

COLBY ALUMNUS
AIR MAIL

Box 551

Berlin, N. H.

Dec. 14, 1953

Dear Mr. Dyer:

Thank you for your patience!
I appreciate your efforts to get in touch with this old Colby grad. and I am ashamed to be so slow in replying. Yours of February 4 was one of those most welcome letters that came to "greet me back to life" soon after my release from Communist China early this year. I might at least have sent you an acknowledgement!

Perhaps I have never told the Alumnus with what pleasure I have received that fine magazine; or how, through the years in China, I have always read it eagerly at the first possible opportunity after its arrival, usually from cover to cover without stopping. In 1949 and -50 several issues of the Alumnus reached Swatow even when the Atlantic, the Geographic and the Readers Digest failed to appear.

During the 21 months of solitary confinement in Swatow, April 9, 1951 to December 31, 1952, I received no magazines nor papers except the little four-page sheet, the Colby College Bulletin for July 1951 (~~not the Alumni~~ - I remembered my) I don't know why I was allowed to have that particular paper, but I read every item many times - Salzburg Seminars, Mellon Organ Recital, new Mayflower Hill buildings and all the others.

The only other reading material I had for nearly a year consisted of a New Testament and two Bibles; a little devotional book - God's Answer; a two-volume copy of Thackeray's Pendennis; and a French dictionary! Much time was spent in Bible study and memorizing; Pendennis was perused about ten times!

Perhaps some day I can tell more about it - but just now I'm finding it good to be here in America. It was good to have a glimpse of the old College town the other day, and see some of the old college friends - and a bit of the new Mayflower Hill. Hope I can attend reunion next June!

Sincerely,

Abbe J. Senderson