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CHINA

AND

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

by

Selskar M. Gunn

1934

Original

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were presented to Trustees April 11, 1934 at V.R. 47

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presented to Trustees

CHINA

AND

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

by

Selskar M. Gunn

Shanghai  
January 23, 1934.

# THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Shanghai  
January 23, 1934.

Dear Mason:

Your letter of May 2nd, 1932 in which you discussed the question of my going to China, stated that you had long felt that a major weakness in the Foundation's organization, or rather, in the functioning of it's organization, was a tendency to become static, settling down to rather long continued programs. You remarked that we must retain our fluidity of purpose and that "before the Foundation closes, we should take a broader view and that we should see that more countries had been aided, provided that there is a program which may be devised with particular reference to the countries, which is of unquestioned value, whether that program was one that fell into the previous work of the Foundation or not."

It was your broad conception of the whole question which made it easy for me to accept your proposal and give up my splendid position in the European Office to undertake the new assignment.

The appended report has been prepared with the above points in mind, and if adopted would lead to a complete reorientation of the Foundation's outlook and activities in China.

While the Foundation has undoubtedly accomplished a good deal in China along lines which at the time appeared to be significant, I am

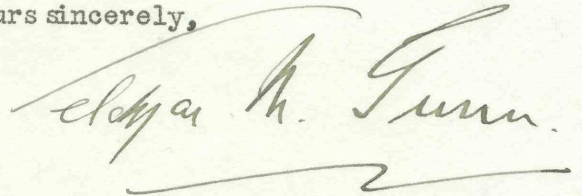
Mr. M. Mason

January 23, 1934

3.

I believe now, that that misconception has disappeared and confidence in our motives has been largely achieved. The situation is ripe for a new program based on China's pressing needs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elwyn H. Gunn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Elwyn H. Gunn".

Mr. M. Mason,  
The Rockefeller Foundation,  
49 West 49th Street,  
New York,  
New York.



## CHINA

"Whoever understands that mighty empire socially, politically, economically, religiously, has a key to world politics for the next five centuries."

The late John Hay, Secretary of State.

"Any attempt to appraise gain or loss in China must be provisional. Everything is still in the process of change. The whole scene, surveyed in true perspective, is not discouraging, though its perplexity makes a constant call on courage and discernment."

Sir Frederick Whyte,  
Former Adviser to the Chinese Government.

"Is it not precisely this call on courage and discernment which makes a challenge to the Foundation to stand by China at the present time, when many courageous Chinese are seeking to lead her towards stability and progress?"

Keng Shih Kai

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# I

## INTRODUCTION

This report is written on the premise that the Foundation should continue to have a program in China. We have invested huge sums of money in this country and the importance of China as a part of the World is ever-increasing. The internal situation, although difficult, from so many points of view is not unfavorable for Foundation co-operation. If one waits for stable government and unification of the country one might wait until a time when the Foundation would no longer be in existence.

I believe that the complicated condition of the Government and the resulting unfavorable situation of many Governmental institutions are added reasons why our collaboration is desirable at this time. It is not stretching the imagination to state that the Foundation may play an important role in helping to stabilize, at least, certain activities.

With the exception of the work done by the International Health Division we have not had in the past very intimate relationships with purely Chinese institutions or with the National or Provincial Governments.

The Peiping Union Medical College, important as it is in its own sphere has had a very limited effect nationally. Our contacts have primarily been with Mission Colleges and this fact has not strengthened our relations with the Government. On the contrary we have usually been labelled as belonging to the Missionary Movement. During the past year we have fostered cordial relations with Chinese officials and with important people connected with purely Chinese Institutions.

It is trite, perhaps, to refer to the fact that China, with its population represents such a large proportion of the land and people of the world. No one can gainsay this and no one can dispute the contention that China is bound to play an ever-increasing role in world affairs in the years to come. The relationship of the United States to China today is, on the whole, very favorable and our Government has done much to improve our position. I am convinced that the opportunities in China are vastly more significant than those presented in any of the many countries where I have worked for the Foundation in Europe.

No one can guarantee the march of events, and unforeseen circumstances might arise which would make Foundation co-operation difficult, if not impossible. I do not consider, however, that we would show statesman-like qualities if we postpone the development of a new program and wait for an Utopian condition which none of us will live to see.

In a letter recently written to the London Times, in another connection, Professor Gilbert Murray, speaking of China, wrote:

"Here is a tremendous challenge to our modern civilization. A very great and ancient society has dissolved; a new society is struggling to its feet with great courage under difficulties which can hardly be overstated. Can the leading nations of the West help this vast undertaking? Have we ourselves enough stability, enough coherence, enough disinterested understanding and imagination."

While I cannot pretend to answer the major question posed by Professor Murray, I do believe that the Foundation is singularly well adapted, as demonstrated by its history of accomplishment, to take a significant part in helping China in its struggle for stability and progress.



## II

## MISSION AND NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

Without prejudice, I think it can be fairly stated that the majority of the Mission colleges have reached a point where their significance in China is definitely on the wane. That they have contributed much through the introduction of Western education is obvious, but as National and Provincial institutions of higher education develop, opportunities for the Mission colleges become increasingly less. Even amongst the foreign leaders in Christian education in China there is a strong opinion that there are too many mediocre Mission colleges, and efforts are being made to attempt to correlate the programs of these institutions and avoid unnecessary duplication. It is an open secret that important American educators in China believe that some of the Mission colleges in China (which go under the name of Universities) should either go out of existence or definitely be converted into higher middle schools or junior colleges. Tradition and a growing body of alumni make such ideas difficult of accomplishment. The estimated income for the school year 1932-1933 for sixteen Mission colleges amounted to approximately \$4,100,000 Chinese dollars. Fourteen per cent of this came from tuition, 8% from Chinese sources, 33% from Mission boards, 20% from other foreign sources, 4% from endowment funds and 18% from miscellaneous items. Therefore, well over 50% of the income comes from Western sources.

With the exception of Lingnan University, I do not find any serious effort has been made by the Mission colleges to increase their revenue from strictly Chinese sources. The depression has seriously interfered with the

contributions from Mission Boards, and cuts as high as 70% in these appropriations to certain institutions are noted. There also is an opinion prevalent that there is a distinct decrease in interest in foreign Missions amongst the peoples of the United States, England, and Canada and that as conditions improve in these countries, funds from Missions sources will not increase proportionately. Some institutions are beginning to make efforts to raise money locally, Yenching, for example, has just launched a million Chinese dollar endowment campaign. Other institutions have been content to raise small sums over a shorter period of time. It is natural that many of the Mission colleges which have been aided by us in the past should turn to the Foundation for aid in this period of financial difficulty. In all fairness to certain Missionary colleges with which we have co-operated in connection with the Natural Sciences in the past, one must consider the question as to whether or not we can summarily discontinue all aid. The financial situation of these institutions is getting progressively worse and there hardly seems to be any reason to believe it will improve markedly in the near future. They have been able to get along on tuition fees and foreign funds. Should the Foundation undertake to continue emergency aid for the Natural Sciences for certain Mission colleges over a three-year period on a tapering basis? This question is discussed later.

I am definitely of the opinion that the future emphasis of the Foundation in China in higher education should be in connection with Chinese institutions. These are the institutions of the future.

It is common to hear the Missionaries and other foreigners express the opinion that the National and Provincial Universities, with their political



and financial difficulties, are too unstable to permit of serious work. I disagree with this. I have had an opportunity to visit a number of the National Universities in 1931 and again in 1933, and I am struck by the fact that most of these institutions have made great progress in stability. The Government realizes ever increasingly that these institutions must have continuity of direction and certainty of finances. Already we are beginning to see the benefits of this point of view in a number of the National Universities. It is a fact, as demonstrated by Dr. Tisdale's report, that the teaching in the sciences in some of the National Universities is as good and in some instances better than that in the Mission colleges. The Missionaries emphasize the importance of the character building work done by them with the Chinese boys and girls in their colleges. There is truth in this assertion, but my own observation, and it has been a rather close one in a number of National Universities, leads me to believe that the morale of the students in the best of these institutions is as good as it is in the Mission colleges. It is useless for the Mission colleges to attempt to compete with the National and Provincial Universities. I believe that some of these Mission colleges have a right to live and should be continued indefinitely, but only on the basis that they be small, that their programs be limited, that they excel in such programs, and that they demonstrate their importance to the country to the extent of interesting the Chinese authorities and public to contribute towards their maintenance. It would not be logical at the present stage of the development of Education in China for the Foundation to continue to have Mission colleges as their major interest.

## III

## MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

One is impressed with the magnitude of the sums spent by various Rockefeller Boards in China since 1914 for Medicine. In the financial statements for Medical Sciences in the Agenda of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of April 11, 1933, it is shown that nearly \$37,000,000 has been spent under the headings "China Medical Board and Peiping Union Medical College and China Medical Board, Inc." This is well over one-third of the grand total of expenditures shown for the Medical Sciences throughout the World. Of this amount the P.U.M.C. has had over \$33,000,000.

Aid to other Medical Colleges has been approximately \$1,263,000; Hospitals \$1,267,000; and general administration, fellowships and miscellaneous, roughly \$1,800,000.

It is a fair question to ask if the results obtained are commensurate with the effort.

It is always easy to find fault with past programs which were developed in the light of what appeared the desirable thing to do at the time. Frankness forces me to state that I cannot feel satisfied that the huge contributions to the Peiping Union Medical College have been warranted in terms of accomplishment in China. It is unnecessary to repeat here the arguments in favor of this institution which have been fully stated by Mr. Roger Greene in his special report made in 1933. If money were very abundant it might be desirable to develop this institution even further, but with the needs in other directions in China it would appear to me to be highly dubious to make any further large grants to the P.U.M.C.



Addition to Report

Undoubtedly it is premature to evaluate the real significance of this institution. It has been in operation only a few years, and therefore has been able to turn out but a limited number of graduates. As this number increases and as the graduates occupy more and more important positions throughout China, the real contribution of the Peiping Union Medical College to China will become apparent. Already a number of the graduates occupy important and strategic positions in the medical and public health fields of China. The ultimate proof of the importance of this institution, in my opinion, will be entirely dependent on its ability to place its graduates in really significant positions.

The scope and amount of support of Public Health in China can be summarized as follows:

Three-year Investigation on Hookworm, 1917-1919	\$28,000
Special Study of Hookworm Infestation in China	\$27,000
Co-operative Agreement with Municipality of Shanghai (3 years) for the Development of Rural and School Health	\$15,000
Co-operative Agreement with First National Midwifery School, Peiping (5 years)	\$30,000
39 Fellowships	\$156,000
Services of Staff Member, I.H.D., loaned to P.U.M.C. (11 years)	-
Services of Sanitary Engineer loaned to Nanking Government (4 years)	-

In terms of the needs in China for Public Health work, and considering what the Foundation has done in other countries in this line it is obvious that the Foundation's contribution to Public Health in China has not been great. Of the various reasons for this, instability of Government has probably been most important. The future program of the I.H.D. as far as I know, does not contemplate any marked development of its Chinese program.

In the Medical Sciences the present attitude of the New York Office seems to be, on the whole, negative. If the new policy of the Medical Sciences is to be applied throughout the world, then there is no reason why China, in its present stage of development, should receive much consideration. In view of the terms of my mission to China, I do not have to conform to the Foundation's program in other parts of the world and I am convinced that the program in both Medicine and Public Health needs to be restudied and developed on new lines.



The following statement made by Dr. J. B. Grant with regard to the future Medical and Public Health policy in China presents the problem from a new point of view and one which has my general endorsement:

"There are two ways in which a future medical policy for China may be viewed.

1. A Contribution to a Program of National Reconstruction of which a Unified Medical Policy Should be a Part

While the world in general is in the process of changes in social organization of varying degree, China is in the early stages of transition from an empirical agricultural civilization to a modern society. This offers an opportunity for China, unhampered by the traditions and precedents of semi-modern civilization and benefiting by the experience and experiments of others, to bring about a social order abreast of what may be found in other parts of the world if not actually in advance of them. The attainment of this objective will depend largely on a leadership which recognizes the opportunity and has a specific program for meeting it. Collaboration of The Rockefeller Foundation with the movements and ideals already shaping themselves might prove a deciding factor in the realization of a successful program of national reconstruction and well conceived projects of this sort should fall within the broad scope of the purposes for which the Foundation was established.

Experience has shown that an effective national medical policy should include medical education, public health and medical relief, each as a part of a unified program. The development of such a medical policy is, however, so dependent upon the progress in other fields of community activity such as industry, agriculture, education and transportation, that it should be closely

co-ordinated with a program of national planning. Future Foundation medical policy therefore should be limited to those projects which are a part of a unified medical program which in turn should constitute one aspect of a larger plan of social reconstruction.

A successful medical program constituting a part of national planning implies certain minimum essential components. These are:

- a. Administrative units of four distinct types, national, provincial, urban and rural, which, however, must be correlated to secure the efficiency of unity.
  - b. Facilities for the training of several categories of necessary personnel ranging from medical officers to aids; such training must be designed to qualify individuals for the specific demands of organized community protection, thus differing from training considered adequate in a community lacking such organization.
  - c. A medical consciousness in the population served.
  - d. Commensurate progress in economic, educational, transit and similar fields.
2. A Method of Assuring the Continued Value and Significance of the Large Investment Already Made in the Field of Medical Education in China

The large investment already made by The Rockefeller Foundation toward the development of medical education in China has thus far been applied almost entirely to the traditional type of education which had already grown up in other parts of the world. It is fair to ask how much this investment so applied is capable of assisting in the attainment of the objective of a new social order. If in the midst of significant social changes the established system of medical education is found to be incapable of adapting itself to changing conditions, then the investment of thirty-eight million dollars will have produced only mediocre results. If, however, the results of the original



investment are adaptable, as it is believed they are, and provided some direction is given, there is opportunity for assuring that future developments arising from the primary investment shall be significant in result. This is not the place for a detailed recapitulation of the present position of the P.U.M.C. with the investment represented, but it should be realized that the medical personnel by whom the projects proposed below must be initiated will be largely products of this institution, thus implying one significance of the investment."

If these policies were adopted there are specific projects in mind and ready for consideration. These include aid to:

1. The Experimental Medical School, Nanking
2. Public Health Activities of the Mass Education Movement, Ting Hsien
3. Sanitary Engineering
4. Health Education
5. Provincial Medical and Health Organization at Changsha and possibly Tsinan
6. Fellowship Program
7. Funds for research and developmental aid in Medicine and Public Health

If the Foundation's Chinese program is to be to a considerable extent directed toward Reconstruction, Medicine, and Public Health should be definitely linked with this main idea. The time is past when Medicine and its applications in Public Health should be considered as separate entities. A rather unique opportunity presents itself to us, to integrate activities of this kind with other branches of human endeavor, looking towards a general raising of the economic and social level of the masses.

More detailed information concerning the subject matter of this chapter is being filed separately in the form of a report made by Dr. J. B. Grant.



## IV

## THE NATURAL SCIENCES

The Foundation's activities in the Natural Sciences have been based essentially on helping the universities and colleges of China to be in a position to give adequate scientific education to men and women who might ultimately become students at the Peiping Union Medical College. The appropriations made to this Premedical Aid program from the beginning of the work of the Foundation to the reorganization 1929 totaled \$1,286,763, and since the reorganization, up to and including 1932, an additional \$905,375, making a grand total of \$2,192,138. This included the following appropriations:

PREMEDICAL AID IN CHINAAid to Thirteen Institutions

Yenching University .....	\$779,000	
Fukien University .....	195,000	
Lingnan University .....	169,000	
College of Yale-in-China .....	158,508	
National Central University (formerly National Southeastern University)....	109,100	
Nankai University .....	107,600	
St. John's University .....	98,000	
Tsing Hua University .....	47,150	
Nanking University .....	42,000	
Soochow University .....	36,205	
Shanghai University .....	35,000	
(formerly Shanghai Baptist College)		
Shantung Christian University .....	33,700	
Ginling College .....	25,250	\$1,835,513

Miscellaneous Aid

Biological Supply Service .....	\$ 8,500	
Specialist in Science Teaching .....	10,000	
Summer Institute for Science Teachers .....	10,500	
Marine Biological Institute .....	3,000	32,000

<u>Developmental and Research Aid (Emergency Fund) .....</u>	44,125	
<u>Fellowships .....</u>	280,500	
Grand Total		\$2,192,138

It will be noted that ten of the thirteen educational institutions aided are Mission colleges, two national universities, and one a private Chinese university. The status of the Natural Sciences in these institutions at the present time (with the exception of Fukien Christian College) will be found in the report of a survey made by Dr. W. E. Tisdale during the months of September to December, 1933.

Without doubt the three strongest institutions at the present time in the Natural sciences, amongst the missionary colleges, are Yenching University, Lingnan University, and Nanking University. Even in these institutions the standards are not high and are in no way comparable to the science departments of the better American or European universities. Perhaps this is not to be expected.

The other Mission institutions aided are:

Cheloo University, Tsinan

Chunghua University, Wuchang  
(Previously Yale-in-China, Changsha)

Ginling College, Nanking

St. John's University, Shanghai

Shanghai University, Shanghai

Soochow University, Soochow

Fukien University, Foochow

These institutions are all mediocre in their Natural Science departments, although, of course, there are, here and there, individual professors or sections where creditable work is being done, based on the rather low Chinese standards. In general it is fair to state that none of this group of institutions



is prepared to give more than the first two years of science courses (Shanghai University, Soochow University and St. John's do give a good four-year course in biology).

Nankai University, Tientsin, a private Chinese institution which we have helped, is very weak in physics and chemistry, fair in biology, but strong in mathematics.

Of the two national universities aided by the Foundation, viz; National Central University at Nanking and Tsing Hua University at Peiping, we can say that both of them are equipped to give four-year courses in all of the basic Natural Sciences.

A general survey of the situation is, therefore, distinctly discouraging. I have stated that it seems to be a widespread opinion that there are too many Mission colleges and that some should be abolished, or at least reduced to be higher middle schools or junior colleges.

In addition to the two national universities mentioned above, we have familiarized ourselves with the activities in the Natural Sciences of six others, viz:

Chekiang University, Hangchow  
 Peiping National University, Peiping  
 Peking National University, Peiping  
 Peiping Normal University, Peiping  
 Sun Yat Sen University, Canton  
 Wuhan University, Wuchang

Of these, Chekiang University is outstanding and is doing good work throughout the four years in all the Natural Sciences and is also carrying on considerable

research. Wuhan University is a new institution, strategically located at Wuchang, the center of China, and has made giant strides in the few years of its existence. It seems almost certain to become one of the important Governmental institutions of higher education in China. Sun Yat Sen University in Canton is a large institution, which also because of its geographical location will ultimately become of great significance. Unhappily it has been so ridden by politics that its progress has been seriously retarded. The work it is doing in biology and mathematics, however, is good. The three universities located in Peiping present a rather tragic picture. None of them is good. Peking National is certainly the best of the three, and then is followed by Peiping Normal, which is mediocre, and by Peiping National, a very poor institution from any point of view.

Two provincial universities, namely Hunan University, Changsha, and Shansi University, Taiyuanfu, were also surveyed by us, and while the former shows some promise, the latter is indescribably bad.

One is depressed with the low quality of teaching and research in the Natural Sciences in all institutions in China. The reasons are numerous and have been touched on by Dr. Tisdale. The major points undoubtedly are pooriness of elementary science education in the middle schools, lack of textbooks, language difficulties, poor equipment and second-rate teaching. There are some who believe that the Chinese mind does not lend itself towards the more difficult of the Natural Sciences. There may be some truth in this, but the records of many Chinese fellows in the United States who have specialized in physics, chemistry, and mathematics would indicate that this is certainly not a general rule.



In normal times the national universities are better off financially than the Mission colleges. Salary scales are higher and there is more money for new buildings, equipment and library. Unfortunately there have been periods when the National Government, being short of funds, has neglected to pay the national universities their monthly income, and this has persisted over long periods of time with demoralizing results. National universities also have been subject to much political interference, frequent changes of presidents with subsequent changes in the deans and professorial staff.

The situation at the present time (early 1934) in regard to the national institutions is certainly much better than it was at the time of my visit to China in July, 1931. Conversations with leading members of the Government convince me that the Governmental authorities are thoroughly alive to the fact that these institutions must not be used as political footballs and that unless there is continuity of direction and financial stability they cannot be expected to develop properly.

It must be remembered that these national and provincial institutions are Chinese institutions in China, and by very virtue of that fact are in a much stronger position than foreign institutions such as the Mission colleges. The financial situation of practically all of the Mission colleges at the present time is very serious, as is demonstrated by the information which I am filing elsewhere. Mission support has decreased very materially and it is a question if, even when the depression passes, they can expect to receive sums of money equal to those which they have obtained in the past. The depreciation in the U.S. dollar is an additional factor which only accentuates the complications. The tendency of the Mission colleges is to

turn the Foundation more and more for aid during these hard times, and in addition, in certain instances, for more funds for the development of the existing work. The requests have been mostly in connection with the Natural Sciences, as it is in these subjects that we have been co-operating with the Mission colleges. I cannot see how we can go on indefinitely, as I am convinced that the national universities are ultimately more significant than the Mission colleges.

There are some exceptions to be considered in connection with those Mission institutions in which we now have an interest. I refer particularly to Yenching University, Lingnan University and Nanking University. These are the three strongest Mission colleges and I believe they have a reason to exist and develop. We have helped Yenching University very materially in the Natural Sciences. They have had from us \$779,000 and, in addition, have benefited from our Fellowship and Research and Developmental Aid programs. I do not feel that in this instance we are called upon to give any further major assistance for the Natural Sciences. It will be recalled that the Foundation has already contributed \$250,000 endowment for the Natural Sciences and Yenching desires another \$250,000 towards this same purpose. Nanking University in addition to assistance in Fellowships and Research and Developmental Aid, has had but \$42,000 from us for the Natural Sciences. It has received some aid from the International Education Board but not in any large amount. The Natural Sciences at Nanking University, as indicated above, are good, although not as well developed as at Lingnan or Yenching. Our future interest in Nanking University, as advocated by me elsewhere, will be along the lines of agriculture, and this will necessarily mean a continued interest



in the Natural Sciences. Lingnan University has had over \$169,000 for the Natural Sciences. Here again I believe that our only reason for considering further aid for the Natural Sciences will be because of an interest in the development of its agricultural college.

With regard to all the other Mission colleges, I am unable to recommend any extensive aid in the Natural Sciences, with the possible exception of an occasional fellowship or a small grant in aid for some piece of research work which would appear to be really important. With regard to the immediate situation, I raise for discussion the question of a small grant over a period of three years or less to the more significant institutions so that they may be helped during this critical moment and be given some time to find other sources of revenue.

With regard to certain Governmental universities, I feel that the time has come when the Foundation can develop a program of co-operation involving aid in the Natural and Applied Sciences and other branches. Tsing Hua University is without doubt the strongest of these institutions in the Natural Sciences. It is also the wealthiest, as it has the benefit of the more or less certain income from the American Boxer Indemnity Fund. There is no need for us to consider aiding it, at least in any large manner. National Central University, Nanking, is a coming institution. We have already aided it to the extent of \$109,100. It is the National University in the capital, that is attracting a strong faculty, and has fairly liberal funds at its disposal. There are several ways in which it could be assisted by the Foundation further. Wuhan University, as I have already said, is located in a very important part of China and the Government has made an enormous effort in a

few years to develop magnificent campus with numerous new buildings. The faculty is improving steadily, and here again there are great opportunities for us not only to assist financially but morally. Chekiang University in Hangchow is the third national institution which is of special interest. It is smaller than the two others already mentioned but it is located in an extraordinarily important province, and with very limited means it has already made for itself a favorable reputation. The opportunities for aid here are great and would involve not merely the Natural Sciences but also agriculture and engineering. I recommend that the officers in the Shanghai Office be authorized to develop with these three national universities programs over the next five or ten years. By so doing I believe we have a real opportunity to strengthen these purely Chinese institutions in an effective manner.



## V

## THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

The co-operation from Rockefeller Boards in the Social Sciences has been limited. Aid over a period of years has been granted towards the general maintenance of the Department of Public Affairs of Yenching University and the Institute of Economics of Nankai University. This assistance is still being given. A few foreign fellowships have also been granted.

If the Natural Sciences in China are weak, it must be acknowledged that the Social Sciences are weaker. Probably the majority of Chinese students who have studied abroad have majored in the Social Sciences. Practically all the teachers at the institutions of higher education in China in the Social Sciences are returned students. The amount of important research work which is being done is very limited. There are exceptions in a few institutions where special efforts have been made to develop strong departments in one or two of the Social Science disciplines. Present research facilities in the Social Sciences in China may be classified into the following groups:

## A. Universities

Tsinghua, Yenching, Nankai, Nanking.

## B. Banks

Bank of China, Central Bank of China, National Commercial Bank, Bank of Communications, Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank.

## C. Government

Bureau of Foreign Trade, Bureau of Labor, Statistical Bureau, Tariff Commission, National Economic Council, National Defense Council, Provincial and Municipal Departments of Social Welfare, etc.

D. Independent institutes

National Research Institute of Social  
Sciences, Academia Sinica; Nankai  
Institute of Economics, Institute of  
Social Research, Peiping.

E. Private institute

Mr. D.K. Lieu's Institute of Economic  
and Statistical Research.

It is not practical, at the present time, to form a final verdict as to the value of these various institutions, which are all practically in a formative stage. It must be conceded that the auspices under which some of these research institutions are organized, make it difficult for them to be impartial in their investigations and conclusions. If this is not true in all cases, there is an unavoidable bias in the case of those institutions which are connected with Government or banks.

Amongst the education institutions, the three outstanding in the Social Sciences are:

- I. Nankai University (Economics)
- II. Yenching University (Sociology and Political Science)
- III. Nanking University (Agricultural Economics)

All three of these institutions are endeavoring to carry on realistic fact-finding investigations. They are all private institutions.

In most of the universities in China the teaching of the Social Sciences consists almost entirely of lectures based on the Western experiences of the professors and instructors. It is to be observed that the three institutions enumerated above are all private. Among the national and provincial universities (Peiping, National, Tsinghua, Wuhan) there are, here and there, individual professors of ability who are attempting to carry on research based on Chinese conditions.



In certain Government departments there is a definite beginning of research work, and there is an appreciation of the necessity for the collection of social and economic facts in connection with the nation-wide reconstruction program which is slowly being evolved. The Bureau of Labor of the Ministry of Industries has undertaken the task of compiling a labor year book. The National Defense Council is undertaking a food survey. The National Economic Council, which is now getting under way, should, in the course of time, make large contributions to the Social Sciences.

The recognition on the part of some of the leading banks of the desirability of maintaining research departments is of recent date and encouraging. The Bureau of the Bank of China seems to be the best organized.

Amongst the private institutions there are four of particular significance, viz:

1. National Institute of Social Research of the Academia Sinica.
2. The Institute of Social Research of the China Foundation, Peiping.
3. The Institute of Economic and Statistical Research, Shanghai.
4. The Nankai Institute of Economic Research, Tientsin.

Up to date the results obtained by the National Institute of Social Research of the Academia Sinica are not impressive, but a recent reorganization may cause it to become more significant. The Institute of Social Research of the China Foundation, Peiping, which is ably directed by Mr. L.K. Tao, has been carrying on for a number of years an important series of investigations and has a good reputation amongst economists in China and elsewhere. The Institute of Economic and Statistical Research, Shanghai, which is directed by

the well known Chinese economist, Mr. D.K. Lieu, has a very short history and it is too early to state what this may amount to, but here again the possibilities of development are considerable. The Nankai Institute of Economic Research, Tientsin, which is a part of the University, is listed with the independent institutions as it acts in an independent manner and has its own budget separate from that of the University. To this institution the Foundation is contributing and full details of its accomplishments and present and future programs are given elsewhere. We can say conscientiously that it is certainly one of the best efforts in China. Its competent director is Dr. Franklin Ho.

There are distinct advantages in favor of the independent institute, amongst which may be noted the freedom from influence and individual lack of bias that is to be found particularly in governmental and banking institutions. It has some advantages also over the educational institutions where the teaching staff is so overloaded with teaching obligations, <sup>and</sup> the lack of facilities, such as a good library, and where there is little time for research.

A Social Science Research Council has recently been established. So far, this has meant the getting together of a number of leading Chinese Social Scientists for the purposes of (1) making a list of what Social Science research has already been done, or commenced, and (2) laying out a research program for the future. It is too early to say what the future may be of this Council. Theoretically it is highly important, but practically, and largely because of questions of conflicting personalities, it does not give much promise. It would be premature to consider aiding the Council now.

It has been possible for me on several occasions to bring together Chinese specialists in Social Sciences for informal conversations, and I am



hopeful that I may be able in the future to push this type of activity so that it will lead to practical results. The lack of co-ordination between different institutions at the present time has lead to needless duplication and effort. Mr. L.K. Tao of the Institute of Social Research, Peiping, makes the following list of disciplines in the Social Sciences that need to be promoted in China:

- I. Economics -- including agriculture, industry, money and banking, domestic and foreign trade, and certain tools in the modern economic system, such as statistics, accounting, etc.
- II. Administration -- including central and local administrative machinery, the training of personnel, financial operations, the recording and collecting of data in administrative offices, etc.
- III. Law -- including judicial administration, legal codes, sociological jurisprudence.

This list appears to me to be a reasonable one.

What should be the Foundation's program in the Social Sciences in China during the next few years? The following are offered as suggestions for discussion:

1. To continue to co-operate with certain institutions such as The Nankai Institute of Economic Research, the Department of Public Affairs of Yenching University and the Mass Education Movement, Tingsien. Details of proposed co-operation are presented elsewhere.
2. To assist in developing departments of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Nanking University - as also reported on separately.
3. To be prepared at some later date to co-operate with the Social Science Research Council, but in the meantime to consider aid to two or three of the

leading independent institutions by special grants for specified studies over a period of time.

4. To consider sympathetically co-operation with certain National Universities, particularly those included in the list of institutions with which the Foundation was planning to co-operate along other lines (National Central University, Nanking, National Chekiang University, Hangchow, National Wuhan University, Wuchang).

5. To have available for disposition, by the Shanghai Office, a Research and Developmental Aid fund for the Social Sciences to be used to take care of minor projects, both in private and national universities, and with independent institutions, associations, or Government bureaus.

6. To make available a limited number of foreign fellowships for social scientists. Some of these for Chinese who have already obtained their Doctor's degree or have done advanced work and who have demonstrated on their return that they have the necessary ability. (These fellowships would be not dissimilar from those given to European social scientists and would be essentially for persons who were not seeking degrees.)

7. To develop a program for resident fellowships in China for young students of ability who would work for one or two years, either with a Chinese professor in a university or in one of the independent institutions. (This would be in line with a similar program which is suggested for the Natural Sciences and which is discussed elsewhere.)



## VI

## THE APPLIED SCIENCES

The Foundation's co-operation in the field of science has been in the domain of the Natural Sciences and as a part of the Premedical program. The time has come to change our orientation in this matter.

There is universal agreement that teaching and research in the Applied Sciences should be strengthened, and particularly in agriculture and engineering. Dr. Tisdale, during his recent visit to China, included agriculture and engineering in his survey and his report gives further information on these matters.

China is in the greatest need of properly trained men in the Applied Sciences. Naturally some progress has been made in such training but in general it is believed that the education given in the colleges and institutions in agriculture and engineering has not been eminently practical. The vast majority of the graduates, for various reasons, have not followed their professions on graduation. This is particularly true in connection with the agricultural sciences. (The College of Agriculture of Nanking University has been a splendid exception as 90 per cent of its 300 graduates are actively engaged in agricultural work.) Agricultural education was popular and attracted large numbers of young men who, however, came from that level of society which made it almost impossible for them to undertake agricultural pursuits as their major interest in life. Experience shows that the sons of bankers and well-to-do business men have little interest in the farming population.

There are two mission colleges seriously engaged in agricultural work, viz. Nanking University and Lingnan University. Both of these institutions are good as far as they go, but neither of them can be considered as a complete agricultural college.

Amongst the Government universities there is not one which is really strong in agriculture. Chekiang University and National Central are the most promising. There are certain provincial agricultural colleges (which were not visited) but information about which makes us believe that they are very inferior. The International Education Board, in co-operation with Cornell University, had an interest in the Agricultural College of Nanking University. This made it possible for a few Cornell professors to come to China for fairly long periods of time. There is no question that this contribution is primarily responsible for the relatively good position of the College of Agriculture of Nanking University. The College of Agriculture of Lingnan University is not as significant as the one at Nanking, but nevertheless it has developed certain fields in a very satisfactory manner. Many of its graduates are playing a very important role in the agricultural reconstruction program of Kwangtung Province. These two institutions should undoubtedly be continued and developed. Special projects in connection with them are presented separately. There are no other agricultural colleges connected with mission institutions which need to be considered.

Amongst the governmental institutions, the three which seem of most interest from the point of view of agricultural education are National Central University in Nanking, Chekiang University in Hangchow and ultimately Wuhan University in Wuchang. National Central University has had a College of



Agriculture for a good many years. At one time it had a good reputation but through political complications it sank to a low level. Within the last two years it has again commenced to pick up and gives promise for the future. Chekiang University has recently completely reorganized its agricultural college and is moving to a new campus. The direction of this agricultural college has been placed in the hands of graduates of Nanking University. Wuhan University has not as yet begun its agricultural college, but is to do so in the next year or two.

We have no specific requests at the present time from these three national universities in connection with their agricultural work, but our future program might well envisage aid to them in this field.

Engineering education in the mission colleges is of little importance and there is no reason why these institutions should attempt to develop this type of education. Some of them have precipitously entered the field, at least in part, because of the popularity of engineering education in China and a belief in the necessity of their helping to solve the problem of supplying engineers. This has been, in some cases, regrettable, as these institutions are without adequate funds to maintain their existing activities and are, therefore, in no position to undertake engineering education, which is expensive. Furthermore, with the incomplete staff and equipment at their disposal, they are incapable of really giving anything like an adequate education in any branch of engineering.

There are two outstanding Government institutions which are devoted entirely to engineering education. These are Chiao Tung University in Shanghai and Peiyang University in Tientsin. Chiao Tung University is by all odds the best equipped in engineering, but is distinctly weak in the fundamental

science courses. Peiyang is even weaker in the fundamental science courses and poorly equipped in the strictly engineering departments. Nevertheless this latter institution appears to be turning out better trained engineers than Chiao Tung.

Amongst the universities which include an engineering faculty and which are doing fairly good work are Tsing Hua University at Peiping, Chekiang University at Hangchow and National Central University at Nanking. While these are far below the standards of the best engineering colleges in the United States and Europe, they are not bad and are capable of becoming much better. Wuhan University at Wuchang has just established an engineering college which shows good prospects.

There are opportunities awaiting the Foundation to aid in engineering education in China and they are entirely in connection with governmental institutions.

I advocate very earnestly that the Foundation include aid for agricultural and engineering education and research as a definite part of its program in China and that wherever possible its further interest in the Natural Sciences be in those institutions which also have strength or potentialities in agriculture and engineering and other applied sciences.

## VII

## THE HUMANITIES

Lack of time and competency have not made it feasible for me to study at all deeply the opportunities for Foundation co-operation in the Humanities. Contacts, however, have been made with a number of leading scholars including, Hu Shih of National Peking University, Li Chi and Fu Ssu-nien of the section of History and Philology of the Academia Sinica, Dr. Yuan, Director of the National Library of Peiping, Li Shih Tseng, International Sino Institute of Culture, Hsung Fu-hsi, playwright, Ting Hsien.

Inquiries have also been instituted with regard to the possibility of setting up a small committee of Chinese scholars who would be willing to devote time to serve as real councillors to young American scholars who might be sent to China on long term Foundation fellowships to prepare them for chairs of Chinese Language, Culture and Art in a few of the leading American Universities. This can undoubtedly be arranged.

It would appear that such Fellowships would have to be for three to five years in order to adequately prepare men for careers of this kind. Chinese scholars are of the opinion that the majority of foreign Sinologists are greatly handicapped because of their lack of a really profound knowledge of spoken and written Chinese. I believe that there are real opportunities for the Foundation in the Humanities and would recommend a visit to China (and to Japan) of the Director for the Humanities. Co-operation of this character would not only be useful from the point of view of International scholarship but would be particularly pleasing to Chinese scholars.

A request for advanced fellowships for library science at the National Library at Peiping has been filed and has my endorsement.



# VIII

## FELLOWSHIPS

Thousands of Chinese have had the opportunity of foreign study and a large number of them have obtained advanced degrees in America and Europe. Observation leads to the belief that a great deal of money has been wasted in this activity. The small amount of really first-class scientific work being done in China is rather amazing, in view of the large number of men who have had foreign training under eminent leaders. In fact, the quantity of research work of any kind is not impressive. This is due, in part, to the heavy teaching burden which the men in the Natural Sciences have to carry. Lack of adequate equipment and library facilities are likewise factors of importance, but there seem to be others of even greater significance.

Many young Chinese scholars, when abroad, have had the advantage of close contact with their professors and have benefited by this leadership and direction. On their return to China they find themselves suddenly plunged into high positions of responsibility as professors or even as heads of departments, but with nobody to turn to for advice. Some attempt to do research work in addition to their teaching, but the majority settle down to a life of teaching which too often becomes merely a routine business. Their imagination, if they had any, seems to have been destroyed. There are, of course, outstanding exceptions to these general remarks, but taken by and large they are a fair statement of the situation.

Dr. Tisdale in his report gives corroborative evidence in this matter and one is referred to this report for further information concerning the question

of research in the Natural Sciences in China. He makes the following statement:

"The dearth of developed research ability among the Chinese staff is not due to any single factor. The difficulty in obtaining equipment, supplies, library facilities and advanced students are contributory factors, but I believe that the chief factor is their inadequate training and experience. Chinese students go abroad to foreign institutions mainly for work leading to advanced degrees. The Middle School and University teaching in China is such that they lack a foundation comparable to that which exists in the foreign country to which they go. This deficiency is not taken into consideration in the foreign institution, or, if it is, allowance is made for it in their graduate study rather than insistence that the deficiencies be made up. The result is that these Chinese students are carried along through their graduate work and finally receive a degree, and one questions whether these degrees are awarded on merit only.

They then return to the milieu of a Chinese university - a milieu as foreign to them as they are to the institution in which they had their training. Under the best conditions abroad they have had excellent opportunities to react to their environment, but they have had no opportunity to make their environment react to them. They have learned to follow the inspiration and leadership of their associates, but they have gained no experience in inspiring others or in directing the activities of others."

There is altogether too much importance placed on higher degrees obtained in foreign countries and the kudos of being a Doctor of Philosophy of an American or European university leads to incompetent people being put in positions which they are incapable of filling adequately, and the old scholar tradition of China elevates them to a position of conceit entirely unwarranted on the basis of their mental equipment. Much ink has been spilled on the pros and cons of the value to China of the so-called "returned" students.

Approximately 100 foreign fellowships and 46 local fellowships have been granted. This does not include fellowships given directly by the Peiping



Union Medical College. I believe, and Dr. Tisdale concurs with me, that our present foreign fellowship program in the Natural Sciences should be modified. We also advocate the adoption of a new policy with regard to local fellowships. It will be recalled that at the present time we have a program of local fellowships which was developed apparently with the idea of sending men particularly to Yenching University, where in a year or two they could obtain a Master's Degree. From this group were to be picked the best men for foreign fellowships, who it was hoped would be able to obtain their Doctor's Degree within two years in China. Yenching is the only institution of higher education which regularly gives the Master's Degree in both the Natural and Social Sciences. This is done without legal authority from the Ministry of Education, but the University is authorized to do so by the Board of Regents of New York State. It is questionable whether Yenching is really adequately equipped to offer postgraduate degrees in all the fields. There are National Universities, such as Tsing Hua and Chekiang, which are definitely in a better position to give advanced degrees at the present time in the fields of chemistry, physics and mathematics than is Yenching.

The Chinese Government is about to promulgate a set of regulations with regard to advanced degrees. The time is perhaps not very far distant when Master's degrees and even Doctor's degrees will be given in a few universities. Let us hope that high standards will be insisted upon.

We are anxious to develop local fellowships, but on the following basis, as stated by Dr. Tisdale in his report:



"It would seem that the need for continuing the practice of sending Chinese abroad for all their advanced training is less now than the need for developing some advanced training centers in China. If the graduates of Chinese universities were sent to the best of the Western-returned fellows for such training as they can give, these Western-returned fellows would have an experience they now lack - that of inspiring and directing others - and the graduates would have the advantage of being developed in the milieu in which they are to live. This process would soon build up certain Chinese universities to the point where they could give advanced degrees themselves. Such development would in turn decrease the urge to go abroad for advanced degrees. Foreign experience would then be reserved for those whose developed ability warranted a special training rather than, as now, for those whose hopes would seem to make advisable a further general training. This type of activity would need to be carried on in closest co-operation with the competent Ministry and/or University officials whose participation, indeed, would result in further gain. At the present rate of exchange, two or three such graduates could be paid an adequate stipend and a thousand U.S. dollars could be given for equipment for a cost equal to that of one foreign fellowship."

This program, if adopted, would be concentrated in the institutions which were on our preferred list, although in the case of an unusually competent professor in an institution with which we were not co-operating in any large manner, we would be willing to send him some local fellows. Such a program would involve limited appropriations to make it possible for the professor and his fellows to have the necessary apparatus for the research problems which they were tackling and also certain library facilities.

Dr. Tisdale summarizes this suggestion as follows:

"Such a program as outlined would mean that prestige, equipment and special library facilities would accumulate. Also, the fact that a scheme which encourages and supports scientific activity is in existence, would give life to many who are now discouraged by the obstacles confronting them. Such accumulation and inspiration should logically be made in the strongest and broadest institutions, which are, under present conditions, the best of the National

Universities. While the "receiving" end of such a program might be limited to the best of the National Universities, the "sending" end might well be any of the Government or Private Universities whose graduates could qualify. The question of posts might not be so rigidly determined as should be the case with foreign fellows.

The Rockefeller Foundation could develop a program embodying the above features to any given magnitude."

The same principle is applicable to the Social Sciences, and in this case it would be advisable to send some of the fellows to research institutions which were not actually a part of a university.

It is not intended that foreign fellows would only be selected from successful local fellows. There might be cases where fellowships would be awarded on our present program.

Our own experience with Chinese fellows in the Social Sciences has been very slight. I am informed that the majority of Chinese who have gone abroad on travel study on fellowships from other sources, or at their own expense, have majored in the Social Sciences (including Education). The training which these men have obtained abroad has been essentially academic and naturally Western in character. The statement is constantly made that the majority of Chinese fellows, on their return, are found to be unsuited to fit into the local situation. They have lost a good deal of their Chinese point of view and background and have picked up something of Western life but insufficient to make them really Western in their outlook. Many are disgruntled and become the leaders of radical movements.

The question of postdoctoral fellowships such as the Foundation grants to Europeans has not received serious attention as far as China is concerned. The matter was not pressed as training fellowships were more greatly needed. The time is coming when the question of fellowships for men who have already obtained the Doctor's degree abroad and have returned to



China and engaged in work for a period of years here and with success, should be considered. There is an increasing demand for this type of fellowship and I am in favor of adopting the principle that mature men, occupying important positions and having shown real ability, should be considered for fellowships. Some really excellent candidates of this category, both in the Natural and Social Sciences have applied but have been refused. This is illogical in terms of the present situation and authority is asked to consider cases of this character.

Specific recommendations as to how the program outlined can be carried out and what would be its financial implications will be presented if the principles involved are approved.



## IX

## THE ROLE OF FOREIGN EXPERTS

The use of foreign experts is no new thing in China. Many hundreds of foreigners have served the Chinese Government and institutions in such capacity. Many are still in China and others are constantly arriving.

In several of the projects submitted to the Foundation for consideration, funds are asked specifically for the employment of experts. This whole matter is difficult and generalizations are dangerous. Many experts come out merely to study a situation, make a report and go home. Criticism is heard that such experts stay altogether too short a time to really understand the local situation, and that their expert opinion as to what should be done to develop new programs or rectify existing evils, is generally along the lines of what has been done in the particular country from which they come. Government offices are full of reports made by all kinds of experts, from highly competent to very mediocre.

At the present time the National Economic Council has about twenty experts in China in Finance, Economics, Rural Credits, Co-operatives, Public Health, Civil Service, Sericulture, Land Tenure, Road Engineering, Hydraulic Engineering, Hospital Organization, etc. To be sure these experts have been working under serious difficulties because of the political complications which developed with the departure of T. V. Soong from the Ministry of Finance. It may be rather hazardous to prophesy now what will be the outcome of all their efforts. Indications are none too brilliant.

I have a feeling that the experts who can really make a contribution are those who come to China not merely for the purpose of making a study

and report but who stay for a period of at least three to five years and participate actively in the implementing of their report and the carrying out of technical work. Amongst the Western specialists who have been most successful are the few men who have been identified with special activities such as the College of Agriculture of Nanking University. These men have undoubtedly been more capable than the ordinary run of missionary professors, and the results have been correspondingly greater.

There are many Chinese who, because of their natural ability and Western education, are as capable, if not more so, of giving an expert opinion with regard to Chinese problems. Too frequently, unfortunately, they have lacked either the courage to say what they thought or the power to put through their recommendations. Consequently, it is often the Chinese expert who is anxious to have a foreigner come to China who will officially recommend what the Chinese already have in mind. A notable example of this is the report of the Educational Commission of the League of Nations. A large number of the important recommendations made by this foreign commission were given to them by Chinese educationalists. Furthermore, it is sad to relate that although this report was made nearly two years ago, the recommendations are still a dead letter.



## X

NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION  
(With Special Reference to Rural Problems)

The magnitude of the problems existing in China in all directions has lead some competent observers almost to despair that adequate solutions could be found. This is not the place to discuss such problems in detail. If one desires to become familiar with them and their major aspects in a short time one can do no better than read "Land and Labor in China" by Prof. R. H. Tawney and "China Today Economic" by J. B. Condliffe. These two writers do not mince matters and both write objectively.

The population question looms perhaps as the greatest problem. But even in this case there is a wide diversity of opinion. In the first place the facts are not yet known with regard to the population of China and its trend. Estimates made by competent authorities since 1920 give figures varying from 350 millions to 480 millions. The difference between these estimates is greater than the entire population of the United States. The gloomiest attitude of some observers is to the effect that it is a waste of time and money to tackle the economic and social problems of China. Unless ways and means can be discovered to check the cumulative pressure of increasing numbers upon limited resources they are fearful that programs designed to improve the intellectual and physical standards of living may end in accentuating the existing difficulties.

Obviously this population problem is a domestic one and the answer to it will have to be found within the country. The partial answer will be found by migration to other parts of China, and the migration of many millions to Manchuria has relieved the population pressure in the North Eastern Provinces.



The National Economic Council is embarking on a program looking towards the opening up of huge areas in the North West of China. This involves extensive and expensive operations in road-building and irrigation. This region must also be made safe for the newcomers. A good deal of time must necessarily elapse before this territory will be ready to receive large numbers of immigrants. The development of industry, which probably will not be very rapid, will also absorb a considerable number of people.

One frequently hears references in China to the introduction of Birth Control measures. There is a violent clash of opinion with regard to the practicability of such measures. Many Chinese who heartily favor birth control foresee grave difficulties in convincing the Chinese peasant with his centuries old traditions, of the desirability of limitation of offspring. It touches prejudice deeply rooted in the hearts of the male population at least. Many important prominent medical and lay individuals hold the opinion that the time is not ready for a Nation-wide movement for birth control.

Dr. Grant is personally convinced that this opinion is conservative and unsupportable and believes that the chief essential that is lacking is leadership to develop the movement. He believes that such a leader could establish active self-supporting centers in all of the large cities within a period of from five to ten years, provided contraceptives were available and within the economic possibilities of the people. He suggests that the successful initiation of the movement would probably need outside support for the first five years and aid, perhaps, to the Government itself for the manufacture of contraceptives until the demand had grown large enough to make it self-supporting.

I have no recommendations to make at this time but feel that this report would be incomplete without reference to this fundamental social

requirement for China. Opportunities for fostering such a movement might well develop in the future. I should like to have an expression of opinion as to whether or not the Foundation would consider aid to a Birth Control program as falling within its policy.

Poverty, War, and Famine are the major symptoms of China's unhappiness. The conditions over large areas in China at the present time are not dissimilar to those which existed in Medieval Europe with the Barons being replaced by Generals.

My best judgment, and it is based on a fairly comprehensive knowledge of modern writings on China, personal observations over a wide area and many interviews with Chinese and foreigners, leads me to the conviction that nothing is to be gained by abstention of Foundation activities in China. On the contrary, we are singularly fitted to render service.

If there is one thing on which all intelligent persons and all warring political interests are agreed, it is the need of a program which will raise the Educational, Social and Economic standards of the Chinese rural population. All over the country one hears of plans for National or Provincial Reconstruction and with particular reference to the rural problems. This is natural as it is estimated that over 85 per cent of the population is rural. The opportunities for the Foundation's cooperation in China lie in many directions but I urgently insist that a considerable part of any future aid which we may give be devoted towards activities the benefits of which will be felt by the rural population.

The Government has created several bodies for the purpose of developing research and practical programs in reconstruction. These include, amongst others, the Bureau of Agricultural Research, The National Defense Council, the National Rural Rehabilitation Commission and the National Economic Council. As



a result there is much overlapping and duplication. The reason for the creation of these separate governmental commissions and councils is to be found, at least in part, in the personal ambitions of prominent political figures. It was hoped with the creation of the National Economic Council that the National Defense Council and the Rural Rehabilitation Commission would be absorbed into it. So far this has not taken place, but an agreement is being worked out whereby the program of these three institutions will be developed on a cooperative basis. The National Defense Council will probably carry on research activities and the National Economic Council will be the agency through which the research findings can be put into effect.

The National Economic Council is the agency through which the liaison with the League of Nations is maintained. Its path has been thorny and it is not clear at this writing just how significant an agency it may become. Potentially it is very important. Its 1934 budget (which is being filed separately) gives a good idea of it. It calls for \$30,000,000 local currency.

Some of the Boxer Indemnity Boards of Trustees are also concerned with activities, at least in part, in line with the suggestions being made in this report for the Foundation's work in China. Opportunities for cooperation with some of these agencies are already presenting themselves. The Foundation may have an opportunity to help coordinate some of the important work of these agencies, and also of some of the independent Chinese Institutions engaged in research and field work.

In addition to these national activities, there have sprung up in the last few years a number of programs where definite research and practical work in limited rural areas has been carried on. The most notable of these is that of the Mass Education Movement at Ting Hsien in Hopeh Province, under the able direction of Mr. Y. C. James Yen. Full information concerning this is supplied separately, with a recommendation for Foundation cooperation.



Other notable experiments are being carried on at Tsouping in Shantung, Ching Ho in Hopeh, Wusih in Kiangsu, Hsuehowfu in Anhwei and scattered efforts in the provinces of Honan, Hunan, Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and elsewhere. Different methods of approach are being used in different places.

There has been a complete lack of cooperation between the workers engaged in these different areas. In order to obviate this there has been recently created a Rural Reconstruction Institute, an entirely non-official body made up of the active workers in rural reconstruction. This Institute, besides arranging for an annual meeting, is planning to create a small secretariat whose business will be to see that the information and experience gained in different areas will be made immediately available to all. A special journal devoted entirely to rural reconstruction is to be created.

Is it necessary to further stress the importance of activities which have as their object the welfare of the rural population in China? If anything is fundamental it is the raising of the level of all aspects of the life of the country people. It therefore seems entirely reasonable that the Foundation should take an active part in this program.

One of the outstanding difficulties in connection with a rural reconstruction program is the lack of adequately trained personnel. Some of the schemes which are being fostered, fail to recognize this most serious deficiency. In general, it is fair to say, that the Educational institutions in China have signally failed to train any serious number of people for work in the many fields involved in a Rural Reconstruction program. Such education as has been given has been in theory only. The outstanding problem is the lack of personnel trained along practical lines. It seems to me that here lies an outstanding opportunity for Foundation cooperation.

I have pointed out in this report, in chapters entitled "Applied Sciences" and "A Program for North China", ways in which we can be of material

assistance. There are other good opportunities in this field in connection with the National Universities, which are only awaiting stimulation from the Foundation. This is particularly true of the National University of Chekiang.

The training of men and women for Rural Service cannot be given alone within the walls of Educational Institutions but must be combined with practical field experience. The stereotyped educational institutions which are based essentially on Western forms are beginning to show their limitations in the training of men and women for work in China. It is encouraging to note that the authorities of some National and Mission Colleges are waking up to this fact and are endeavoring to work out programs which will "Chinafy" their institutions.

As an example, it is doubtful if the stereotyped Medical education now being given at P.U.M.C. is really meeting the Medical and Public Health needs of China. The new Experimental Medical School at Nanking is being planned to train workers who are really ready to enter the Social field of Medicine. The program of this new Medical School involves a close cooperation with the Ting Hsien Experiment and it is believed that this combination could produce something that would make the rest of the World take notice. An outline of this new school prepared by Dr. Robert Lim and Dr. John B. Grant is available.

I feel it is not necessary to stress further the importance of activities which have as their object the welfare of the rural population in China. It seems entirely reasonable that the Foundation should take an active part in this program.

The main objective of the new policy proposed for China is Rural Reconstruction, and in this report it is to be remembered that with some exceptions, the suggestions which are made are with special reference to Rural problems.



## XI

## PROGRAM FOR NORTH CHINA

An example of how the Foundation might cooperate in a Rural Reconstruction program is briefly indicated by the following outline of a North China program. This involves assistance in developing the following Institutions:

1. The Institute of Rural Administration, Yenching University
2. The Mass Education Association at Ting Hsien, Hopeh Province
3. The Institute of Economics of Nankai University
4. The North China Industrial Institute
5. College of Agriculture, Nanking University
6. Department of Preventive Medicine, P.U.M.C.

The creation of the Institute of Rural Administration at Yenching as pointed out in a separate memorandum, is an outgrowth of the Department of Public Affairs at this University with which the Foundation is already cooperating. Its function is to train men and women for Rural Service in China. Its creation is the result of a rather remarkable evolution in the minds of those who are responsible for Yenching University. It is obvious that any program looking towards the training of young men and women for this kind of life work must be supplemented with proper facilities for field work, if the training is going to be realistic. Yenching has at its disposal a small area (Chingho) where a beginning has been made in giving a few students practical field experience. This area is inadequate for the new program and the suggestion has been made that Ting Hsien, the experimental County of the Mass Education Association, become the field laboratory for both professors and

students of the new Yenching Institute of Rural Administration. Not only is this County thoroughly adaptable for this purpose, but it is also particularly significant on account of the inspiration which the staff at Ting Hsien is bound to give to both faculty and students of Yenching. The details of just how this cooperation between these activities can be effected are now being worked out. With the enthusiasm shown by the leading people of both Institutions, there is every reason to believe that a practical program can be readily developed.

On a somewhat different basis the Institute of Economics of Nankai University is entering into the program. This Institute, now receiving material assistance from the Foundation, has a record of accomplishment within its short history of which it may well be proud. The direction of the Institute is keen to place at the disposal of the Ting Hsien group the facilities of the Institute. This makes the talented men of Nankai immediately available to carry on thorough-going studies of the major economic and political problems of Ting Hsien.

The North China Industrial Institute is the outgrowth of the former North China Industrial Service Union, an organization particularly concerned with the development of village and home industry in this part of China. It became evident that if this Institution was going to function adequately, it should be in a position to use the resources of Yenching, Nankai, and Cheeloo Universities, thus to avoid building up a large technical personnel which could be found, in greater part, in educational institutions.

The leading people in the old North China Industrial Institute are the same men interested in activities - rural questions in the educational institutions mentioned above and in Ting Hsien. It was, therefore, logical that representatives of these Institutions should combine for the purpose of running the Industrial Institute.



The Department of Public Health, Peiping Union Medical College, has already played an important role in the development of Public Health work in Ting Hsien, which is under the direction of Dr. C. C. Chien, with Dr. J. B. Grant acting in an advisory capacity. Ting Hsien is already being used by Peiping Union Medical College as a training centre in Public Health for its undergraduates. The department of Public Health of Peiping Union Medical College also cooperates with the Ching Ho demonstration area of Yenching University. There is no adequate Agricultural College in North China. The University of Nanking, undoubtedly the best agricultural college, maintains a number of experimental farms in North China, including one which originally was directed by Yenching University. At Ting Hsien some experimental work is being done in Agronomy, Horticulture, and Animal Husbandry. Here again experts from Nanking are lending their cooperation. Although Nanking University is not located in the North it is planned, in connection with this program, to use the extension services of its College of Agriculture. Needless to say the authorities of this college are in accord.

We have, therefore, a program for both training and research in rural work which involves (1) four of the leading educational Institutions of the North (to which the Foundation already has made large appropriations - Yenching, Nankai, Cheeloo, P.U.M.C.), (2) the foremost Rural Experimental County in China (Ting Hsien), (3) a new organization particularly designed to handle the weighty problems of village and home industries, and (4) the best Agricultural College in China (Nanking University). It brings into intimate relationship a number of the best Chinese and Westerners who are technically well equipped, and who have the greatest leadership and inspiration in the work which is being done. This is a first-class opportunity and I strongly recommend that the proposals, which are presented separately for the Institutions involved be given favorable consideration.

## XII

## PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

No one at all familiar with Education in China can overlook the tremendous problem confronting the Government in the fields of Primary and Secondary Education. That the Ministry of Education is alive to the defects is an encouraging sign. The Committee of Experts of the League of Nations have made a report which is particularly good in that portion dealing with elementary Education. The bulk of Primary and Secondary Schools are Governmental, although there are quite a number of Missionary Schools. These Missionary Schools are considered, even by their friends, to be inadequate.

The demand for Vocational Education is causing a number of Junior and Middle Schools to develop along these lines. The teaching and equipment in the Natural Sciences in the Middle Schools is notoriously inadequate.

The authorities of certain Middle Schools have already approached looking towards Foundation aid. I do not ask authority at this time to include assistance to Primary and Secondary Education in our program. This short statement is presented in anticipation that at some later date a limited program of aid to a few strategically located Middle Schools may be presented. In this event our emphasis would be on Vocational Education.

Certain Mission Colleges (Nanking, Lingnan and Cheeloo) are giving non-collegiate courses, usually lasting two years, to young men who have not the necessary educational requirements to matriculate as students of the University.

These courses are mostly in Agricultural although some are in



Mechanic Arts.

These students come from the rural regions and after the completion of their course are frequently employed in agricultural extension work. This type of personnel is particularly valuable, in fact almost indispensable in putting over such kind of programs. Here there may be serious opportunities for assistance.

## XIII

## FOUNDATION ORGANIZATION NEEDED IN CHINA

If the policies indicated in the foregoing report are adopted, the question of Foundation organization needed in China will have to be considered. It would not seem desirable to set up any large organization. The technical personnel needed should include:

1. A Vice-President, who would be the responsible head and who would also handle Social Sciences.
2. A Scientist who would take care of both Natural and Applied Sciences.
3. A Physician who would be in charge of Medicine and Public Health.

These men would all have to be broad-minded, patient and friendly to Oriental people. This group of three would work as a team and recommendations to the New York Office would be made by the group and not by individuals. This would create a form of organization different than that employed in the Paris Office, but the very character of the program and the serious delays resulting from the distance between Shanghai and New York would make such a scheme, in my mind, highly desirable, if not a sine qua non for success.

(It is earnestly urged that the President and those Directors who are unfamiliar with China should plan to visit this country at the earliest opportunity. Visits of Trustees whenever possible would also be highly desirable. Even if such visits were by force of circumstances brief they would have the double advantage of giving a first hand view and facilitate the consideration of projects submitted to New York by the group in China.)



It may appear that the proposal to create this group in China will put into its hands more power than may seem to be desirable on the part of the New York Office. Personally I do not consider this dangerous as in any event the different Directors in New York would have the opportunity of studying all major projects and voicing their opinion before any action was taken.

In addition to the staff indicated above there would be needed two or three secretary-stenographers, a filing clerk, an accountant with perhaps an assistant, a Chinese translator, an office boy and a coolie. The secretary-stenographers would necessarily have to be Western, (they can be found in Shanghai ) but the remaining members of the subordinate personnel Chinese.

There might arise cases where foreign technical advisers would appear to be desirable. Such cases would be rare. I have indicated elsewhere my unfavorable attitude with regard to short visits of specialists, however competent they may be. A sweeping generalization on this point is ill advised, as exceptions might arise.

How should this new policy or program be financed? If we follow the precedent of the Paris Office, funds would be made available on approved major projects by actions taken by the Executive Committee or the Trustees and these in turn would be charged against the different divisions of the Foundation. Similarly, research and developmental aid funds would be allocated by each division and distributed in China in accordance with this plan. In the same way funds for Fellowships (both foreign and local) would be ear-marked for each division.

This plan does not seem to be the most desirable to meet the Chinese situation. The following plan is tentatively advanced for discussion:

1. A lump sum appropriation for major projects (excluding capital expenditures) would be set up annually by the Trustees and the Executive Committee would be granted the authority to appropriate such parts of this fund as might be needed for projects approved by both Officers and Committee.

2. A research and developmental aid fund would be set up and the Officers in the Shanghai Office granted the authority to vote this money in accordance with the approved policy of the Foundation for China. This fund would be available for all branches of the Foundation's work (if such a plan is impracticable each division of the Foundation might make available moneys for this purpose.)

3. The authority to grant all Fellowships irrespective of the division would be vested in the Officers of the Shanghai Office. There should be either a lump sum appropriated for this purpose or separate allocations as indicated above for Research and Developmental Aid.

4. Requests for capital expenditures would be handled in the same way as at the Paris Office, i.e., they would be treated on their merits and in competition with requests from other parts of the world.

5. A new budget for the Shanghai Office based on the new plan of organization would be set up.



## XIV

SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS

1. The Foundation should continue to have a program in China and is particularly well adapted to take a significant part in helping China in its struggle for stability and progress.

2. The existing program of the Foundation is no longer in touch with the times or the best we could find.

3. Despite difficulties much progress is being made and our co-operation may assist in bringing stability in certain fields.

4. The significance of Mission colleges is waning, while the importance of National and Provincial colleges is increasing. The Foundation's future program should concentrate more on purely Chinese institutions.

5. Aid to Mission colleges should be limited to those few which are attempting to give realistic education in terms of China's present day needs.

6. The future program of the Foundation in Medicine and Public Health in China should not only ~~correlate~~ these two subjects but as far as possible they should be integrated with other activities concerned with National Reconstruction. Specific opportunities in this direction already present themselves. The advisability of further large grants to the P.U.M.C. is questioned.

7. In the Natural Sciences it is believed that in the future more emphasis should be placed on certain National Universities. Aid to Natural Sciences in Mission Colleges should be stopped immediately or after a short period, with the exception of certain Mission Colleges whose accomplishments are relatively great and whose continuance is desirable in terms of China's needs. Authority is

asked to develop a program along above lines.

8. The Social Sciences are weak both from the teaching and research angles. It is believed that the Foundation's program in the Social Sciences should be developed. It is suggested that co-operation be continued at Yenching and Nankai Universities, that assistance be given in the Social Sciences to the College of Agriculture, Nanking University, and that plans be developed to co-operate with certain National Universities in the development of the Social Sciences.

9. It is recommended that Agricultural and Engineering Education and Research be included in the Foundation's program in China. Aid to Agriculture might be given to both National and Mission Universities. Aid for Engineering would be entirely for National Universities.

10. Possibilities for the Foundation's co-operation in the Humanities exist. It is recommended that the Director for the Humanities visit China to make a first hand study of this field.

11. A Fellowship program should be continued in all branches. Fewer foreign Fellowships of the type now given should be granted. A program for the development of local fellowships is outlined. The principal of granting post-doctoral Fellowships to mature men is advocated.

12. The limitations of foreign experts is discussed.

13. Some of the pressing problems of China are referred to. The population question is briefly discussed. An expression of opinion from the Foundation concerning its attitude in connection with a possible birth control program is asked. The significance of a rural reconstruction program is touched on. All factions are in agreement that efforts should be made to assist the rural population in raising its economic and social levels. A list of the



major national and private agencies working in this field is given. The lack of trained personnel is stressed. It is indicated that the main objective of the Foundation's program in China should be to assist in the development of the Rural Reconstruction Program.

14. As an example of how the Foundation might co-operate in Rural Reconstruction a program for North China is outlined.

15. A short statement is made with regard to Primary and Secondary Education including its Vocational aspects. No assistance is asked at the present time. The significance of non-collegiate courses, particularly in Agriculture, is referred to. Opportunities for Foundation aid in this field may arise.

16. The organization needed by the Foundation to carry on the new policy and its subsequent program is outlined. The importance of giving the Shanghai Office a larger amount of responsibility is stressed. Visit of the President, Directors and Trustees to China is urged. Suggestions are made as to how financial arrangements of this program can best be carried out. Funds will be needed for:

1. Major projects
2. Research and Developmental Aid
3. Fellowships
4. Capital expenditures
5. Shanghai Office

### Conclusions

The main conclusions of this report may be summarized as follows:

1. There should be a Foundation program in China. The Foundation has already invested large sums of money in China and the situation is so fluid that the opportunity to assist in some fundamental things is considerable. The Foundation through its reputation and organization seems to be particularly well-adapted for work in China.
2. The major activity of the Foundation in China would be to co-operate with recognized and formal efforts in national reconstruction.
3. Institutions of higher education, either national or private, which would be aided would be those capable of training the personnel which is immediately required in connection with national reconstruction, and emphasis would be on purely Chinese institutions. Only a very limited number of mission colleges which are really needed in China to-day because of their realistic education should be aided in the future. The personnel to be trained would include agriculturalists, civil and sanitary engineers, administrators, educationalists and public health personnel. The type of education to be given would be from the contemporary Chinese point of view and not a mere copy of western methods.
4. Aid would be given to certain definite experiments now being carried on in the field of rural improvement. This would include such activities as the rural demonstration at Ting Hsien under the direction of Y.C. James Yen, the North China Village Industrial Institute, and others. The Foundation's program in this field would be limited to certain areas and might include aid to activities in rural reconstruction in: a) North China b) Nanking and surround-



ing district c) Chekiang Province. Some of these would require major aid but in addition a research and developmental fund would be set up which would be available for all branches of the Foundation's work and which would enable small grants to be made in connection with the reconstruction program.

5. A fellowship program would be continued but would be essentially related to the reconstruction program. Emphasis would be placed on local fellowships. A few foreign fellowships would also be needed and occasionally post-doctoral fellowships for mature men might be required.

6. The organization that the Foundation would need in China to take care of the program indicated above would be small. Foreign personnel needed would include a Vice President, who would be the responsible head, and would also handle the social sciences, a scientist who would take care of both natural and applied sciences, and a physician who would be in charge of medicine and public health. Some of the projects would involve all fields. It would appear desirable that this group should act as a team and report on projects directly to the President of the Foundation rather than to the Directors of different divisions. Considerable autonomy and authority for this group would be needed. All fellowship appointments and grants for research and developmental work in connection with the reconstruction program would be made by the group. Major projects, whether they involved capital expenditures or not, would be referred by the group to the President in New York.