

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

NEW YORK

March 29, 1935

APR 22 '35

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HAMILTON HOUSE
170 KIANGSE ROAD
SHANGHAI, CHINA.

CABLE ADDRESS: ROCKFOUND, SHANGHAI
TEL. NO. 14959

Dear Max:

With this mail I am sending you letters and proposals with regard to Nankai University and Yenching University. I hope this will be the last of any proposals until the autumn meetings of the Executive Committee. With the U.S. dollar selling around \$2.50 L.C. and no certainty as to the future, we certainly must step very carefully.

I am taking especial pains to spread around the news that the Foundation's new program is a very modest one and that the funds available are small. This is not easy to do, as the name "Rockefeller" still inspires hopes of large appropriations.

The Nanking University Agricultural College is hot on our trail again, but I feel very definitely that whatever contribution we may make to agriculture in the Capital must take into consideration the whole set-up in Nanking. You may recall that in addition to the Nanking University Agricultural College, there is also the College of Agriculture of National Central University, and in addition there is a recently created National Agricultural Research Bureau, which has been rather handsomely financed by the Ministry of Industries. We have no Ministry of Agriculture here. I have a strong impression that some of the Nanking University crowd who apparently are not very keen toward cooperating with the Government, would like to see us finance their institution so that they could go ahead without any particular relationship to the National Central University Agricultural College or to the National Agricultural Research Bureau. Our attitude is that we are not interested in institutions for their own sake. Our only interest lies in their possibility of participating in a serious manner

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in activities that are in line with our general policy.

President Henry of Lingnan University is coming to see me in a day or two, and undoubtedly he is going to present a pitiful case. As you know, I think quite well of the Agricultural College at Lingnan, but I do not feel at all enthusiastic in simply carrying on our cooperation on the old basis, namely, of emergency relief. The financial situation with National institutions is distinctly superior at the present time to that of the Mission colleges. In the past, the Mission colleges have been much more stable than those controlled by the government, but with the decrease in contributions to foreign missions the shoe is on the other foot now. It seems to me that the Mission colleges have either got to produce some new money or get out of the game. The mere fact that they have been established largely by Americans with American money is not an argument at the present time for us to consider too seriously. Our job is to make good on our new program within a relatively short period of time, and we will be completely sunk if we allow our sympathies with some of these foreign institutions to go to the extent of appropriating sums of money which will not in all probability give us the best return in terms of our main objective. I am afraid that we shall be unpopular in certain quarters, but it is unavoidable.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Max Mason
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York, N.Y.
U. S. A.

SMG:MC

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Rural Reconstruction

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The report of Selskar M. Gunn on opportunities for Foundation activity in China (D.R. 476) ^{sub 601} ^{pro-1} which had been sent to the Trustees in advance of the meeting was presented and discussed and it was, on motion,

REPORT
ON CHINA

RESOLVED that general approval be, and it is hereby, given to the principles and aims of the report on China (D.R. 476).

RESOLVED that, pending the special meeting of the Board to consider program, it is hereby recommended that the Executive Committee give consideration to such appropriations for projects in China as appear urgent, provided the appropriations are for items which in the opinion of the Executive Committee and of the committee of review, appraisal, and program, do not imply the adoption of a continuing program.

The meeting of Trustees adjourned at 4:10 P.M. for the annual meeting of the Corporation, reconvening at 4:20 P.M. ADJOURNMENT
