emphasis on living quarters for working people, followed by buildings to house and rehouse the schools and universities and government offices. All told 130,300 rooms have been restored and about the same number built in the past three years. This is a very modest start compared to what is coming !"

Peking News sent to Wiants from Dr. Kelly of PUC

Clippings enclosed in Dr. Kelly's letter

2- Participation of Women in New China's Constructive efforts

Six out of every ten textile workers are women. Heavy industry is now open to women. The first woman blast furnace manager has now emerged. There are women lathe operators, foundry workers, ship-builders, railway traffic controllers, surveyors, technicians, electric and mechanical engineers. In the villages, 60 percent of all women available for work are engaged in some sort of farm work. In some areas it has reached 80 to 90 percent. Tens of thousands have learned the use of up-to-date tools and have mastered advanced farming technique. Masses of village women are engaged in weaving mats, collecting herbs, for medicine, and breeding silkworms.

A battle is being waged to uproot the vestiges of feudal ideology and backward social customs that discriminate against women.

Throughout the country nearly 30,000 maternity hospitals and child-care centers have been established and 270,000 midwives have been trained or retrained in scientific methods of confinement. These are some of the facts showing how the government is stimulating and encouraging women to take a full part in the building of their beloved motherland and the establishment of a happy prosperous life.

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3- Biological Advances

Biological scientists are studying the protection of beneficial birds, elimination of harmful birds, and the distribution of birds in the fruit-growing areas of Hopei Province. A survey is being made of all lakes adaptable for large-scale fisheries; how to prevent fish diseases, and a general survey of all fishes, sea weeds and invertebrates.

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News about the Wiants

Toward the end of June they move into St. Paul's parsonage, to start "an uncharted profession, but one with challenge and a thrilling future". Evidently they will be working for building a truly inter-racial community.

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News about Dr. Stuart

Dr. Stuart is working on his Memoirs with the help of Frank Price. He began this originally when he and Dr. Houghton were held captive by the Japanese during the Japanese invasion of China from 1941 to 1945. We shall all look forward to seeing this in published form in the future.

This news came from Dr. Stuart to Grace Boynton, and she is very happy to pass it along to his friends.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Extracts from Letter from William Gilkey, the young American piano teacher mentioned in paragraph 4 of the Lapwood letter.

Hongkong, May 14, 1952

"Since lastyear, July 25, I have been unable to leave Peking, or to mention why; because on that date the police entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ricket in Peking city and took them and Miss Harriet Mills who was living with them, away.

"Then the police started coming to my house at Yenching, and for the rest of the vacation I had to put up with their abuse and their prying into my affairs, as they tried to find some evidence, or manufacture some evidence, that would link me with some subversive activity. I was scared out of my wits, but there was nothing for me to do but wait for the Rickets' trial to come up, since trying to leave before then would only turn on the heat in full.

"During my last semester's teaching, nothing happened. But at the end of the semester during the winter vacation, Yenching was completely shaken up and reorganized with a great fanfare of publicity. The President was taken away by the police, along with the heads of several departments.

"On the same day that the President of Yenching was taken away, the heads of the communist activities in both my and Mr. Dean's departments made public pronouncements (this before any real evidence or police investigation had taken place) accusing us of all sorts of absurd crimes. The police then came, searched our houses and our persons, told us we were under house arrest for our "crimes" and not to go out upon pain of punishment

" Then the police set about in dead earnest to try to prove or somehow justify their actions following their false accusations.

" I was still carrying the business of the Rickets on my record and one of the accusations by my department was that I was an "agent" in league with them. The police tried all tricks to try to force such a confession from me; but I steadily refused to admit being an American agent or a spy. However I knew it was useless to try to hold out against them entirely, so I finally signed an elaborate confession, taking care that it did not include the above-mentioned categories, and I wrote an abject plea to the Peoples' Government to forgive me for my monstrous crimes aginst them, etc.

"Three days later I was on a train for Tientsin and ten days after that, embarked for Hongkong.

Sam Dean has only two sessions, but he lost his mind. Mrs. Dean and I went through much anxiety before we got him on the boat at Tientsin."

Please return to Mead, Cornwall, Conn.

Not for Publication

China News -in addition to the Lapwood Letters
(which are now being mimeographed by AFCS in Phila.)

11 Tsui Hua Hutubgm Peking, China, Dec.9

A- From Frederica Giang Li

I long for a letterfrom you. The last I got was written on Sept.12.J.C. has gone on a trip to Hunan for land reform work.He has been away for over two months now and will not be back until January. So he has missed the whole of the first semester work, He seems to enjoy his present work, and is getting a great deal out of it. Mrs. J.F.Li is on the same trip. I have been unusually busy since he left - the reason being that I was roped in by my former school to teach English again because both English teachers have gone off on agrarian reform trips. I am teaching 18 hours a week with lots of meetings sandwiched in. A full schedule seems to keep my health up ! - only I prefer not to keep up this pace too long. I hope by the end of the first semester those teachers will have returned to their posts.

Before the winter set in, I had the house painted. It looks much cleaner and more presentalbe now.How often I have wished that you could walk in and take a look! I do not go to Yenching often, but when I do go, I miss many of my old friends. Just how long we will stay in this house is a question too. A committee is formed to discuss in earnest the amalgamation of different colleges of the three universities,Peita, Tsinghua and Yenching. Just which part will go where is still uncertain. There is no monotony in New China.Through this self-criticism system every one and every institution is becoming less selfish and self-centered Everything must be considered for the good of the whole country. The original plan of making Peking West a cultural center is not abandoned Many new buildings are shooting up. In as short a time as you have been away, youwould find many changes if you returned.My sister and her family (the Seutus) may be going to America. She will let you know.

Please remember me to all my friends, This may not reach you for Christmas, but I shall think of you on that day.

Lots of love
Freddie

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B-Note at the end of Ralph Lapwood's letterof Dec. 29

For those of you who know Yenching well, I will mention a few names which will help to make vivid the generalizations. Taking leadership in the Science College discussion groups are Hsu Hsien-yu,Chu sheng-lin,Tsai Lou-sheng(after his return from land reform), Ai Wei-chao, Li Ou,Chang Shis-cheng (Chairman of the Fellowship). A model group is that of the History Department, where under the leadership of Hou Jen-chih and Feng Tu-chien tremendous advances toward cooperation have been made by old Mr. Teng, Chi Ssu-ho, (now out on land reform). They have proceeded from discussion to the next stage - self-criticism and mutual criticism - with very remarkable success, judging from what Jen-chih(always an enthusiast) reports.

Ralph

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C-From Stephen Tsai -Taipeh. Taiwan, Jan. 8,1952 (Formosa)

Thanks for your invitation for a visit. We like nothing better than than to go to the USA to see the boys and our friends.

Things are progressing smoothly here. Bill Fenn is scheduled to arrive on the 20th to look into hte possibilities of sponsoring some work by the UBCCC on the Island. We have been urging the Board for some time.I hope this trip will result in something.

The three of us are all well and happy.We, of course, long for our home constantly, but I am afriad it is a long distance away both in tiem and space.We are thankful for those golden bygone days and the happy memories. the three boys in the States seem to be doing satidfactorily.:- Wei-kang in the Graduate School at Ann Arbor;Wei-ling hoping to get as Assistantship at Penn State,and Wei-lung in his last stretch at Yale, and looking for a job.We are thinking over possibilities for Wei-chi, who will be ready for college next fall.He has turned out to be a bookworm ! -Best wishes from Stephen .

ChinaNews from Other Sources

A- Mrs. Szutu Chan, sister of Frederica Giang Li (wife of Dr. Li Ju-chi, Professor of Biology, formerly at Yenching, now at Pei-Ta) and her husband Dr. Szutu are now in New York.

On Nov.11,1952 she wrote meas follows :-"My mother in Hongkong reveived a note from my father, who is with Freddie in Peking, saying that J.C. has been called by the communist government and has been questioned four times, so Freddie and the family have been worried. My father being a retired minister who helped the Methodist to be established in Kiangsi is being accused in Kiangsi, but fortunately he is now in Peking."

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A word of explanation about Freddie's house and furniture -Freddie, as a Vassar student, was given her American education by an older Vassar woman, Miss Gouldy, and when Freddie went to Yenching to teach Biology and later married Dr. J.C.Li, who was appointed to the Yenchign faculty, Miss Gouldy bought ,or rather built, a house for her, and furnished it completely. Consequently probaly she has been marked as having better furniture, and worse than that, American furniture, and that is probably what is meant by "to simplify everything".

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B - Wang An-lin (Mrs. P.M.Ku) writes from Chevy Chase on Jan. 4,1953 :-

We had a Yenching Alumni party at Dr. Stuart's this afternoon to which most of the twenty odd members brought their families. It was very gay. Richard Jen is President of the Washington chapter. others being :- Shirley Duncan, David Lu, Wei Wen-yuan, Robetta Ma, Henry Allen, F.M.Fisher, Shih Tso-sheng, John Yuan, Etc. Mrs Price and her mother Mrs. Hugh arrived just as every one else was leaving, so we did not have much chance for chatting.

We were especially happy to find Dr. Stuart so much improved in health. He looked well when we last saw him four months ago, but we were somewhat afraid it was merely due to the fine weather we had then. Now he says he feels even better than he did then. His face is fuller, but no longer swollen-looking as in the spring, and his complexion is far healthier in color even than in the good old days. He still moves his legs with some difficulty, and remained seated all the time we were there - two hours. But apparently it is no longer so strenuous for him to have so many people around. He speaks easily now, with all the old warmth, clarity and eloquence again. though of course he restrains himself when possible. Phillip Fu tells us that the treatments have proved most beneficial, and that the clot in his head is becoming much smaller. You probably know that he is even planning a trip to Taiwan in the spring.

All in all, Dr Stuart's progress appears to be remarkably successful, and I think the shedding of the ambassadorship and the plan to visit Taiwan have added a new sparkle to his eye and much happiness to his mind .

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C - From Lucy Burtt who is living in Gandhi's ashram at Sevagram India for two years I have heard the following , written on Feb.15,1953 :-

"Two or three weeks ago I was rather sleepily waiting for the arrival of a U.N. research team which was scheduled to investigate Basic Education ,and looked up amazed to see Chang Hung-chun and Dr. Grant of P.U.M.C. fame walk in. Hung-chun almost fell on my neck after the first meeting and I was glad to see him and hear about his family but I do not feel too happy about the way he and Yu-chen(his wife) have settled down to well-paid administrative posts in the west". They had run an experiment in Community living in China in the old days when he was Professor of Sociology at Yenching.

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From American Office of
Yenching University
150 Fifth Ave. N.Y.C.

For Immediate Release

CHINESE OFFICIALS PLEAD FOR

CONTINUED AMERICAN MISSIONARY SUPPORT

W. W. Yen, Ex Prime Minister of China and under appointment as Ambassador of China to Great Britain, has issued through the American office of Yenching University a fervent plea for continued American support to the missionary universities in China.

Yenching is the only Christian university in Peking. It was formed seven years ago by a union of the Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and London Mission Colleges there.

W. W. Yen in his statement says,

"A serious and very injurious effect is felt by institutions established in China purely of an altruistic nature, -- such as Yenching and other missionary universities for the education in a modern way of China's young men. Supporters in America begin to withdraw their financial help, and professors and other workers on the spot doubt their own usefulness in helping China under such circumstances. There is a general feeling of uneasiness, discouragement and even despondency.

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"All this is understandable. We are in the midst of a great storm; waves, mountain-high in some places, seem to sweep away and swallow up with seeming ease vessels believed to be staunch in every way. Other ships, manned by brave and noble officers, begin to dread to try their strength against the howling hurricane and the foaming billows, approaching nearer and nearer. The idea is prevailing more and more to give up the fight, -- to regard the situation as hopeless and all constructive efforts as futile, at least for some years to come.

"No one would be foolish enough to prophecy that the morrow would see the sun shine on a China with all the symptoms of disorder removed, but he would be a hopeless pessimist, if he thought that the Chinese people had lost all their common sense and abandoned entirely the dictates of reason. As a matter of fact, there is already a pronounced reaction against the excesses of the extremists, never approved of even from the beginning by the large majority of the Chinese people. There are signs, indeed, that the storm has already commenced to spend its force, and in the comparatively near future, the destructive elements will exercise less and less influence.

"I feel confident that the severe test that is applied to the Foreign Missions and their laudable activities in China will only bring out more distinctly the inherent and indestructible worth of such institutions. Much greater and more dangerous trials have fallen to the lot of Christian workers even in their own lands in times of the past, and in every case the true and the good have triumphed over the false and the evil. May we not as students of history expect the same course of events to happen in China?"

Y. T. Tsur, adviser to the Ministry of Finance in Peking supports this plea by saying, "What China now needs is more intensive sympathy, more distinguished friendship. Until this becomes possible, troubles loom large and threatening ahead of the world. Yenching University is one of the media of expressing this intensive and disinterested sympathy and friendship."

Corn Needs Cultivation

(Yenching

Existence at Yenching is being measured in strange terms these days -- in terms of corn.

For example:-

In China a large part of a professor's salary consists of corn -- some 200 lbs. of it.

tuition fees for the Spring term are also in terms of corn--550 lbs; and dormitory fees too -- 385 lbs.

and payments for goods, say for the trimmings that make corn palatable; were surely made in kind -- the kind being corn.

No, the diet is not strictly corn -- or even corn and rice. There is also cabbage! An early dispatch from Yenching refers in joyful terms to success in securing 7,700 lbs. of cabbage for the community.

And there's meat too. One of the foreign staff reports six meet meals in three months.

Not exactly luxurious living, is it?

But courage remains undaunted. And determination to carry on unabated. And among the undiscouraged is Nancy Cochran.

Her English language project remains one of the most constructive parts of the Universities program.

Like other phases of the work of the University, it is undoubtedly had the experience of student appraisal and advice; an experience less unhappy than varied and beneficial in some respects.

It is finding opportunity to share with other teachers the results of years of experimenting and its knowledge of modern language teaching technique.

This work of Nancy's, like the rest of the work of the University, is going to depend on a good crop of corn at this end.

Corn needs hoeing.

Let's not fail to hoe our rows.

Oh yes, checks -- payable to Yenching -- make good hoes.

Latest News of Christian Colleges in China

CHEELOO UNIVERSITY
FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
GINLING COLLEGE
HANGCHOW CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
HUA CHUNG UNIVERSITY
HWA NAN COLLEGE
LINGNAN UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF SHANGHAI
SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY
WEST CHINA UNION UNIVERSITY
YENCHING UNIVERSITY

FROM: UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA
150 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

PHONE: WATKINS 9-8703

Although the Communist armies have taken over most of north China and are battering down the Nationalist defenses in central and east China, the thirteen Christian colleges in that country are carrying on their work in a psychological atmosphere that is amazingly calm and hopeful under the circumstances. All these educational institutions, according to a recent announcement by the United Board for Christian Colleges in China, plan to continue as long as they are allowed sufficient academic and religious freedom to pursue their work in accordance with their basic Christian purposes.

Yenching University in Peiping -- toward whose support Wellesley alumnae contribute -- was encircled by Communist forces in December, but thus far relations between the latter and university administrators have been on a friendly and cooperative plane. Classes are continuing as usual.

Acting Chancellor C. W. Luh reports that while Communist policy toward Yenching does not seem to be fully crystallized, he believes that since this university is a private institution there is some hope that its administration may escape drastic upsets. Communists have given assurances there will be no discrimination against Americans as individuals and, so far, have raised no objection to continued American financial assistance to Yenching.

(more)

The main concern of the university is whether it will be permitted to enjoy religious and academic freedom under a Communist-dominated government. On this point the Communist attitude is not yet clear. Without such freedoms it is doubtful whether continued American support for the university will be forthcoming.

"All we ask," Dr. Luh says, "is fair play. We hope for a modus vivendi. We will probably not object to introducing courses in Marxian economics and the 'new democracy,' but only if they can be taught side by side with courses in the economic, social, and religious principles of the Western world. Moreover, we want students to retain the right of honest criticism of any or all theories."

Dr. Luh expects the Communists to insist on greater emphasis on practical courses, as against bookish learning. He also expects they will want the lecture system modified with more discussion and self-criticism as between students and teachers. Such subjects as engineering and the natural sciences will probably be taught more or less in the old way.

The social sciences will offer a real problem. The Communists consider the economic, social, and political theories of the capitalistic world as out of date, and have intimated they will allow them to be taught only as history. However, Dr. Luh does not expect this all-important question of academic freedom to become a serious issue until a coalition government comes into being and enunciates its policies. Meanwhile, classes are continuing in the old way.

-30-

Yenching File

As From School of Religion
Yenching University
Peiping, China

Dr. Sidney Gamble
Chairman, Yenching Committee
United Board for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.
U. S. A.

My dear Dr. Gamble:

After my appeal to you on May 23rd and with your permission to place in writing the need of the School of Religion, Yenching University, I beg to write this letter to you now and to send copies to other members of the Yenching Committee of the United Board for Christian Colleges in China.

I

The School of Religion of Yenching University is an integral part of Yenching. As much, it claims the close attention and unfailing interest of your committee which is the one logical and morally responsible body to which the Dean of the School can present his case and appeal for investigation and help.

For more than two decades the School of Religion has served in the maintenance of the Christian spirit and character of Yenching University. I has never occupied the limelight in the University, but it has been a necessity to the University for reasons of which you and your committee are fully aware.

The School of Religion has been criticized by church authorities because of its fearless spiritual adventures coupled with a measure of youthful pride. Such criticism frequently ignored its unusual achievements and led to indifference on our part to the attitude of the churches that participated in its formation and maintenance. We have not been unaware of our need of the Church and our real contribution to its growth in China. In a spirit of sincerity and penitence, the entire Faculty of the School during the last decade, has undergone a definite change and acquired a deep church consciousness, accompanied by a passion to help maintain the Christian character of Yenching and to assist in the education of the leadership of the Church in China. The church has not been slow in noticing this change and in rejoicing over it.

II

On the side of its achievements, I beg to mention in bare outline some of the things that it has done.

1. The School has through two Christian periodicals, "The Amethyst" and "The Truth of Life," guided Christian students and ministers in social and ethical questions, in religious poetry, worship, preaching, etc.

2. The Members of our Faculty have published original works in Chinese in the Christian pioneering spirit.

a. The first book on "The Life of Jesus" written by a Chinese Christian. This has been the best-seller among Christian books and has reached the classrooms of non-Christian government universities where it is used as a reference book in modern Chinese literature.

b. The first work on "The Life and Letters of St. Paul" written, not copied or translated, by a Chinese Christian.

c. "A Chinese Interpretation of Christianity"

d. A book on "The Christian Home," another best seller which has gone into many thousands of homes in 25 editions and has been translated into at least five other languages.

e. Three Hymn books:- "Universal Praise" (which three of our men led in producing); the "Fellowship Hymnal", all translations in classical Chinese verse; and the "People's Hymnal"; original Chinese hymns set to Chinese tunes with harmonized accompaniment.

f. Other books, articles, pamphlets and tracts in Chinese and English too numerous to mention.

3. A new and far more accurate translation of the New Testament in China's national language. (OT to be translated in the near future).

4. The "Song on the Nativity," in Classical Chinese poetry, with music specially composed by a non-Christian Chinese. This was sung in Tientsin to large audiences during the later period of Japanese occupation as a protest, in the disguise of poetry and music, against aggression and bondage. It is a work calling for 100 voices and an hour and fifteen minutes to sing. The work is entirely original and indigenous.

5. Chinese Lyrics with piano accompaniment.

6. Two small books of prayers, written in artistic and dignified language.

7. Numerous sermons and sermonic materials.

8. Selections from NT and OT for current use among youths.

9. Two different MSS on the History of Christianity in China are in process of preparation by two professors.

10. Translated books and research papers.

As a result, our School has made a vital contribution to the church and to Christianity, which has not as yet been surpassed or rivaled by the works of any other institution in China.

The School of Religion has never sought to have a large student body as we desire to accept only students already holding degrees who are promising. In the nature of the case, these have been few. We have had as our students a number of free lances, that is Christians with no church connections, who have turned out to be passionate lovers of the church and ordained ministers of the gospel. We have had about an equal number of students sent to us by various denominations. Among our graduates, are three presidents of theological seminaries, the moderator of a church, the general secretary of the English Presbyterian Church in Swaton, several university professors, one of whom won "victory honors" from the government for services during our war against Japanese aggression, a number of teachers in theological seminaries, a group in active Christian ministry, a few growing scholars, and many in other types of Christian work. With our limitations we may say that we have done our best.

Within the University, members of our Faculty have served as religious leaders, evangelists, chaplains, and executives in the Yenta Christian Fellowship. Numerous wild, passionately patriotic youths have turned to us for counsel and advice.

For more than two decades, several of our professors have participated in the ecumenical movement and in conferences of ministers and preachers, of students and others, in retreats of Christian writers, etc.

III

The purpose of the School is first to serve the Church in educating its leadership, both for the ministry and for other lines of activities and then to be the mainstay of Yenching in keeping aflame the fire of the Christian faith.

It has amply justified its existence. In the Weigle Report on Theological Education in China, it received high recognition. Its continued existence and development was unquestionably assured in 1935 when that report was made. After more than a decade the reasons for its maintenance and growth have become only the stronger.

IV

As Dean of the School, I have made the utmost effort to gather together a group of men of very high calibre to serve on the Faculty. Within the next two or three years, this group should be complete and will stand with a unity of purpose and fellowship, hitherto unequaled, to serve the University and the Church. There should be 50% Westerners on the Faculty and 50% Chinese. The Western members are supported by Mission Boards that send them. But salaries for the Chinese members must be found beyond the utterly insufficient funds at the disposal of the School.

We also need a dormitory for our students. Hitherto our students have lived in the undergraduate dormitories, so scattered that there is no chance for corporate fellowship and concentrated discipline in moral and religious life. A dormitory of our own will enable us to do what has hitherto been impossible. It should be planned and erected with its practical purposes in view with a faculty residence, guest rooms, rooms for married student and a small section separated by the faculty residence, for women students, with a refectory, a common room, and most important of all, a small chapel. In such a place, we should be able to concentrate fellowship, labor, discipline, evangelistic activities, recruiting work, and worship. We can get the best undergraduates to live with us and see our internal working. Thus we may recruit for the ministry right there by living together. Instead of separating our students from the undergraduates of the various colleges of the University, we can actually draw them together in our dormitory. We can have after dinner discourses on pastoral theology, social service, and so on. We can give students experiences in manual labor on patches of land near by -- in tilling the ground and cultivating corn and cabbage. Theological education must be different in China, adapted to Chinese life and activities. And we cannot really educate for the Church without a dormitory.

In addition we need a sum of money to educate our teachers in the United States. We have at present two men in Union Theological Seminary. One is very inadequately supported. Still another is coming to America. All are first-rate men, experienced, devout, with passion to serve Christ and their own country.

Then we need funds for books, and funds for publication.

If theological education is to be systematically and far-sightedly carried on in China, Yenching should have an undergraduate theological college below the present graduate school. Here an appeal should be made to the Mission Boards for consideration. And further information may be sent to you later on.

V

How much has the School of Religion at present to go on? The following is the capital, it has lived on and is living on.

(1)	Harkness Fund	U.S.	$143,969.20
(2)	Gamewell Fund		50,620
(3)	Tomson Fund		25,000
	Total	U.S.	$219,589.20

The interest on it, I was told, will be in the neighborhood of $6000 per annum. There is an accumulated interest from 1942-47, after expenditures in 1946-1947, a sum of $26,000 which is reserved for use.

Now to carry on the School of Religion on $6000 a year with every item of expenditure included is an impossibility. We are eating quickly into the accumulated surplus of $26,000.

VI

Therefore I appeal to you and to the whole Yenching Committee to consider our case. There are four ways to deal with the case, it seems to me.

1. To tell the School to eek out an existence as it has been doing during the periods of China's national crisis and of the School's "incubation";

2. To tell the School to cease to exist altogether.

3. To tell the School that you will be responsible to give a portion of the 15 million dollars which you are raising for the Christian Colleges in China; for as you know w e are an integral part of Yenching University.

4. To tell the School that you will see to it to meet the minimum needs of the School so that it may normally function.

The needs of the School are:

1. A plain dormitory as already described in a previous paragraph.	U.S. $50,000
2. An endowment fund to support the Chinese members of the Faculty of the School.	100,000
3. Education of teachers of the School for a period of three years.	12,000
4. Funds to build up the library.	20,000
Total	U.S.$182,000

Before the verdict is given that this sum is too big, may we not all think and pray before God and ask Him whether the verdict could be given? Far greater things than this, under far more difficult conditions, have been done.

Blame me not for having been kept silent till now. The School has been under the impression that it is not difficult to get help when it is ready to go ahead after the "period of incubation". It has had until very recently Dr. J. Leighton Stuart whose faith and passion has kept us hoping and waiting. Now that we are ready to go ahead and that both the University and the Church need us, now that our chief is busily engaged as the Ambassador of the United States to China, we must make the direct appeal to you ourselves.

VII

As Dean of the School of Religion, I earnestly beg you to:

1. Create a committee within the Yenching Committee, to look after the interest of the School.

2. Move quickly in the direction of raising the funds as needed and as specified under VI.

3. Allow the School to use $6000 out of the surplus of $26,000 for the education of teachers of the School in this country and for family allowances and travel for this purpose. This can be granted us immediately and the authorization of the Dean of the School to use this sum according to his plans be communicated to the authorities of Yenching University.

4. And work together with me and the Faculty of the School in putting the School upon a sound and permanent basis.

With prayerful trust in your deep interest and concern in the needs of the School; with full confidence in your ability to assume the moral and financial responsibility which is yours logically; and with simple and unswerving willingness to be your obedient and faithful servant in carrying out and carrying on the important work which God gives both to you and to us in the School of Religion to do.

I am,

Yours in His service,

T. C. Chao

T. C. Chao,
Dean

Write up for Religious press and for Sunday edition Times & Tribune -

NEWS LETTER

Chinese Translation of the New Testament

Mr. Lü Chen-chung, research fellow of the School of Religion, has finished a translation of the New Testament into Chinese from the Greek original, and the University has appropriated U. S. $300 for its first edition of 300 copies.

Mr. Lü came to Yenching and began this work in 1937, shortly after the Japanese invasion. He had the opportunity to consult Professors J. H. Murray and T. C. Chao of the School of Religion, who are well versed in Greek and Chinese respectively. After Dec. 8, 1941, Yenching was occupied and Dr. Chao imprisoned, so that the translation work had to be temporarily suspended. Mr. Lü, however, soon resumed the work in town, finding help in Rev. Charles Busby of the London Mission for Greek. After the release of Dr. Chao from prison, he and Mr. Lü met once a week, devoting the whole day to the discussion of the Chinese text. This went on for three years. When Yenching reopened, the work was virtually completed.

The first edition of 300 copies will be presented to a limited number of people interested in the study of the Bible and well read in Greek, Chinese, and English. Their critisisms and suggestions are expected to form the basis for a revision of the work. The revised edition will then be circulated as a valuable reference book among Church members and Bible students.

This new translation will be free from a number of inaccuracies and ambiguities, which are contained in the present Chinese Bible. It will, therefore, be a valuable contribution to Chinese Church Literature.

No. 30, Yenching Journal of Chinese Studies

At present the 30th issue of the Yenching Journal of Chinese Studies is in press. This number was due to appear in December, 1941. It had already been printed and the copies were being bound, when the war broke out.

This new issue is edited by Prof. Ch'i Ssu-ho and represents an attempt to produce a modern and scientific journal of some 300 pages. Half of the space is devoted to seven special articles, while the other half is divided between book-reviews and sinological news of a personal and institutional nature. The emphasis laid on news and book-reviews by giving them more space is an effort to meet a wider interest, thus enabling the readers to resume scientific contacts.

Prof. Chang Tung-sun

Prof. Chang Tung-sun is the only member of Yenching who has entered Chinese politics. As leader of the National-Socialist Party and member of the Democratic League, he flew to Chungking in January and attended the All-Party Political Consultative Council,

a conference of all political parties shaping the destiny of China.

Prof. Chang is on leave of absence from the University for the academic year 1945-46 owing to his political activities. It is generally believed, however, that he will give up his political activities and will return to the University after the critical transitional period for the country is over.

Prof. Chang visited the campus on February 22. In the afternoon he delivered a speech before the students in Bashford Auditorium and in the evening he spoke at the Faculty Club in the President's House. On both occasions he reported on the All-Party Political Consultative Council.

He said he was quite optimistic simply because, for the first time in China's history, different factions have laid down their arms, seeking a compromise solution through open discussions. The present difficulties, he thought, would be overcome in the course of time.

Find a place to use

Yenching Girls Get Eggs and Lard

On February 19, the women students of Yenching for the first time ate eggs together. Mrs. C. F. Wang, Acting Dean of Women, told the girls that an amount of CNC$1,000,000 had been presented by the faculty and students of Wellesley to the women faculty and students of Yenching.

A meeting of the staff of the Women's College, upon receiving this gift, decided to make use of the fund in the following ways: 1, To use a major portion as a nutrition relief fund, whereby each woman student receives four eggs and four ounces of lard a week; 2, To provide special nutrition for weak students: weak and needy girls can each get a pint of milk from the Yenching Dairy; 3, To give medical relief: hospital bills of needy and sick students can be paid from this fund; and 4, To provide extra food, such as turnips and peanuts, for girl student groups during spring outings, etc.

The University has long felt it a serious problem that the students are under-nourished. The receipt of this gift for the women students solved only one half, or rather one-fourth, of the whole problem. The Administrative Committee, therefore, has written to Dr. Stuart, asking him to obtain a contribution of one thousand dollars expressly for nutrition relief of the men students.

Yenching

Excerpts From A letter Written by Dr. Hsu Peng Cheng to Dr. William Adolph

"I am now in the midst of a research project to determine the requirement of vitamin C by the Chinese. I choose this subject because this is the only experiment that I could do with the supplies available. One ounce of ascorbic acid comes from Henry Wallace, another from Dr. Thomson of the University of Nanking. Imagine paying one US dollar per 100cc for ordinary CP sulfuric acid for preserving urine! Oil for cooking costs 60¢ US per ½ kilo, the total cost would be about $150-200. But I am earning only about 25 dollars a month (US currency). I am glad that it is possible to do some research. Yenching is so poor that I hate to squeeze any money for research. There are many things which people in America do not realize. I ussd to think that burning a vegetable oil lamp for reading is a misery, but now I think it is a luxury.

The university is planning to move back(May 1) to Peiping soon. We have six trucks available for the first trip. We are allowed 120,000 dollars Chinese (60 dollars US) for the whole trip. It will cost us $50,000 from here to Paochi (about 200 miles?) for a seat on a truck. We consider ourselves extremely lucky to get those trucks from FAU (Friends Ambulance Unit). I wish to stop at Shanghai first and then go to Foochow and then start northagain. I hope to be back at the latest by August.

We are now in the process of winding things up although we still have 6-7 weeks to go. Sailer has succeeded in securing 6 FAU trucks for moving from here to Paochi. The first group will move from here on May 1, we hope. We are sure of our trip up to Hsuchow but not from there on. It is interesting to see that people are extrememly anxious to leave, but nobody knows whether it is better to stay here or at Peiping. It may be we will have to stay at Hsuchow for a long time. It is a feeling which people would not recognize unless he is actually staying at Chengtu. Nanking and Ginling college are trying to leave here on April 15. They actually close up much earlier. This stirs up the feeling of many universities. People who know that they are not going to be employed feel most uneasy. It is hard to make them work now. They want to leave early so that they can find another job."

Hsu Peng Cheng left here last summer. He is a Cornell graduate with a Dr.'s degree. He taught in Yenching many years (nutrition). He also taught a year and a half at the University of Chicago (Chemistry). He was an excellent teacher and was immensely liked. (Instructor)

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Dear Friends:

I hear that one can now send mail thru by Chinese post so I am going to try. Up to now about the only way we could get a letter home was to ask a friendly American officer to send it for us. The American boys in uniform, by the way, are a fine lot. If King Arthur's knights ever saw this aggregation of young giants they would crawl under their round table in fear, jealousy and shame. They often come out here to visit the summer palace and drop in at Yen Ching on the way. We are so understaffed and busy here, that I fear we haven't done what we should to see that they are taken care of; so they just jeep around the place and leave. The other day I was in the controller's office and, on the way out, met about a hundred of them. (The war ended just in time, because the American Army found me dressed in a pair of patched shorts and sandles so dressed me up in G.I. uniforms) They saw I had on a uniform, so yelled, "Hey, mister can you give us the low down on this ourfit. It don't seem to be a palace but it looks like one." I started to explain a bit. As they left one of them asked me, "Say you ain't a student or something here are you?" I looked as shocked and flattered as a careworn old engineer can look, and assured them solemnly that I was the engineer of the outfit. They seemed greatly relieved that I wasn't a student. Another one of the men, an officer, asked, "Don't Harvard University run this place?" That was a pretty intelligent question, since the Harvard Yen Ching work is certainly a very important part of the campus endeavor.

It seems that we are to come home in March or April. I have to get busy at home on the new engineering college.

Ruth joins in sending her best.

Yours sincerely,
Sam Dean

YEN CHING COMES BACK

Sam Dean

The Japanese militarists did not like American Mission-founded Yen Ching University. They said that from its doors had graduated far too many Chinese leaders who were strong for the American ideals of Christian democracy. These leaders, the Japanese Fascists claimed, were far too prominent in the forefront of China's resistance to Japanese efforts to control the East.

Honolulu was attacked. America and Japan were at war. At last the Japanese military was able to revenge itself against Yen Ching. Once and for all they would erradicate this source of Christian Chinese leadership. In quick succession aged Dr. Stuart (the president) was seized and placed in confinement, and the most prominent Chinese professors were arrested and ordered to sign statements that they would cooperate with Japan. They refused to promise this cooperation and were thrown into crowded prison cells, where, for months, they underwent such indescribable treatment and torture that they emerged prematurely aged, gray haired, crippled in health and frail. But what old men the Japanese had helped to make of them! They had stood at the window of suffering and seen God.

The war was over and the allies had won. Dr. Stuart (over seventy years old) was escorted in triumph from his prison cell back to the Yen Ching campus. They told him the tale of Yen Ching students and faculty members who had slipped by the spies of Japan and walked the long miles of hardship across the breadth of China to Chengtu, that they might carry on Yen Ching University throughout the whole span of the war. They walked together about the campus surveying the wreck that the Japanese army had left them. The various science buildings had been swept clean of all apparatus and equipment. The central heating, water supply, sewage and plumbing systems had not

been drained and had been allowed to freeze, bursting radiators, pipes, fittings and fixtures. Doors and casement windows had been allowed to swing free in the breezes banging themselves to pieces and allowing summer's torrential rains to flood rooms and heating channels. Furniture and books, power plant and shop machines were in a mess of neglect, in heaps of scrap, or entirely missing. Even the University's carefully filed drawings had been burned. Well might this frail group of ex-Japanese prisoners have lost heart as they considered the task before them. A million dollars in American gold would not put the University back in the shape it had been before the war. The embargo on American money entering the area still existed. Even before the war, Yen Ching had never been able to collect large sums from Chinese sources and now all North China was impoverished by eight years of occupation by a ruthless enemy who had seized all available resources. Most of their foreign faculty were in America. Many of their Chinese faculty were scattered all about China. None of these things seemed to worry them. These prematurely old men, looked through their window of suffering and unblinded by the lack of money, saw only a bigger and better Yen Ching University training further and better Christian leadership for Chin's great new democracy.

The University was opened in its wrecked buildings. The poverty-stricken people of North China were asked to assist and money started coming in (the widow's mite) given from the full hearts and empty pockets of a grateful Chinese people. It was a mere drop in the bucket of the ruined university's needs, but on that drop the University started to run and make temporary repairs. The professors were poor and many of them were in debt. Their families had suffered with them as the result of their refusal to cooperate with fascism. Now a grateful Chinese government was ready to offer them lucrative positions. They refused these positions and voted themselves such small salaries that they could not even buy proper food for their families because they wanted to reserve all possible collected funds for the temporary repairs of the buildings, making them at least usable. When winter came they would have been in desperate condition indeed had it not been that a friendly mine owner sent them coal to enable them to keep warm.

One might have thought that these men had already taken a sufficiently large burden upon themselves. The leaders of North China's industries did not seem to think so. They asked that Yen Ching cooperate with the industries of the area in the building up of a first class, modern engineering college. Yen Ching had started an engineering course previous to the war, but of its faculty, there remained on the campus only one each from the departments of chemistry, physics and engineering. These professors and their young assistants were busily engaged in helping the University's controller to fit the bits of campus wreckage back together again. These three men and the controller were delegated to work with each other, the Chinese and American industries and technical colleges to work out the required engineering college. For, said these Yen Ching statesmen, "There may be much that we do not know about modern engineering, but we do know that we are an American founded university and as such we must take upon ourselves the responsibility of helping to train those engineers and foremen which the cooperating Chinese and American industires are bound to need in China. We know that there are big Chinese and American engineers who do know what our engineering college should be like, and who will help us to organize, equip and staff it properly.

The University is taking shape. At first it seemed to be such a tangle of threads that it would be impossible to ever put it in order again. Imprisonment makes people patient.. The President and his professors had learned the lesson that all things can be done by those who patiently do the work that God expects of them. It is yet a university which is far from the Yen Ching of pre-war days. It is yet still definitely further from being the Yen Ching that it is destined to be. But it is a living, moving, Christian Yen Ching that has never died and has never ceased to be a part of the essential life of modern China. Like its professors it has learned the lesson that buildings, books and equipment do not make a university. These things are merely the useful tools of learning as education itself is merely a useful tool of living.